



MORRIS HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

February 21, 2024

To whom it may concern:

The Morris Hospital Foundation is pleased to once again offer scholarships to students from the Morris Hospital service area who are pursuing an education in healthcare. These scholarships are intended to encourage education in any health-related course of study while enhancing the availability of healthcare providers in our community.

A total of up to at least \$14,000 in awards will be available this year:

- The Morris Hospital Foundation Scholarship - \$1,000 (up to 3 available only for Morris Hospital employees and/or their dependents pursuing an education in healthcare.)
- The Carol Harrington Endowed Morris Hospital Foundation Scholarship - \$1,000 Available to students pursuing an education in healthcare. Applicants must be Illinois residents and reside in a community considered part of the Hospital's service area.
- The Relucio Family Healthcare Scholarship - \$1,000 Available to students pursuing an education in healthcare. Applicants must be Illinois residents and reside in a community considered part of the Hospital's service area.
- The Betty J. Sterritt Nursing Scholarship - up to \$4,000 over 2 years (see enclosed information for award criteria). Applicants must be Illinois residents and reside in, or be from, Grundy County, and intend to serve as nurses at a healthcare facility in Grundy County after their education is completed.
- The Hugo Avalos Endowed Scholarship - up to \$5,000 available for students either accepted into or currently enrolled in an accredited medical school, physician's assistant school, or nurse practitioner's school for the academic year for which the scholarship is given. **(For a copy of the Hugo Avalos policy and application, please contact Hannah Wehrle at hwehrle@morrishospital.org or 815.705.7021.**

Students may apply for as many scholarships as they would like by checking the appropriate boxes on the enclosed Scholarship application. **Please do not staple or double side print the scholarship when submitting the application.** All materials must be **postmarked by April 19, 2024**, with winners notified in May.

If you have any questions regarding these scholarships, please call 815-705-7021.

Sincerely,

Hannah Wehrle
Auxiliary and Foundation Officer, Morris Hospital

Enclosures

**Morris Hospital Foundation
Scholarship Application**

Because the evaluation will be based on the information supplied, it is important that applicants answer every question as completely as possible. All information submitted is confidential and will be reviewed by the Morris Hospital Scholarship Selection Committee as well as Hospital Staff. *Please print or type. Use N/A where not applicable.*

I. Personal Information:

1. Full Name:

Last: First: Middle Initial:

2. Present Address:

Street: City: State: Zip:

3. Phone Number: () _____

4. E-mail Address: _____

5. Are you a current Morris Hospital employee? ☐ YES or ☐ NO
If so, please indicate your employment status (Full Time, Part Time, Temp Casual, etc.)

6. Are you a dependent of a Morris Hospital employee? ☐ YES or ☐ NO

If you are a dependent of a Morris Hospital employee, please provide the name of your parent or legal guardian currently working at Morris Hospital.

Name of Morris Hospital employee:

7. Are you related to (parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, sibling or in-law) any officer or director of Morris Hospital or the Foundation, or anyone who has made substantial donations to the Hospital and/or the Foundation in the past five years? ☐ YES or ☐ NO

II. Educational Information

1. Please select if you are currently enrolled in ☐ HIGH SCHOOL or ☐ COLLEGE
2. Please list your anticipated graduation date of high school or college (Month and Year) _____
3. What is your most current G.P.A.? (Please include grading scale ie: 3.5 on a 4.0 grading scale)
_____ on a _____ grading scale
4. What is the course of study you are/will be pursuing? _____
5. Please list what school you are/will attend _____
6. While attending school, will you be ☐ FULL TIME or ☐ PART-TIME

7. List in chronological order all schools attended beyond elementary school, addresses and degrees or diplomas granted.

Name	Address	Degree	Yr. Graduated / Degree Received

8. What honors (academic or otherwise) have you received and when?

III. Occupational Information:

1. In what health or science-related fields or activities have you been involved, whether for recreation, as a volunteer, or as an employee?

2. List all jobs you have held (dates, employer, and type of work) and indicate whether they were full-time or part-time. Also include any volunteer work you have done.

IV. Education Expenses:

1. What are your anticipated expenses for the upcoming academic year?

Tuition and fees	\$ _____
Room	\$ _____
Board	\$ _____
Books & Supplies	\$ _____
Transportation	\$ _____

2. How do you plan on paying for your education?

Parents	\$ _____
Personal Savings	\$ _____
Employment	\$ _____
Loans	\$ _____
Scholarship/Grant	\$ _____
Morris Hospital Tuition Assistance Program	\$ _____
Other _____	\$ _____

V. Short Essay (1-2 pages)

Please write a brief essay including the following information:

1. Why are you pursuing a career in healthcare?
2. What qualifications do you have to pursue your education for your chosen profession?
3. What role do you feel that a hospital has in its local community?

VI. I would like this application considered for the following scholarship(s):

- ☐ The Morris Hospital Foundation Scholarship (up to 3 available for Morris Hospital employees and/or their dependents pursuing undergraduate education in healthcare) - \$1,000 each
- ☐ The Carol Harrington Endowed Morris Hospital Foundation Scholarship - \$1000 (available to students pursuing undergraduate education in healthcare)
- ☐ The Relucio Family Healthcare Scholarship - \$1,000 (available to students pursuing undergraduate education in healthcare)
- ☐ The Betty J. Sterritt Nursing Scholarship- up to \$4,000 over two years (available to students from Grundy County who are currently enrolled in coursework leading to a nursing degree)

An additional scholarship is available for students enrolled in post-graduate education to become a physician, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner. For more information on the Hugo Avalos Endowed Scholarship, please contact the Morris Hospital Foundation at 815-705-7021 or hwehrle@morrishospital.org.

As part of your application, please submit:

- 1) At least two **CURRENT** letters of reference selected from teacher, counselor, employer, supervisor, or clergy. Letters from previous applications submitted will **NOT** be accepted. Have letters sent directly to: Morris Hospital Foundation, 150 W. High St. Morris, IL 60450.
- 2) Your **most recent** academic transcript. If you are a current high school student, this should be your high school transcript. If you are a current undergraduate student, this should be your college transcript.
- 3) Official proof of acceptance (if not currently enrolled) from the educational institution you will attend.

All materials must be postmarked by date noted on application packet cover letter.

Date Completed: _____

POLICY:	MORRIS HOSPITAL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP		
APPROVAL:	MORRIS HOSPITAL FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS, MORRIS HOSPITAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS		
EFFECTIVE DATE: 2/1/2016	CURRENT REVIEW/REVISION DATE: 12/15	SUPERSEDES: 4/03; 2/06; 2/07; 8/10, 9/12	ORIGINAL EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/01
DEPARTMENT SPECIFIC		FOUNDATION	

I. Purpose

The Morris Hospital Foundation Scholarship Program is available to assist employees of Morris Hospital & Healthcare Centers (the “Hospital”) and the children of such employees, in obtaining post-high school education in health-related courses of study. By offering scholarships to Hospital employees and/or their children, the Morris Hospital Foundation (the “Foundation”) provides employees with an opportunity to contribute to a fund that could benefit their co-workers and encourage individuals to pursue careers in healthcare.

Exceptions to this policy may be made from time to time due to extenuating circumstances. Scholarships may be granted outside of the process at the discretion of the Foundation Board.

II. Policy

The Foundation shall award scholarships on an annual basis to employees or children of employees who are pursuing health-related courses of study. Such scholarships shall be in the amount of \$1,000. Scholarships may be used at an accredited college, university, or vocational/technical school. Scholarships shall be awarded competitively based on applicant merit, without reference to race, sex, religion, national origin, or physical handicap. Scholarships are not intended to constitute compensation for past, present, or future services, nor as an inducement to accept future employment.

III. Procedure

A. Eligibility

1. Applicants must be either: 1) a regular part-time or full-time employee of the Hospital with at least one year of service at the time of application; or 2) the dependent, unmarried child of a regular part-time or full-time Hospital employee with at least one year of service at the time of application.

To qualify as the child of an employee, applicants must be the:

- a. Natural child of an employee;
 - b. Legally adopted child or legal ward of an employee;
 - c. Stepchild of an employee whose spouse has legal custody of the child;
 - d. Stepchild of an employee whose spouse has primary responsibility for their financial support.
2. Applicants must be either accepted into or currently enrolled in a health-related curriculum at an accredited college, university, or vocational/technical school during the academic year for which the scholarship is given.
 3. Applicants must be Illinois residents.

B. Application Process

1. An application process shall be undertaken annually, leading toward the selection of recipients in the spring of each year.
2. Applicant shall complete the attached application form entitled “[Morris Hospital Foundation Scholarship Application](#)”. The applicant is responsible for gathering and submitting all information and forms necessary for the selection of a scholarship recipient. Applicants must forward the completed application, along with a current authenticated transcript of their grades, to: Morris Hospital Foundation, 150 West High Street, Morris, IL 60450.
3. All applications must be postmarked on or before the scholarship deadline.
4. Foundation representatives shall treat all applications as confidential.

C. Selection of Recipients by Committee

1. All scholarship applications shall be reviewed by a committee designated by the Foundation Board.
2. Scholarships shall be awarded on the basis of merit, with consideration also given to community service. The academic, extracurricular and employment accomplishments of each applicant shall be evaluated and scored according to pre-established criteria, noted in **Attachment A**. Consideration may also be given to the individual character and motivation of applicants, as revealed in their written applications, letters of reference, or other circumstances.
3. If an application is received from an applicant who is related to (parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, sibling or in-law) any officer or director of Morris Hospital or the Foundation, or anyone who has made substantial donations to the Hospital and/or the Foundation in the past five years, utmost caution shall be taken to ensure that the application is reviewed based solely on the merit of the applicant. If, based on all facts and circumstances, the application cannot be viewed without improper bias or influence (whether actual or perceived); the Committee shall decline to consider the application and shall notify the applicant accordingly.
4. If an application is received from an applicant who is related to a member of the selection committee, under no circumstances shall such Committee member participate in or be present for the review, discussion or consideration of such application.
5. Scholarship applicants shall be notified of the outcome in writing.
6. Any applicant not selected in one year may reapply in any later year for which he or she is eligible.

D. Disbursement of Scholarships and Accounting

1. Scholarships may be applied toward tuition, fees or books, as designated by the scholarship recipient. Scholarship amounts may not be applied toward room, board, or incidental living expenses.
2. Scholarships awarded shall be forwarded by the Foundation directly to the school. In all other respects, scholarship funds shall be handled in a consistent manner.
3. Any tax issues associated with the scholarship shall be handled by the Accounting Department.

E. Renewals for Subsequent Years

1. Depending on the particular scholarship awarded, recipients may in some cases qualify for additional scholarship awards for successive academic years until the course of study or degree program for which the application was made has been completed. Students must re-apply in order to be considered for a renewal scholarship.
2. A maximum of four scholarship awards shall be granted to any one student. Awards shall be granted for undergraduate and post-graduate study only.
3. Renewal of a Foundation scholarship during the term of an educational program shall require the recipient to maintain a grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or 2.5 on a 4.0 scale for the freshman year only), and shall further require the recipient to remain in good academic and disciplinary standing. The foregoing shall be evidenced by a transcript submitted in connection with the recipient's renewal application.
4. If a recipient ceases to be enrolled at the designated school while the award is in effect, a pro rata portion of the scholarship awarded must be returned, based on the portion of the academic year remaining (to the extent feasible based on the school's tuition refund policy).

F. Record-Keeping

1. The Foundation shall maintain complete and accurate records of its scholarship application, selection, and disbursement processes. With respect to each scholarship recipient, the Foundation shall maintain a file containing:
 - a. Name and address
 - b. Completed application and attachments
 - c. Date of review by Committee
 - d. Amount of scholarship award
 - e. Date(s) of disbursement
 - f. If renewed, transcripts evidencing academic performance

IV. Review

This policy will be reviewed every three years by the Foundation and Hospital Boards.

Forms:

[Morris Hospital Foundation Scholarship Application](#)

Approval:

Noreen Dollinger, President
Morris Hospital Foundation

Kelly Beaty, President
Board of Directors,
Morris Hospital & Healthcare Centers

Attachment A

Criteria for Selecting Scholarship Recipients

**See corresponding policy for additional considerations.*

1. Academic Performance (at high school, college, or graduate school level, if applicable)
 - a. GPA
 - b. Class rank
 - c. Course load and courses completed
2. Extracurricular Performance
 - a. Awards received
 - b. Honors achieved
3. Community Service
 - a. Volunteerism
 - b. Community involvement
4. Employment (if applicable)
 - a. Performance (as indicated in letters of reference)
 - b. Relevance to career aspiration

PROCESS:	THE CAROL HARRINGTON ENDOWED MORRIS HOSPITAL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM		
APPROVAL:	MORRIS HOSPITAL FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS; MORRIS HOSPITAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS		
EFFECTIVE DATE: 12/1/2015	CURRENT REVIEW/REVISION DATE: 10/15	SUPERSEDES: 4/05; 2/06; 2/07; 8/07; 4/08; 7/10; 8/10, 9/12	ORIGINAL EFFECTIVE DATE: 4/05
DEPARTMENT SPECIFIC		FOUNDATION	

I. Purpose

The Carol Harrington Endowed Morris Hospital Foundation Scholarship Program is available to assist students residing within the service area of Morris Hospital & Healthcare Centers (the “Hospital”) in obtaining post-high school education in health-related courses of study. By offering scholarships to local students pursuing health-related educations, the Foundation seeks to enhance the availability and qualifications of healthcare professionals, thereby promoting access to quality healthcare services for the benefit of the public.

Exceptions to this process may be made from time to time due to extenuating circumstances. Scholarships may be granted outside of the process at the discretion of the Foundation Board.

II. Process

Morris Hospital Foundation (the “Foundation”) shall award scholarships on an annual basis to local students who are pursuing a health-related course of undergraduate study. Types of health courses might include but are not limited to: nursing, pharmacy, physical therapy, nutrition, medical technology, laboratory and radiology. Because of the endowed nature of these scholarships, the Foundation Board of Directors annually shall determine the number and amount of scholarships to bestow, based on the available income generated by the endowed principal. Management of the endowed fund shall follow standard Foundation practices for endowed funds.

Scholarships may be used at an accredited college, university or vocational/technical school. Scholarships shall be awarded competitively based on applicant merit, without reference to race, sex, religion, national origin or physical handicap. Scholarships are not intended to constitute compensation for past, present or future services, nor as an inducement to accept future employment.

III. Procedure

A. Eligibility

1. Applicants must be Illinois residents and reside in a community considered part of the Hospital’s service area. This includes the following zip codes: 60407, 60408, 60410, 60416, 60420, 60424, 60437, 60444, 60447, 60450, 60470, 60474, 60479, 60481, 60541, 61341, 61350, and 61360.
2. Applicants must be either accepted into, or currently enrolled in, a health-related curriculum at an accredited college, university or vocational/technical school during the academic year for which the scholarship is given.

B. Application Process

1. Each year, the Foundation shall send to community high schools, local universities, and the local media communications pieces designed to inform students and their families of the availability of these endowed scholarships.
2. Thereafter, an application process shall be undertaken, leading toward the selection of recipients in the spring of each year.
3. Applicants shall complete the attached application form entitled "Morris Hospital Foundation Scholarship Application." The applicant is responsible for gathering and submitting all information and forms necessary for the selection of a scholarship recipient. Applicants must forward the completed application, along with a current authenticated transcript of their grades, to: Morris Hospital Foundation, 150 West High Street, Morris, IL 60450.
4. All applications must be postmarked on or before the scholarship deadline.
5. Foundation representatives shall treat all applications as confidential.

C. Selection of Recipients by Committee

1. All scholarship applications shall be reviewed by a committee of Auxiliary and Foundation Board members as well as hospital staff.
2. Scholarships shall be awarded solely on the basis of merit. The academic, extracurricular and employment accomplishments of each applicant shall be evaluated and scored according to pre-established criteria, noted in **Attachment A**. Consideration may also be given to the individual character and motivation of applicants, as revealed in their written applications, letters of reference, or other circumstances.
3. If an application is received from an applicant who is related to (parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, sibling or in-law) any officer or director of Morris Hospital, the Auxiliary, or the Foundation, or anyone who has made substantial donations to the Hospital and/or the Foundation in the past five years, utmost caution shall be taken to ensure that the application is reviewed based solely on the merit of the applicant. If, based on all facts and circumstances, the application cannot be viewed without improper bias or influence (whether actual or perceived); the committee shall decline to consider the application and shall notify the applicant accordingly.
4. If an application is received from an applicant who is related to a member of the selection committee, under no circumstances shall such Committee member participate in or be present for the review, discussion or consideration of such application.
5. Scholarship applicants shall be notified of the outcome in writing.
6. Any applicant not selected in one year may reapply in any later year for which he or she is eligible.

D. Disbursement of Scholarships and Accounting

1. Scholarships may be applied toward tuition, fees or books, as designated by the scholarship recipient. Scholarship amounts may not be applied toward room, board, or incidental living expenses.
2. Scholarships awarded shall be forwarded by the Foundation directly to the school. In all other respects, scholarship funds shall be handled in a consistent manner.
3. Any tax issues associated with the scholarship shall be handled by the Accounting Department.

E. Renewals for Subsequent Years

1. Depending on the particular scholarship awarded, recipients may in some cases qualify for additional scholarship awards for successive academic years until the course of study or degree program for which the application was made has been completed. Students must re-apply in order to be considered for a renewal scholarship (however, such students shall not be required to submit additional letters of reference or proof of acceptance from the educational institution attended).

2. A maximum of four scholarship awards shall be granted to any one student. Awards shall be granted for undergraduate study only.
3. Renewal of a Foundation scholarship during the term of an educational program shall require the recipient to maintain a grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or 2.5 on a 4.0 scale for the freshman year only), and shall further require the recipient to remain in good academic and disciplinary standing. The foregoing shall be evidenced by a transcript submitted in connection with the recipient's renewal application.
4. If a recipient ceases to be enrolled at the designated school while the award is in effect, a pro rata portion of the scholarship awarded must be returned, based on the portion of the academic year remaining (to the extent feasible based on the school's tuition refund policy).

F. Record-Keeping

1. The Foundation shall maintain complete and accurate records of its scholarship application, selection and disbursement processes. With respect to each scholarship recipient, the Foundation shall maintain a file containing:
 - a. Name and address
 - b. Completed application and attachments
 - c. Date of review by Committee
 - d. Amount of scholarship award
 - e. Date(s) of disbursement
 - f. If renewed, transcripts evidencing academic performance

IV. Review

This process shall be reviewed every three years by the Foundation and Hospital Boards.

Forms:

[Morris Hospital Foundation Scholarship Application](#)

Approval:

**Noreen Dollinger, President,
Morris Hospital Foundation**

**Kelly Beaty, Chairman,
Board of Directors,
Morris Hospital & Healthcare Centers**

Attachment A

Criteria for Selecting Scholarship Recipients

**See corresponding program information for additional considerations.*

1. Academic Performance (at high school, college, or graduate school level, if applicable)
 - a. GPA
 - b. Class rank
 - c. Course load and courses completed
2. Extracurricular Performance
 - a. Awards received
 - b. Honors achieved
3. Community Service
 - a. Volunteerism
 - b. Community involvement
4. Employment (if applicable)
 - a. Performance (as indicated in letters of reference)
 - b. Relevance to career aspiration

The Relucio Family Endowed Fund for Healthcare Scholarships

Eligibility

- Applicants must be Illinois residents and reside in a community considered part of the Hospital's service area. This includes the following zip codes: 60407, 60408, 60410, 60416, 60420, 60424, 60437, 60444, 60447, 60450, 60470, 60474, 60479, 60481, 60541, 61341, 61350, and 61360.
- Applicants must be either accepted into, or currently enrolled in, a health-related curriculum at an accredited college, university or vocational/technical school during the academic year for which the scholarship is given.

Application Process

- Each year, the Foundation shall send to community high schools and the local media communications pieces designed to inform students and their families of the availability of these endowed scholarships.
- Thereafter, an application process shall be undertaken, leading toward the selection of recipients in the spring of each year.
- Applicants shall complete the attached application form entitled "Morris Hospital Foundation and Auxiliary Scholarship Application." The applicant is responsible for gathering and submitting all information and forms necessary for the selection of a scholarship recipient. Applicants must forward the completed application, along with a current authenticated transcript of their grades, to: Morris Hospital Foundation, 150 West High Street, Morris, IL 60450.
- All applications must be postmarked on or before the scholarship deadline.
- Foundation representatives shall treat all applications as confidential.

Selection of Recipients by Committee

- All scholarship applications shall be reviewed by a committee designated by the Auxiliary and Foundation Boards.
- Scholarships shall be awarded on the basis of merit, with consideration also given to community service. The academic, extracurricular and employment accomplishments of each applicant shall be evaluated and scored according to pre-established criteria, noted in the scholarship application. Consideration may also be given to the individual character and motivation of applicants, as revealed in their written applications, letters of reference, or other circumstances.
- If an application is received from an applicant who is related to (parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, sibling or in-law) any officer or director of Morris Hospital or the Foundation, or anyone who has made substantial donations to the Hospital and/or the Foundation in the past five years, utmost caution shall be taken to ensure that the application is reviewed based solely on the merit of the applicant. If, based on all facts and circumstances, the application cannot be viewed without improper bias or influence (whether actual or perceived); the Committee shall decline to consider the application and shall notify the applicant accordingly.

- If an application is received from an applicant who is related to a member of the selection committee, under no circumstances shall such committee member participate in or be present for the review, discussion or consideration of such application.
- Scholarship applicants shall be notified of the outcome in writing.
- Any applicant not selected in one year may reapply in any later year for which he or she is eligible.

Disbursement of Scholarships and Accounting

- Scholarships may be applied toward tuition, fees or books, as designated by the scholarship recipient. Scholarship amounts may not be applied toward room, board, or incidental living expenses.
- Scholarships awarded shall be forwarded by the Foundation directly to the school. In all other respects, scholarship funds shall be handled in a consistent manner.
- Any tax issues associated with the scholarship shall be handled by the Accounting Department.

Renewals for Subsequent Years

- Depending on the particular scholarship awarded, recipients may in some cases qualify for additional scholarship awards for successive academic years until the course of study or degree program for which the application was made has been completed. Students must re-apply in order to be considered for a renewal scholarship.
- A maximum of four scholarship awards shall be granted to any one student. Awards shall be granted for undergraduate study only.
- Renewal of a Foundation scholarship during the term of an educational program shall require the recipient to maintain a grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or 2.5 on a 4.0 scale for the freshman year only), and shall further require the recipient to remain in good academic and disciplinary standing. The foregoing shall be evidenced by a transcript submitted in connection with the recipient's renewal application.
- If a recipient ceases to be enrolled at the designated school while the award is in effect, a pro rata portion of the scholarship awarded must be returned, based on the portion of the academic year remaining (to the extent feasible based on the school's tuition refund policy).

Record-Keeping

- The Foundation shall maintain complete and accurate records of its scholarship application, selection and disbursement processes. With respect to each scholarship recipient, the Foundation shall maintain a file containing:
 - Name and address
 - Completed application and attachments
 - Date of review by Committee
 - Amount of scholarship award
 - Date(s) of disbursement
 - If renewed, transcripts evidencing academic performance

Morris Hospital Foundation

Betty J. Sterritt Endowed Fund for Nursing Scholarship Information

I. Establishment

The Morris Hospital Foundation (hereinafter the "Foundation") hereby agrees to establish the *BETTY J. STERRITT ENDOWED FUND FOR NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS* (hereinafter the "Fund") according to the terms of this agreement, to become effective immediately upon full execution of this agreement. Over \$100,000 has been raised to date for the Fund, meeting the funding requirement for a named endowed fund.

It is the intention that the Fund be considered true endowment to remain in perpetuity. Scholarships provided for herein will be funded by distributions from the Fund made in accordance with the Foundation's endowment policy (see Section V below).

II. Purpose

The purpose of the Fund shall be to financially assist students in obtaining post-high school education in nursing who are residents of, or from, Grundy County and who intend to serve as nurses at a healthcare facility in Grundy County after their education is completed.

By offering scholarships to local students pursuing a career in nursing, the Foundation seeks to enhance the availability of nurses in Grundy County while paying tribute to a beloved nurse who spent her career providing care at Morris Hospital and Healthcare Centers (hereinafter "Morris Hospital").

III. Scholarship Awards

Exceptions to the scholarship requirements may be made from time to time due to extenuating circumstances and scholarships may be granted outside of the process described below, at the discretion of the Foundation Board.

A. Policy

The Foundation shall award scholarships to local students during their pursuit of an education in nursing. Students in any year of their post-high school nursing education will be considered.

Scholarships may be used at an accredited college or university. Scholarships shall be awarded competitively based on applicant merit, without reference to race, gender, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, or physical handicap. Special consideration will be given to students who demonstrate a financial need to help fund their education. Scholarships are not intended to constitute compensation for past, present or future services, nor as an inducement to accept future employment.

The Board of the Foundation shall determine each year the number of scholarships to be awarded and the amount of each scholarship. As the Fund grows, and the corresponding

distributions increase, either more scholarships can be awarded or the amount of each scholarship increased. The preference shall be to increase the amount of a particular scholarship rather than increase the number of smaller scholarship awards.

B. Procedure

1. Eligibility

- Applicants must be Illinois residents and reside in, or be from, Grundy County, and intend to serve as nurses at a healthcare facility in Grundy County after their education is completed.
- Recipients must be either accepted into or currently enrolled in a nursing curriculum at an accredited college or university during the academic year for which the scholarship is given.
- If a recipient ceases to be enrolled at the designated school while the award is in effect, a pro rata portion of the scholarship awarded must be returned, based on the portion of the academic year remaining (to the extent feasible based on the school's tuition refund policy).

2. Awards/Renewal

- Award determinations will be made in the spring. While it is anticipated that most scholarships will start with the academic calendar in the fall of that year, it can be applied by the recipient immediately if that better fits his or her academic needs.
- A scholarship shall be awarded for the academic equivalent of two years, i.e., four successive academic semester or eight successive academic quarters. (If the recipient enrolls in a shorter course of study, the scholarship award will apply to that shorter time.)
- Once a scholarship recipient begins his or her studies, continued receipt of The Betty J. Sterritt Nursing Scholarship shall require the recipient to maintain good academic and disciplinary standing. The foregoing shall be evidenced by an academic transcript submitted by the recipient to the Foundation prior to an additional disbursement being made.

3. Application Process

- If a new scholarship is to be awarded in a given year, communications pieces designed to inform students and their families of the availability of the scholarship shall be sent to community high schools, universities, colleges, and the local media.

- Thereafter, an application process shall be undertaken, leading toward the selection of recipient(s) in the spring of that year.
- Applicants shall complete an application form entitled “Betty J. Sterritt Endowed Nursing Scholarship” similar to the form in Attachment A.

The applicant is responsible for gathering and submitting all information and forms necessary for the selection of a scholarship recipient. Applicants must forward the completed application, along with a current official transcript of their grades and letters of recommendation, to: Morris Hospital Foundation, 150 West High Street, Morris, IL 60450.

- All applications must be postmarked on or before the scholarship deadline or dropped off at the Foundation office.
- Foundation representatives shall treat all applications as confidential.

4. Selection of Recipients by Committee

- All scholarship applications shall be reviewed by a committee designated by the Foundation (the “Committee”). The two immediate past recipients of the scholarship will be invited to take part in the selection process. If they are not able or willing to do so, earlier recipients will be asked to participate. While the participation of at least one or two past recipients is highly desired and every effort will be made to have this happen, on the rare occasion when it is not possible the selection process may still go forward.
- Scholarships shall be awarded on the basis of merit, with consideration also given to financial need. The academic, extracurricular and employment accomplishments, and community service of each applicant shall be evaluated and scored according to pre-established criteria, noted in Attachment B. Consideration may also be given to the individual character and motivation of applicants, as revealed in their written applications, letters of recommendation, or other circumstances.
- If multiple applications meet the criteria for selection, preference will be given to those student(s) exhibiting the greater financial need.
- If an application is received from an applicant who is related to (parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, sibling or in-law) any officer or director of Morris Hospital or the Foundation, or anyone who has made substantial donations to the Hospital and/or the Foundation in the past five years, utmost caution shall be taken to ensure that the application is reviewed based solely on the merit of the applicant. If, based on all facts and circumstances, the application cannot be viewed without improper bias or influence (whether

actual or perceived), the Committee shall decline to consider the application and shall notify the applicant accordingly.

- If an application is received from an applicant who is related to a member of the selection committee, under no circumstances shall such committee member participate in or be present for the review, discussion or consideration of such application.
- Scholarship applicants shall be notified of the outcome in writing.
- Any applicant not selected in one year may reapply in any later year for which he or she is eligible.

5. Disbursement of Scholarships and Accounting

- Scholarships may be applied toward tuition, academic fees or books and supplies, as designated by the scholarship recipient. Scholarship amounts may not be applied toward room, board, or incidental living expenses.
- Scholarships awarded shall be forwarded by the Foundation directly to the school where possible.
- The initial scholarship disbursement will be made based on the recipient's application. Future disbursements will be made only after the Foundation verifies that the recipient is in good academic and disciplinary standing.
- Any tax issues associated with the scholarship shall be handled by the Morris Hospital Accounting Department.

Please use the Morris Hospital Foundation Scholarship Application to apply.