



## **FIRST Scholarship News – 2/14/12**

**Team Contacts: Please pass this info on to your students, parents, and high school guidance counselors!**

Greetings Teams,

There are lots of *FIRST* Scholarships with application deadlines between now and the end of March. Don't miss the chance to help pay your way through college. Just go to [www.usfirst.org/scholarships](http://www.usfirst.org/scholarships) and follow the link to the **FIRST Scholarship Opportunities**. Here you will find scholarship offerings for FIRST students from over 150 colleges, universities, corporations and associations. You can refine your search by using filters to help find *FIRST* scholarships for which you are interested in applying. Questions? Read how to use [Scholarship Search Filters](#). You can also find out lots about *FIRST* Scholarships by reading the [FIRST Scholarship FAQs](#).

We now have confirmed **OVER \$14 Million** in *FIRST* Scholarships made available to students on FRC teams. Students on FTC teams are eligible to apply for **NEARLY \$10 Million** of these scholarships.

### **Seniors:**

- Remember that some scholarships go un-awarded because no one applies for them. If you fit the eligibility requirements for a scholarship, go for it!
- Keep your eyes on the prize – don't miss those scholarship deadlines!
- What if you have just missed the application deadline date? Call the school or organization and ask if they will accept a late application. Some schools will accept applications even after the deadline date. It certainly can't hurt to ask!

### **Juniors:**

- There are 8 scholarships that are still available to Juniors.
- To easily see these scholarships, refine your scholarship search using the Grade filter. (More instructions in [Scholarship Search Filters](#).)
- If you have considered participating in military service, check out the new *FIRST* scholarships from the **US Navy ROTC**.

**FRC Mentors and FTC Coaches:** Please stress the importance of researching and applying for *FIRST* Scholarships to your team members. Also be sure that the parents of your students know about the *FIRST* scholarship program. One way to do this is to email this newsletter to team parents!

## New Scholarships

Application Deadline	Scholarship Name/Description	FRC	FTC
6/1/12	<b>Edmonds Community College (WA)</b> – is offering \$5,000/year up to \$15,000 for any STEM major. Both high school seniors and existing college students are eligible to apply.	X	X
4/15/12	<b>Pacific University (OR)</b> – is offering three scholarships of \$2,500/year up to \$10,000 to seniors for any course of study in the College of Arts & Sciences.	X	X
8/31/12	<b>US Navy ROTC</b> – is offering up to \$180,000 over 4 years for study of a variety of STEM majors at any school with a NROTC program. <b>This Immediate Selection scholarship is offered to Juniors.</b>	X	X

## Recently Modified Scholarships

Application Deadline	Scholarship Name/Modification	FRC	FTC
2/1/12	<b>Missouri University of Science and Technology</b> – has generously increased its number of available scholarships from 10 to 20	X	X
3/1/12	<b>Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology</b> – no longer requires specific SAT, ACT, and GPA requirements to be eligible to apply for its scholarship.	X	X
4/30/12	<b>University of Detroit Mercy</b> – has extended its application deadline to April 30 <sup>th</sup> to allow students to find out about their brand new program in <b>Robotics and Mechatronic Systems Engineering</b>	X	X

"The influence *FIRST* had on my life is enormous. *FIRST* gave me a taste of all the amazing things I can do and work with by becoming an engineer. Thanks to my time in *FIRST* I found what I wanted to do and was given help in pursuing that. The scholarship that I got helps me pay for college so I can better focus on becoming the engineer I want to be, instead of paying for college."

-- John Hines, FRC Team 2169, University of Minnesota, Class of 2015, Mechanical Engineering, Winner of a University of Minnesota/PTC *FIRST* Scholarship

## Scholarships with Approaching Deadlines

**Seniors:** Be sure not to miss the application deadlines below. For details about each individual scholarship, see [www.usfirst.org/scholarshipsearch.aspx](http://www.usfirst.org/scholarshipsearch.aspx)

Application Deadline	Scholarship Name	FRC	FTC
2/27	Southern California Regional Robotics Forum (SCRRF)/Time Warner Cable	X	X
3/1	Bradley University**	X	X
3/1	Clemson University	X	
3/1	College for Creative Studies**	X	X
3/1	Colorado State University**	X	X
3/1	DePaul University	X	X
3/1	Farmingdale State College	X	
3/1	Florida A&M University/Boeing	X	X
3/1	Georgia Institute of Technology	X	X
3/1	Lake Superior State University**	X	X
3/1	Lawrence Technological University	X	X
3/1	Marquette University	X	
3/1	Mineral Area College**	X	X
3/1	Molloy College**	X	X
3/1	New Jersey Institute of Technology**	X	X
3/1	North Carolina A&T State University**	X	X
3/1	Northeastern University	X	
3/1	Oregon Institute of Technology	X	
3/1	Plymouth State University**	X	X
3/1	Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology	X	X
3/1	Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology - Agnes Varis Scholarship	X	X
3/1	Saint Vincent College**	X	X
3/1	Society of Women Engineers - Houston Area	X	X
3/1	Spring Arbor University**	X	
3/1	Sweet Briar College**	X	X

<b>3/1</b>	Temple University**	X	X
<b>3/1</b>	University of Massachusetts Amherst/PTC	X	
<b>3/1</b>	University of Minnesota/PTC	X	X
<b>3/1</b>	University of South Florida	X	X
<b>3/1</b>	University of Texas at San Antonio	X	X
<b>3/1</b>	Virginia Commonwealth University	X	
<b>3/2</b>	Pennsylvania State University	X	X
<b>3/2</b>	University of Hartford	X	X
<b>3/2</b>	University of Hawaii at Manoa/BAE Systems	X	
<b>3/7</b>	Worcester Polytechnic Institute - Design Innovation Scholarship	X	X
<b>3/7</b>	Worcester Polytechnic Institute - Paul Allaire Future Engineering Leadership Scholarship	X	X
<b>3/10</b>	Yale University	X	X
<b>3/12</b>	Hofstra University**	X	X
<b>3/12</b>	Kettering University	X	
<b>3/15</b>	American Petroleum Institute - Delta Chapter	X	X
<b>3/15</b>	ASME - ASME Auxiliary	X	X
<b>3/15</b>	Fairleigh Dickinson University**	X	X
<b>3/15</b>	University of Illinois at Chicago**	X	X
<b>3/15</b>	University of Wisconsin – Madison**	X	X
<b>3/18</b>	Arizona State University	X	X
<b>3/22</b>	Nuts, Bolts & Thingamajigs, The Foundation of FMA, Intl.	X	X
<b>3/29</b>	QuestBridge	X	X
<b>3/31</b>	University of Waterloo	X	

\*\* Last year, these schools did NOT offer all available *FIRST* Scholarships to students. This was typically due to a lack of qualified applicants. So if you are considering applying to any of these schools for admission, be sure to apply for the scholarship (if you meet the eligibility requirements). Your odds of winning the scholarship may be excellent!

## Scholarship Suggestions

### All Students:

- **Ask about *FIRST* Scholarships** - When talking to school representatives at colleges or college fairs, ask if they offer a *FIRST* Scholarship. If they don't, tell them about *FIRST* and why they should be trying to attract *FIRST* students by offering a Scholarship!
- **Visit Scholarship Row at Regional Events** - Many of the FRC Regional Events include an area where students, parents, and mentors can talk directly to representatives from colleges, universities, and other organizations that offer *FIRST* Scholarships. If you are attending one of these regional events, take advantage of this opportunity to find out more about these schools and the scholarships that they offer. And while you are there, please remember to thank them for supporting *FIRST* by offering scholarships to our students!

### Juniors:

- **Do you have a strong academic record and an annual family income of less than \$60,000? If so, be sure to check out QuestBridge.org.** QuestBridge is a non-profit program that links bright, motivated low-income students with educational and scholarship opportunities at some of the nation's best colleges. Although these scholarships are not exclusively for *FIRST* students, any *FIRST* student who is a high-achiever and is from a low-income family can apply for scholarships through QuestBridge. They also offer a College Prep Scholarship to juniors which helps you prepare to compete for admission to leading colleges. Now is the time (in your junior year) to begin investigating this opportunity.
- **There are three schools that offer *FIRST* scholarships for which only juniors can apply. Don't miss these deadlines!**
  - **Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (5/15)**
  - **US Navy ROTC (8/31)** -- to your advantage to apply as soon as possible
  - **Virginia Tech (4/1)** – for junior women only

### Seniors:

- Don't limit yourself to only *FIRST* Scholarships. Your participation in *FIRST* provides you with skills that make you more likely to be successful in college. Many schools are aware of this and take it into consideration when making admission and scholarship decisions. Many *FIRST* Alumni feel that their *FIRST* experience helped them win other (non-*FIRST*) scholarships. See information on the *FIRST* Scholarship Resources webpage about [Sources of Other College Scholarship and Financial Aid Information](#).

### Team Contacts:

- Please help get *FIRST* Scholarship information into the hands of students, parents and your high school guidance counselors. There are additional materials to help you do this on the *FIRST* Scholarship Resources webpage at: <http://www.usfirst.org/aboutus/first-scholarship-resources-for-mentors-and-coaches>.

- Note that the *FIRST* Scholarship Program PowerPoint presentation has been recently updated for 2012 and includes speaker notes. With this tool you can easily give a 30 minute “*FIRST* Scholarship Program” presentation to your students and parents.

"The experience of participating in *FIRST* Robotics Competition greatly influenced my decision to pursue a career in electrical engineering... Winning the scholarship made attending college much more feasible. It was one of the deciding factors in deciding which college to attend because there were more scholarships for it. I'd highly recommend that any seniors on a *FIRST* Robotics team apply for as many scholarships as they can."

-- Jacob Egorov, Team 3303, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, Class of 2015, Electrical Engineering, Winner of a Nuts, Bolts, and Thingamajigs *FIRST* Scholarship

## Messages from Some of our Scholarship Providers

**NOTE:** The following are special messages from some of our *FIRST* Scholarship Providers. These messages may contain links to the provider's web site. Note that if you click on a hot link below, you will be outside the realm of the *FIRST* email community and you may be giving that organization the right to communicate with you via email.

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### Eastern Washington University

*FIRST* participants who attend Eastern Washington University in Cheney, Wash., will find many STEM-related scholarship opportunities.

The university awards 15 *FIRST* Scholarships to new freshmen for \$2,000 each. The scholarships are given to freshmen students who participated in the *FIRST* Tech Challenge, *FIRST* Robotics Competition or Project Lead the Way at EWU and have a 3.0 or higher high school GPA. If the recipient completes their first year at EWU with a 3.5 or higher GPA, the \$2,000 award will be renewed for a second year.

The deadline is August 31, 2012.

Eastern also offers a STEM Scholarship worth up to \$4,000 over two years. This is awarded to upper division students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics programs. Eligible recipients are automatically selected each July. There is no application process.

For information about the many high demand STEM programs at EWU, visit [www.ewu.edu/cshe](http://www.ewu.edu/cshe).

## **Nuts, Bolts & Thingamajigs (NBT), the Foundation of the Fabricators & Manufacturers Association (FMA)**

### **Trade School, Technical & Community College Scholarships Available to *FIRST* Students**

Take what you've learned as a *FIRST* team member and consider pursuing a certificate or two-year degree program that will pave a path to a well-paid, high-tech career in manufacturing.

Nuts, Bolts & Thingamajigs (NBT), the Foundation of the Fabricators & Manufacturers Association, will award scholarships up to \$1500 to students pursuing skilled careers in manufacturing. You must have a minimum 2.5 GPA to be considered and be enrolled full-time during the fall 2012 academic school year.

Additional eligibility guidelines will apply. Please visit our Web Site to learn more and apply online:

<http://www.nutsandboltsfoundation.org/scholarship.cfm>

Online applications and supporting materials are due by Thursday, March 22, 2012.

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## **Pennsylvania State University**

The College of Engineering at Penn State wishes you all the best as you continue learning the skills and background for successful *FIRST* competitions and technical studies. One of our *FIRST* scholarship recipient's, Dominique, shares with you her appreciation for what *FIRST* provided to her.

“As a freshman in high school, I stumbled upon *FIRST* Robotics. I had no idea what it was or how it would affect me, but I decided to join. This continues to be one of the best decisions I have ever made. Over the course of four years, my robotics team became my family and our metal shop became my second home. I began to discover how deeply I loved science and math and engineering. Without *FIRST*, I would not be happily enrolled as an Electrical Engineering undergraduate with a minor in Physics.”

Dominique is well on her way to being an Electrical Engineer.

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## **University of Detroit Mercy**

University of Detroit Mercy (UDM), a comprehensive Catholic university in the Jesuit and Mercy traditions, is offering a new \$5,000 scholarship to a senior who participates in the *FIRST* Robotics Competition or *FIRST* Tech Challenge and enrolls in the new Robotics and Mechatronic Systems Engineering program or another Engineering program at UDM (see <http://www.usfirst.org/scholarshipsearch.aspx> ).

**Bachelor of Robotics and Mechatronic Systems Engineering** is focused on the fundamentals necessary for the design of "intelligent" systems and products in which mechanization and control requiring sensing, actuation, and computation are combined to achieve improved product quality and performance. Engineers from this program are in high demand in industrial sectors including aerospace, automotive, manufacturing, communications, defense, electronics, and healthcare. UDM's average student-to-teacher ratio is 14:1. The required co-op component in engineering allows students to gain one full year of paid co-op in industry.

Visit our engineering webpage for all program information:

<http://eng-sci.udmercy.edu/programs/eng/index.htm>

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