

Patrick J. Feeney, an 18-year-old honor student at St. Charles Preparatory School in Columbus, Ohio, has been named the recipient for 2010 of a \$1,000 award under the SSA's James R. Smith Scholarship Program.

The award, which is renewable, is the sixth to be made to a dependent child of an SSA member since the program's inception. Patrick is the son of Bette Jo Rozsa-Feeney, of American Electric Power, and Mike Feeney. Award recipients are chosen by the independent organization that administers the program on behalf of SSA.

Patrick, who has had a long-time interest in science, has set his sights on a career in molecular biology. An early motivation for pursuing such a career, he says, was when his father had a medical emergency, and he felt the desire to apply his talents in a way that would relate to the treatment of such problems. Further motivation came last summer in a program at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, which featured classes taught by visiting scientists. He was one of 20 out of 75 applicants selected to participate in that program.

Patrick is a member of the National Honor Society and a National Merit Commended Scholar. He's the recipient of Advanced Placement awards for excellence in calculus, English and Latin. He has also received a Scholar Athlete award for volleyball. He enjoys movies, watching sports and reading. He's an avid water-skier and spends much time at the family's summer home on a lake, with an older brother and two older sisters.

Patrick is considering programs at Boston College, Villanova and Vanderbilt University.

Previous recipients of the award are:

2005 – Samantha O'Leary

2006 – Allison Kirksey

2007 – Heather Marsh

2008 – Alicia Trezza

2009 – Matt Witman

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