

NURSING PROGRAM / SCHOLARSHIP



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As our world's population continues to multiply, so does the need for health care providers. Nurses are such an integral part of the health care profession – from hospitals, doctors and dentists' offices, home health care, air-flight/life-flight, military, VA facilities, assisted living, hospice, clinics and schools – there are nurses EVERYWHERE. Currently estimated there is .925 nurses for every 100 humans. That is less than 1 nurse for every 100 people in the U.S.

Why are patient-to-nurse ratios so high?

In recent years, the number of highly trained nurses in hospitals has been affected by severe and repeated budget cuts that save money by increasing the nurse-to-patient ratios so that more patients are assigned to each nurse, and/or by using less trained and skilled aides to replace registered nurses.

The quality of health care and Texans' access to it could be at risk due to a nationwide nursing shortage. As our population ages and the demand for health care continues to grow, the number of nursing school graduates simply is not keeping pace with demand. In a 2019 survey by jobs site *CareerCast*, RNs were the fifth most in-demand profession in the United States.

According to a March 2022 Nurse Journal analysis of U.S. Bureau of Health Workforce data, Texas had the fourth-lowest nurse-to-population ratio among all states.

The program this year consists of two sections: first, **scholarships**, and second, **honoring the nurses** that are working tirelessly to help each of us when we are at our lowest.

**“Thankful & Grateful for the Sacrifice”
“From Our Roots to Our Branches, Extending Service to Our Veterans”**

SCHOLARSHIPS

The generosity of our Auxiliaries, in the past three decades, has allowed adequate funds to perpetuate three award amounts for the annual Nursing Scholarship:

- First place \$5,000
- Second place \$3,000
- Third place \$2,000

As program chairman, I will contact the Directors of all accredited schools offering nursing programs, and provide them with all the details and requirements, and request that this information be made available to all their qualified nursing students. Application information and forms will be sent with the initial letter.

There are currently 115 schools with nursing programs in Texas. There are 68 colleges and universities which offer associates degrees or certificates in nursing; 48 colleges and universities offer bachelor's degrees in nursing; and 35 colleges and universities offer master's or advanced degrees in nursing. If you know of a local college or university, please contact the administration and/or faculty and encourage them to spread the word to the nursing students about our scholarships. If you know a nursing student, you can share the information directly with them.

I would also welcome any Auxiliary to contact me directly, for information on nursing programs within the immediate area of your Auxiliary.

As is tradition, the winning applicants will be invited to attend our Department Convention, in June, to receive the scholarship awards and meet the Brothers and Sisters of Texas, who have made these scholarships possible.

HONORING THE NURSES

There are an estimated 370,750 currently licensed nurses practicing in the State of Texas. When honoring the nurses, remember they are not just in hospitals and doctor's offices - think about all the different places nurse's work.

There is always an opportunity to say THANK YOU to the nurses who work long, hard hours. Coffee, tea, lunch, gift-cards, snacks, or just a heartfelt thank you will be enthusiastically accepted by any of the nurses you choose to celebrate and honor!

National Nurses Week is May 6th through May 12th - with May 6th being National Nurses Day, and May 12th being the anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale. Since this time frame is after Year-End reports are due... please make sure that your activities between April and June of 2024 are included on your 2025 Year-End report.

Brothers and Sisters, you don't have to wait until May to HONOR THE NURSES... you can do it anytime! Pick up something for the nurses on your way to visit a friend in the hospital, on your way to a doctor's appointment or on your way to a dentist appointment. Get some of your

local schools involved in honoring their school nurse by presenting a hand-made thank you note, or another token of appreciation. The ideas are endless!

If you need suggestions or ideas, please do not hesitate to contact me. I would love to share some ideas that our local Auxiliaries have done. Please feel free to email me – please include a notation in the subject line for “Nursing Scholarship”.

AWARDS

1. A Plaque to the Auxiliary in each Membership Division for the **Best Activities Honoring/Recognizing Nurses**. Citations for 2nd and 3rd.
2. A Citation and Recognition of Auxiliaries sponsoring Nursing Scholarship Award Recipients.

NURSING PROGRAM / SCHOLARSHIP
YEAR-END REPORT

MAIL THIS REPORT TO YOUR DISTRICT PRESIDENT BY APRIL 10, 2025
REPORTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN BY APRIL 20, 2025

AUXILIARY NAME: _____ NUMBER: _____ DISTRICT: _____

TO QUALIFY FOR AWARDS, SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION (i.e. Reports / Pictures / Newspaper Articles) MUST BE RECEIVED.

1. Did your Auxiliary participate in an “Honor the Nurses” activity? Yes ___ No ___
If so, provide separate documentation, describing your activity in detail, including pictures, etc.
2. Did your Auxiliary contact local colleges regarding nursing programs?

Yes ___ No ___

Name and Location of College(s): _____

- If additional, please provide a list: _____

3. Did your Auxiliary sponsor a Nursing Scholarship Application Candidate?

Yes ___ No ___

- If more than one, please list:

Name of Student: _____

College Attending: _____

AUXILIARY CHAIRMAN: _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____

2024 - 2025

NURSING SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Scholarship amounts to be awarded:

1 st Place	\$5,000
2 nd Place	\$3,000
3 rd Place	\$2,000

Scholarship Application requirements:

- 1) Nursing Student who is on track to graduate (at any level) in Fall of 2025 or Spring of 2026.
- 2) A High School Graduate that **MUST** be attending a Texas College or University. GPA of 3.0 or better (verification needed, current transcript required).
- 3) Must be a U.S. Citizen.
- 4) Double-Spaced Typewritten Essay - 300 words or less on *“Having chosen the career in nursing... what impact do you feel YOU can have on Veterans and their families?”*
- 5) Completed application.
- 6) Current Transcript (GPA included).
- 7) 2 Letters of Recommendation from current Clinical Instructor or Nursing School Counselor.
- 8) Completed application packets must be postmarked, and mailed, by March 15, 2025.

Application Mailing Information:

Attn: Renee Clark
Nursing Scholarship Application
2107 Aaron Ross Way
Round Rock, TX 78665
ReneeSClark@msn.com / 512-269-8643

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

- Completed Application
- Two Letters of Recommendation from Clinical Instructors
- Current Transcript (GPA included)
- Three Hundred (or less) Word Essay (typed, double-spaced)

2024 - 2025
APPLICATION FOR NURSING SCHOLARSHIP
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY
(Please type or print)

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

American Citizen? _____ Are you a Veteran? _____ If so, what Branch? _____

Current Mailing Address: _____

Telephone Number(s): _____

Email: _____

Next of Kin / Contact Information: _____

High School & Location: _____

Graduation Date: _____

College or University (Attending Now): _____ GPA: _____

Degree sought (Associates, BSN, MSN, Other): _____

Clinical Instructor Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Nursing School Counselor Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Dean of Nursing School Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Do you belong to any Nursing Association? If yes, which one(s): _____

How were you informed/notified about this scholarship? _____

If applicable, to be completed by sponsoring VFW Auxiliary:

Auxiliary Number: _____ City: _____

Auxiliary Contact Information: _____