

# **Bilingual Nursing Scholar Initiative Nursing Scholarship Guidelines & Application**

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## **Northwest Arkansas Nursing Education Consortium**

### **PURPOSE**

The Northwest Arkansas Nursing Education Consortium (NEC) at the request of the Care Foundation created the Bilingual Nursing Scholar Initiative (BNSI) in an effort to meet the increasing healthcare needs of the diverse population of Northwest Arkansas.

### **USE OF FUNDS**

The BNSI scholarship helps deserving bilingual nursing students continue their nursing education in the following nursing programs: Northwest Technical Institute, NorthWest Arkansas Community College, Eleanor Mann School of Nursing/University of Arkansas, and AHEC/UAMS. Funds are awarded to the student for financial assistance in paying tuition, fees, books, and/or living expenses.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

Qualified applicants must be:

- Enrolled in a nursing program or pursuing general education courses required by the nursing program of their choice.
- Recommended for the scholarship award by the Director of Nursing at their school of choice.
- Proficient in the English language, as well as one of the following: *Spanish, Marshallese or Vietnamese*. Proficiency is defined as being able to communicate verbally and to read and write in the language.

### **CRITERIA**

The criteria for selection of the scholarship recipient are determined by the Selection Committee, and may include, but not limited to, academic performance, financial need, community involvement and student leadership.

### **AMOUNT OF SCHOLARSHIP**

The amount of the scholarship is determined each semester by the amount of funds available and the number of qualified applicants. Awards to students taking general education courses will be contingent on successful completion of those courses and number of credit hours achieved.

## **RENEWABLE**

This scholarship is renewable each semester providing the student maintains a 2.0 GPA and is recommended by the Director of Nursing of your school of choice.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

The application process for a student accepted into a nursing program is as follows:

1. Provide a copy of your "Letter of Acceptance."
2. Provide a letter from your nursing director recommending you for this scholarship.
3. Complete the application and required paperwork by
  - August 1 for August admissions
  - January 1 for January admissions.
4. Nursing students are to hand deliver your completed BNSI application and supporting materials to the Director of Nursing of your individual nursing school for their review and action. Your Director of Nursing will provide a letter of support and transmit your full application package to the BNSI Scholarship Committee for their approval.

The application process for a student taking general education courses is as follows:

1. Provide a letter of recommendation from the nursing director of your school of choice.
2. Provide an official transcript showing successful completion of required general education courses.
3. Submit completed application and required paperwork upon successful completion of each required course.
4. General Education students are to hand deliver your completed BNSI reimbursement application and supporting materials to the Director of Nursing of your intended school for their review and action. Your Director of Nursing will provide a letter of support and transmit your full application package to the BNSI Scholarship Committee for their approval.

## **AWARD NOTIFICATION**

Your Director of Nursing presents awards at the next BNSI Open House following your application approval. Your Director of Nursing will inform you of the committee action.

BNSI Open Houses are held at Northwest Technical Institute the third Tuesday of every month at 5:30 pm in Room 128.