



Richard Eikenberg One Voice Washington, D.C. Trip Scholarship Guidelines

What is One Voice?

One Voice, under the leadership of the Economic Development Council of the Bloomington-Normal Area (EDC), is a pro-community campaign that has brought together leaders from the City of Bloomington, the Town of Normal, McLean County, surrounding rural communities, labor, local educational institutions and local private businesses. These groups have formed the One Voice Task Force. The goal of the campaign is to make McLean County a stronger economic force and a better place to live.

Each year, the One Voice Task Force chooses local projects to support in their quests for federal funding. Each spring, the One Voice Task Force travels to Washington, D.C. to meet with our congressional delegation and show them our community stands united in support of the projects. Each project must meet three criteria: 1) It must have an economic development impact in McLean County 2) It must improve the quality of life in McLean County 3) Federal funding must have already been formally requested for the project.

Projects to be included on the Priority Project List for 2010 will be approved by the EDC Board of Directors in December 2009.

Washington, D.C. Trip Details:

The 2010 One Voice trip will take place March 9-11. The scholarship covers all expenses of the trip, from flight and hotel to all meals and events. Specific trip details will be presented at our pre-trip briefing luncheon for all participants – Thursday, March 4. The scholarship recipient **MUST** attend the pre-trip briefing – **NO EXCEPTIONS**.

Nearly 40 local community, business and labor leaders attend the trip. During the trip, we meet with our U.S. senators and representatives, along with leaders of other government agencies. This trip is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to meet and network with local leaders and discuss current issues in federal government with the primary decision-makers. For example, our past meetings have included U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, as well as Neel Kashkari of the U.S. Treasury who later went on to lead the federal government's Troubled Asset Relief Program. Participants also attend receptions and meetings with speakers from various economic development-related institutions. There is also limited time for sight-seeing opportunities.

Important Dates:

- Applications must be postmarked by Monday, Jan. 25th.
- The top three finalists will be interviewed the week of Feb. 1st.
- The scholarship recipient must attend the pre-trip briefing luncheon on Thursday, March 4th.
- The trip will take place Tuesday, March 9th through Thursday, March 11th.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Recipient must be a current student in good standing at an EDC investor school (investor schools include Illinois State University, Illinois Wesleyan University, Heartland Community College and Lincoln College-Normal).
- Recipient must be at least 21 years of age.
- Recipient may be from any area of study.
- Recipient must be available to attend the pre-trip briefing luncheon and the entire Washington, D.C. trip.
- Recipient must attend all scheduled activities, including those during the trip and briefings prior to the trip.
- Recipient must have a 3.0 cumulative GPA. **A transcript must be included** (transcript does not need to be an official copy).

Contact Information:

Applications must be postmarked by Monday, Jan. 25th. Please send applications to Cathy Milligan at the Economic Development Council of the Bloomington-Normal Area at:

200 W. College Ave., Suite 402
Normal, IL 61761

Or via email at cathy@bnbiz.org.

For more information, contact Cathy at cathy@bnbiz.org or (309) 452-8437.