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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Polar Offers Scholarship Opportunities to Students

PARK RIVER – January 10, 2012 – In support of the continuing education for rural youth, Polar Communications and its subsidiaries are offering high school and college students the opportunity to apply for scholarships.

**Polar's Retiree Scholarship:** Polar Communications, in cooperation with its retired employees and directors, offers the Polar Retiree Scholarship Program to recognize and reward students who, upon graduation, plan to work in the telecommunications industry within the state of North Dakota. These scholarships totaling up to \$5,000 (\$1,000 minimum/\$1,500 maximum) will be awarded to students who are currently in college or vocational-technical school. Applicants must be a junior or senior at an accredited 4-year college or a student with one year remaining at an accredited technical school or 2-year college and enrolled in a telecommunications field. Application deadline is February 15, 2012.

**Polar's John G. Walters Scholarship:** Five \$500 scholarships will be issued to graduating high school seniors from our service area who plan to continue their education at an accredited 2-year or 4-year college/university or vocational-technical school.

**Foundation for Rural Services (FRS) Scholarship:** FRS was established in 1994 and, along with the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association (NTCA), promotes, educates and advocates to the public rural telecommunications issues. Polar is proud to be a member of NTCA and support FRS in this worthy endeavor. If a graduating high school senior from our service area is selected for one of the 30 FRS national scholarships (\$2,000 each), Polar will contribute an additional \$500, bringing the FRS award to \$2,500.

Polar has simplified the application process for high school seniors to apply for both the John G. Walters & FRS Scholarship programs by using one application. Eligibility requires the

applicant's parent/guardian to be a subscriber of Polar Communications. Application deadline is February 15, 2012.

**FRED (Foundation for Rural Education and Development) Scholarship:** Each year, the Foundation for Rural Education and Development awards scholarships to rural America's most accomplished and intelligent students. Scholarships range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 and are funded by the FRED Scholarship Endowment and by donations to the FRED Annual Giving Campaign. Both high school seniors and students already attending postsecondary schooling are eligible to apply. To apply for a FRED Scholarship students parent/guardian must be a subscriber of Polar Communications. Application deadline is January 30, 2012.

Please encourage students to participate in these great opportunities. Applications and information regarding all of the scholarships can be found on Polar's website at [www.thinkpolar.com](http://www.thinkpolar.com). For applications, details, or questions on any of the scholarships please contact Carol LaHaise at 701-284-4361 or email: [clahaise@polartel.com](mailto:clahaise@polartel.com).