



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, 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.

The projects under consideration for support for the 2009 One Voice Washington, D.C. trip include:

- Normal Multi-Modal Transportation Center
- McLean County Business Incubator
- Lexington Wastewater Treatment System
- City of Bloomington/Village of Downs Water Project
- McLean County Museum of History Exhibit
- MyEntre.Net Rural Entrepreneurship Program

Information on these projects is attached.

Washington, D.C. Trip Details:

The 2009 One Voice trip will take place March 10-12. Our flight will depart from Bloomington, Ill. at 6:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 12th, and we will return to Bloomington at 10:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 12th. 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 (date/location to be determined).

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 2008 trip included a meeting with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, as well as Neel Kashkari of the U.S. Treasury who is now leading 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.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Applications must be received by Friday, Feb. 6th. All applicants will be notified of their status by Friday, Feb. 13th.
- Recipient must be a current student in good standing at an EDC investor school (investor schools include Illinois State University, Illinois Wesleyan University and Heartland Community College).
- Recipient must be at least 21 years of age.
- Recipient may be from any area of study.
- Recipient must be available to attend the entire trip (flight departure from Bloomington at 6:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 10th, returning to Bloomington at 10:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 12th).
- 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 Friday, Feb. 6th. 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.