

Butler County Volunteer Firefighter Fund aids BC3 students

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(Butler, PA) As an incentive to active volunteer firefighters in Butler County, Butler County Community College in 2018 expanded the use of a 2015 Cranberry Township Community Chest gift to fund tuition and fees for 14 noncredit training courses available to first-responders.

Sixty-one volunteer firefighters from 20 of Butler County's 33 departments this year took 106 BC3 first-responder courses whose \$12,993 in tuition and fees were funded by the Cranberry Township Community Chest's contribution to the BC3 Education Foundation, which created the Butler County Volunteer Firefighter Fund.

Those active Butler County volunteer firefighters in 2018 took entry-level noncredit courses that included introduction to the fire service, fireground support, exterior firefighter, interior firefighter and advanced firefighter.

The Butler County Volunteer Firefighter Fund in 2018 also began to support certification courses for active Butler County volunteer firefighters in firefighter 1, firefighter 2, Hazmat awareness and Hazmat operations, and in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation/first aid, emergency medical responder, emergency medical technician, advanced emergency medical technician and basic life support.

The Butler County Volunteer Firefighter Fund also supports a \$500 Volunteer Firefighter Scholarship available each semester to eligible full- or part-time BC3 students enrolled in any credit program and who are, or will become, active volunteer firefighters.

BC3's Emergency Medical Services will hold an open house from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday for students interested in emergency medical technician and emergency medical responder certification training programs that begin in January, and in an advanced emergency medical technician course that starts in mid-spring.

The open house will be held in Room 110 of the Science and Technology Building on BC3's main campus in Butler Township.

Registration for the EMR and EMT certification training programs is under way and closes Jan. 4.

Those interested in attending Tuesday's open house can RSVP at bc3.edu/ems.

BC3 will also hold entry-level firefighter training and firefighter certification courses beginning in March.