

2021 Rick Hopcraft Memorial Veterans' Scholarship 2021 Recipient



Adrian Roybal

Adrian Roybal served in the U.S. Air Force as a Firefighter, works for a volunteer fire department fighting large fires, including the Woolsey Fire, and is currently pursuing his B.A. Degree in Sociology at USC. Adrian intends to attend law school (his goal is Harvard) to become a real estate attorney.

"The Rick Hopcraft Memorial Scholarship has provided me the additional funding for the opportunity to take more than 18 units this semester."

In 2015, I enlisted in U.S. Air Force as a Firefighter. I completed basic training and the Department of Defense (DoD) Fire Academy the same year. I served for four years as a firefighter at Shaw Air Force Base in South Carolina, attained Staff Sergeant's rank, and earned multiple awards. After my military service, I worked for the DoD as a firefighter for a year and a half while a full-time student.

During this time, I volunteered over 500 community service hours, improving the quality of life for military members, citizens on base, and the community. These awards include Air Combat Command Firefighter of the Year Runner-Up; Air Force Sergeants Association Airman of the Year Southeast Division (7 States) and South Carolina; and Shaw Fire Department Firefighter of the Year;

- President of the Shaw Rising 4, this organization is the Airmen Leadership group for all Shaw Air Force Base. The organization hosted, organized, and fund-raised for base-wide events. These events were open to over 18K personnel.
- Air Force Sergeants Association Liaison, a professional organization with over 100,000 members recognized by the United States Congress to fight on Capitol Hill for our rights as enlisted personnel.
- Shaw Fire Dept. Secretary, whose sole purpose is giving back to the Sumter County Community. The Association has raised over \$30,000 for local charities.

