



ASLRRR Training Scholarships Help Individuals Further Their Career Goals and Improve Company Operations

Providing training directly to individuals is one way to ensure they have the knowledge they need to do their jobs properly. Another way is to make the path to training easier to navigate, which is what ASLRRR achieves by awarding training scholarships funded using a generous donation from former Association board member Doug Golden.

Jonathan Marshall, a track maintenance manager at ASLRRR member Iron Horse Terminals, attended the University of Tennessee-Knoxville's Tennessee Transportation Assistance Program (TTAP) Railroad Track Inspection and Safety Standards Course with the help of a scholarship from ASLRRR. To ensure railroad employees have these opportunities, Association staff works diligently to support them and make obtaining funding as straightforward as possible.

"The overall process within [ASLRRR] was very helpful," said Marshall "I was never in doubt throughout the whole process. [ASLRRR's] team helped me through any questions I had and kept me very informed."

While Marshall is a licensed conductor, his duties at Iron Horse Terminals largely focus on managing track maintenance and overseeing other employees in the track maintenance department. Marshall's own drive to succeed in his railroad career encouraged him to attend the training course and apply for the scholarship, and the information he received will help him further improve his own job performance and the performance of his team.

"Track inspection is a critical thing to learn for any company," said Marshall. "One small detail can cause catastrophic events. So being able to prevent these such events will help me further my career and keep my fellow co-workers safe. Using what I have learned, I will be able to prevent serious accidents throughout my job facility."

Awarding scholarships to hard-working railroad employees like Marshall is akin to nudging a small snowball down a hill. Helping them attend important training courses like those provided by TTAP gets the snowball rolling, with individual drive adding to that momentum so that, in the end, employees have not only bettered themselves, they have the tools to make their workplace better, too.



Photo Courtesy of Iron Horse Terminals

Jonathan Marshall takes track measurements during a rail inspection and safety course offered by the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. An ASLRRR scholarship helped Marshall, who is a track maintenance manager at ASLRRR member Iron Horse Terminals, pay for course registration fees and other related costs.