The Association of Federal Communications Consulting Engineers (AFCCE) is a professional organization of individuals who are involved in the field of radio communications, many of whom regularly assist clients on technical issues before the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). In addition to its professional activities AFCCE engages in charitable and educational activities including the administration of a Scholarship Fund.

Scholarship applications are accepted from college students undertaking a full-time undergraduate or graduate program at an accredited U.S. college or university with a major in engineering or science and related to the telecommunications field. AFCCE administers a number of scholarships described in greater detail below. A single application will automatically enter you into consideration for all scholarships for which you are eligible.

Applicants are required to obtain a sponsor who is a member of the Association; if you are applying for the AFCCE/IEEE Broadcast Technology Society Jules Cohen Memorial Scholarship only, a member of the IEEE Broadcast Technology Society may alternatively serve as a sponsor. See below for additional information on obtaining an AFCCE or IEEE BTS sponsor.

The AFCCE Scholarship

The goal of The AFCCE Scholarship is to provide financial assistance to students who are undertaking a full-time undergraduate (Bachelor’s) program at an accredited college or university with a major in engineering or science and related to the telecommunications field. Only upper-division students (i.e., Junior or Senior status) are eligible.

The AFCCE Scholarship generally ranges from $500 to $2,500 per semester depending upon the qualifications of the candidate as well as the candidate’s demonstrated interest in pursuing a career in the telecommunications consulting engineering or related fields. Since 2006, AFCCE has awarded on average over $15,000 annually for The AFCCE Scholarship.
The E. Noel Luddy Scholarship

In 2010, Dielectric Communications, a leading U.S. manufacturer of broadcast antenna systems, established a scholarship honoring E. Noel Luddy (1917–2013). The E. Noel Luddy scholarship provides up to $2,500 per year to undergraduate and graduate students who are majoring in engineering or other fields associated with the broadcast and telecommunication industries.

Noel Luddy’s deep and lifelong interest in broadcasting started in 1930 when he became active in amateur radio. He served in the military and was in charge of all communications throughout the South Pacific during World War II. Noel served for many years in several engineering capacities with RCA. In 1986, with Dielectric’s acquisition of the RCA broadcast antenna business, he joined Dielectric as a consultant, serving as a liaison to broadcast station engineers, consulting engineers and the FCC, and providing a voice for the company in helping to shape federal broadcast regulations.

Noel remained as a consultant with Dielectric until his retirement in 2008. He was well known for his years of service on the AFCCE Board of Directors, as it program coordinator, and was recognized numerous times for his contributions to the Association and the broadcast industry. Additionally, he was the historian for the IEEE Broadcast Technology Society, of which he was a member since 1939. The Sinclair Broadcast Group currently funds the E. Noel Luddy scholarship.

The IEEE Broadcast Technology Society/AFCCE Jules Cohen Memorial Scholarship

The IEEE Broadcast Technology Society (BTS) is a scientific and educational organization whose purpose is to advance the theory and practice of electrical and electronic engineering as it relates to the technology of broadcasting. BTS funds a memorial scholarship award for undergraduate (upper division) or graduate engineering students interested in a career in broadcast engineering honoring the memory of a long-time member of both AFCCE and BTS, Jules Cohen. Scholarship amounts are either $5,000 or $10,000. Students receiving an award may re-apply and are eligible to receive a second award, subject to a limit of $15,000. Unsuccessful applicants may re-apply without limit.
About AFCCE

AFCCE was founded in 1948 as a professional association of communications engineers practicing before the FCC. Engineering for broadcast stations in the AM, FM and TV services, for microwave, cellular radio, PCS, paging systems, cable systems and for satellite facilities are some of the areas in which AFCCE members offer their professional services. Associate membership is offered to technical personnel and to other professionals sharing an interest in the technical aspects of communications.

The purpose of the Association is to aid and promote the proper federal administration and regulation of those engineering and technical phases of communications which are regulated by the FCC, to uphold the honor and dignity of engineers before the FCC, and to provide for the mutual improvement and social intercourse of the members of the Association.

In its primary function, the AFCCE monitors the technical policy of the FCC to ensure that the agency's regulations coincide as closely as possible with sound engineering principles.

Obtaining an AFCCE Sponsor (Optional)

An AFCCE sponsor is a member or associate member who either knows the scholarship applicant already or, through the application process, has been approached by a student who otherwise meets the scholarship requirements and is interested in applying. Scholarship applicants who did not receive an application directly from an AFCCE member or associate member should consult the searchable (e.g., by two-letter State abbreviation) AFCCE member list at https://afcce.org/membership-listing/.

Applicants for the IEEE Broadcast Technology Society/AFCCE Jules Cohen Memorial Scholarship only may alternatively choose a sponsor who is a member of the IEEE Broadcast Technology Society. A list of IEEE-BTS members is not published but questions concerning locating an IEEE BTS member for sponsorship can be directed to bts@ieee.org

Application Checklist

- Fill out application completely
- Obtain AFCCE (or IEEE BTS, if you are applying only for the Jules Cohen Memorial Scholarship) sponsor
- Prepare your personal statement
- Scan application, statement, and transcript (including classes for semester being applied for); PDF submissions are preferred.
- Email by the due date to: scholarships@afcce.org