

## Allied Healthcare Scholarship FAQ's

### 1. Which documents must be submitted in order to make my Allied Healthcare Scholarship application complete?

Required documents include the following:

- ◆ Completed application (must be signed)
- ◆ Official Transcript(s) related to your allied healthcare education
- ◆ Personal Statement (must be typed and no more than two (2) pages)
- ◆ Two Professional Letters of Recommendation (signed and dated within 6 months)
- ◆ Graduation Date Verification Form (must be signed)
- ◆ Work History printout of all the practice locations you have worked.
- ◆ Current year Student Aid Report (SAR) or signed prior's year Federal Tax Return with all W-2s
- ◆ Copy of cost of attendance/tuition for the program.

### 2. What is the maximum scholarship amount for the Allied Healthcare program and am I guaranteed to receive the full amount?

The maximum scholarship amount for the Allied Healthcare program is \$4,000 for students who accepted or enrolled in an allied healthcare education program.

### 3. How do I know if my allied healthcare program will qualify for the scholarship?

Students must be enrolled or accepted in one of the following allied healthcare programs: Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Physical Therapy, Clinical Laboratory Science, Physical Therapy Assistant, Medical Assistant, Radiation Therapy Technology, Medical Imaging, Radiologic Technology, Medical Laboratory Technology, Respiratory Care, Nuclear Medicine Technology, Social Work, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Pharmacy, Surgical Technician, Pharmacy Technician, and Ultrasound Technician.

### 4. If my allied healthcare specialty is not mentioned, may I still apply for the Allied Healthcare Scholarship Program?

Yes, you may still apply. However, priority is given to applicants who are enrolled in one of the indicated specialties. If funding is available after the priority specialties have been awarded, your application will be considered. Nursing students are not accepted to this program.

### 5. What is a "service obligation?"

"Service obligation" means the contractual obligation agreed to by the recipient of a loan repayment where the recipient agrees to practice their profession for a specified period of time in or through a designated facility.

**6. Can I still apply for the Allied Healthcare Scholarship if I currently owe an existing service obligation?**

If you owe an existing service obligation to another entity, you are ineligible to apply with the Health Professions Education Foundation until you have completed your existing obligation.

**7. Can my letters of recommendation be sent directly to the Health Professions Education Foundation or do I need to include them with my application?**

You can either have your letters of recommendation sent directly to our office or you can submit them along with your application packet. However, it is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all documents are postmarked by the cycle deadline.

**8. Can my official transcript(s) be sent directly to the Health Professions Education Foundation or do I need to include them with my application?**

You can either have your official transcript(s) sent directly to our office or you can submit them along with your application packet. However, it is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all documents are postmarked by the cycle deadline.

If you are a student in your first year of the program and your transcripts do not reflect your allied healthcare education, submit your most current transcript.

The transcript must be marked official by the school and delivered to the Foundation in a sealed envelope. The Foundation will not accept unofficial transcripts, copies or print outs of transcripts, or transcripts in a broken envelope.

**9. What criteria is used to select scholarship recipients for the Allied Healthcare program?**

Selection of scholarships is made on a competitive basis based solely on the information and documents contained in the application packet. Selection for awards is based in the following criteria: financial need, work experience, career goals, community service, community background, and academic performance of which you must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 each year funds are received. Priority will be given to individuals who will complete their allied healthcare program within the next two years.

**10. Do all applicants of the Allied Healthcare Scholarship program receive a scholarship?**

Scholarships for Allied Healthcare are made on a competitive basis. All applicants are not guaranteed to receive a scholarship.

**11. How many applicants are awarded scholarships each cycle for the Allied Healthcare program?**

The number of applicants awarded scholarships each cycle depends on the number of eligible applications received as well as the availability of funding. Each cycle is unique and the Health Professions Education Foundation staff cannot predict the number of scholarships awarded.

**12. When are the annual postmark deadlines for the Allied Healthcare Scholarship program?**

The annual postmark deadline for the Allied Healthcare Scholarship program is September 11. Make sure that the application you are using reflects the most current year. Updated applications are posted on our website annually.

**13. Can I submit my Allied Healthcare Scholarship application prior to the postmark deadlines?**

You are encouraged to submit your application prior to the postmark deadline in order for the Foundation staff to verify that your packet is complete. Applicants are urged to contact the Foundation staff prior to the final filing date to verify if their application was received complete. Any documents submitted beyond the postmark deadline will not be accepted.

**14. When will I be notified whether or not I have been selected to receive a scholarship?**

The Health Profession Education Foundation will notify applicants of their results within 120 days of the final filing date.

**15. If I am selected to be a scholarship recipient of the Allied Healthcare program, what are the terms of my contractual obligation?**

Immediately following graduation, for every scholarship received, complete a one (1) year service obligation working in a MUA of California providing direct patient care on a full-time basis (32 hours per week or its equivalent) in your field of study or complete 100 volunteer work hours for every \$4,000 scholarship received. Volunteer work must be providing direct patient care in a MUA.

**16. What is a “medically underserved area” (MUA)?**

A medically underserved area is a geographic area or specific healthcare facility that has been designated by the Director of the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) as medically underserved. These areas include federally-designated Medically Underserved Areas, Medically Underserved Populations, and Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas; state-designated California Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas and county-operated, state-operated, and state correctional and Veteran’s health facilities.

**17. How can I find out if my employer is in a MUA?**

Visit the following website

<http://datawarehouse.hrsa.gov/GeoAdvisor/ShortageDesignationAdvisor.aspx>.

**18. What happens if I am unable to fulfill the terms of my contractual obligation and cannot complete my service obligation?**

If a scholarship recipient is unable to fulfill their contractual obligation, they will be required to repay all scholarships funds received, plus ten percent interest. The recipient’s contract maybe turned over to the State Franchise Tax Board for collections.

**19. If I am selected to be a scholarship recipient for the Allied Healthcare program, does the money come directly to me or will it be sent to my school?**

A check will be mailed directly to the school. These funds are intended to pay any costs related to registration or enrollment fees, books, and equipment. Any surplus funds shall be disbursed to the student by the school.

**20. If I am selected to be a scholarship recipient for the Allied Healthcare program, how many times can I reapply?**

Allied Healthcare Scholarship recipients may receive one scholarship an academic year for up to four years from the Health Professions Education Foundation. However, there is no limit as to the number of times someone can apply.

**21. If I am NOT selected to be a scholarship recipient of the Allied Healthcare program and I re-apply again, do I need to resubmit my entire application or can you reuse the materials I have already submitted?**

Allied Healthcare Scholarship program applicants must resubmit a complete application packet each time they apply. The Health Professions Education Foundation will not reuse or send back any documentation previously submitted.