



## Faith Community/Parish Nurse Scholarship 2010 Guidelines

### **PURPOSE**

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Faith Community/Parish nursing is an effective way to reach underserved women. Faith Community/Parish Nurses function as health advocates, health educators and counselors, referral agents, volunteer coordinators, support group developers and integrators of faith and health. They encourage health maintenance through scheduled routine medical screening tests, and identify and discuss health-related issues that link women to vital health care services. Faith Community/Parish Nurses promote an understanding of the relationship between faith and health and are trusted community members, trained to respond to people in a holistic way. Particularly for older populations, Faith Community/Parish Nurses are complementary health care resources who develop ways to meet the needs of those living in remote rural or underserved areas.

The goal of the Wisconsin Women's Health Foundation's (WWHF) Faith Community/Parish Nurse Scholarship program is to increase the number of Faith Community/Parish Nurses in underserved areas. Annually, WWHF awards three scholarships up to \$750 each to women dedicated to the role of Faith Community/Parish Nurse.

**Scholarships are not available as reimbursement for completed courses.**

### **SPECIFICATIONS**

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1. Applicants must be female.
2. Applicants must hold a current license in Wisconsin as a Registered Nurse.
3. Scholarship funds are to be used for tuition, travel, books and/or supplies for the Faith Community/Parish Nurse Program. *Acceptable* programs include:
  - Concordia College (Moorhead, MN)
  - Concordia University (Mequon, WI)
  - Marian University (Fond du Lac, WI)
  - Marquette University (Milwaukee, WI)
  - Viterbo University (La Crosse, WI)
  - Florida Atlantic University, [distant learning] (Boca Raton, FL)
  - Nebraska Methodist College [distant learning] (Omaha, NE)
  - Saint Louis University School of Nursing [distant learning] (St. Louis, MO)
  - University of Southern Indiana [distant learning] (Evansville, IN)
4. Preference will be given to those demonstrating financial need. (Explain how this scholarship is important to your ability to attend this professional training.)
5. Members, spouses and/or children of the Scholarship Review Committee may not apply.
6. Awardees must provide a written summary of her education and her plans, and be available to present on her work at women's health events. The report is due to WWHF within two months of completion of the course together with the course certification of completion (i.e., evidence of CEUs earned) and a receipt of payment.

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

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1. A cover letter which includes:
  - a. Name, mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address (if available)
  - b. Education
  - c. Employment history (last three positions)
  - d. Summary of work experience: roles/responsibilities. Describe how these work experiences have prepared you for the role of Faith Community/Parish Nurse
  - e. Community service. Describe how the community service roles/responsibilities have prepared you for the role of Faith Community/Parish Nurse
  - f. Name of the specific, Faith Community/Parish Nurse Program (school) you plan to attend
2. Three letters of recommendation from:
  - a. A clergy member
  - b. A Faith Community/Parish Nurse
  - c. A clinical professional colleague (nurse manager, instructor or RN peer)
3. Copy of Wisconsin state nursing license
4. Copy of a program brochure from the school you plan to attend (can be from a previous course)
5. One or two page essay explaining how this scholarship will help you meet your personal and professional goals, and how it would benefit your community (include your name, address and phone number on each page of the essay)

The application should be submitted in one packet and postmarked by **January 29, 2010**. **Late submissions will not be considered. This includes all letters of recommendation and supporting materials. Mail to:**

Nora Miller, Program Coordinator  
Wisconsin Women's Health Foundation  
2503 Todd Drive  
Madison, WI 53713-2341

The Scholarship Review Committee will inform all candidates of the Committee's decision by **April 1, 2010**. Scholarship awards will be paid directly to the recipient.

**If for any reason, a scholarship awardee cannot attend the Faith Community/Parish Nurse program, they must notify WWHF immediately and return the scholarship funds with a letter from the recipient explaining why they could not attend.**

Please contact Nora Miller at 608-251-1675/800-445-5148 with any questions regarding the scholarship or the application process.