

A Zip Code, a School & an NCCFF Scholarship

A Nebraska City Community Foundation Fund News Release

Question: What can living in or near the 68410-zip code area do for you at the Southeast Community College in Nebraska City?

Answer: It can get you a scholarship that could open doors to a new career or a better paying job.

Thanks to the Nebraska City Community Foundation Fund (NCCFF), there is a unique scholarship offered at the SCC that will pay 75% of a student's tuition if he or she resides in the 68410-zip code area or within 20 miles outside of it.

Yes. It's as simple as that.

Cindy Meyer, SCC Nebraska City Learning Center Coordinator, said her school is the only SCC branch in Nebraska to offer this type of zip code-based scholarship. She is grateful to NCCFF for creating this scholarship five

years ago. So far, 83 SCC students have taken advantage of it as they strive to get the training needed to achieve new career dreams.

She explained that it was just this summer that NCCFF expanded this scholarship to include residents who live up to 20 miles outside the 68410-zip code territory.

"Not all SCC students live in Nebraska City," Meyer said. She thanks the NCCFF Advisory Committee members for having the foresight to see how this small geographic expansion will be advantageous to SCC students.

"This scholarship benefits not only the students, but the many Nebraska City employers who will gain access to more skilled employees in the years ahead due to this additional training at SCC," Meyer said.



Cory Clark, a fire apparatus engineer in the Nebraska City Fire Department, is using this NCCFF scholarship to become a certified EMT.,

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Cory Clark, fire apparatus engineer in the Nebraska City Fire Department, is a great example of how both the student and the local employer benefit from this SCC scholarship.

When a fire engine from the Nebraska City Fire Department responds to an emergency scene, there must be one certified EMT fire personnel on board to initiate life-saving methods while they wait for the EMT's to arrive. "It can take about 15 minutes for EMT fire personnel to arrive at an accident scene," Clark said.

Clark, a 25-year fire fighter veteran, needs EMT certification to

become an EMT fire fighter responder. This August, he began a 6-month hybrid class at SCC. This requires him to attend class one night a week at the SCC facility on Central Ave. with the remainder of his courses being held online.

The NCCFF scholarship pays for 75% of Clark's tuition. Upon completion of this course work, he will be an EMT fire fighter responder and an even greater asset to the Nebraska City Fire Department and the Nebraska City Community.

Clark expressed his pride and enthusiasm to achieve this goal. He said he was inspired by his grandmother who was an EMT for 35 years. "Because of her, I started working in fire departments as an Explorer Scout while still in high school." He has been pursuing a firefighting career ever since.

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Lacie Bruns-Morris is another SCC student who took advantage of this 68410-zip code-based tuition scholarship.

"I want to thank NCCFF for the help I received from this scholarship to take the CNA class at SCC this summer," Bruns-Morris said in her "thank you" letter to the Foundation.

"It was a wonderful experience and a great opportunity for me. I learned so much and I'm so glad I passed the State testing."

Bruns-Morris wanted to become a CNA (Certified Nursing Assistant) because she saw the need for more of them in the Nebraska City area. She is the food service manager at the primary building (Pre-K through 2nd) at Lourdes Central Catholic.

"There are lots of kids there and I feel having my CNA will be helpful. I thought this would be a good way to give back to my community as well as do something I love," she said.

Bruns-Morris said she took the class with her daughter, Lexis, who is studying to become a nurse. She wanted to help her daughter get a good start on her learning journey. "My theory was if



Lacie Bruns-Morris, left, and her daughter Lexis took CNA classes together at SCC.

we were taking the same class, it would make it easier for us to study and go over materials together."

"If you ever thought of doing something out of your comfort zone, GO FOR IT!" Lacie said. "SCC in Nebraska City gives the best support and are the best cheerleaders for you. Thank you, NCCFF, for giving me the financial help to accomplish this."

Anyone interested in finding out more about this scholarship opportunity should call SCC at 402-323-3636.