Mission Heath System Scholarship

# WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

**College of Health and Human Sciences**

***Mission Health System Scholarship for Health Professionals***

The College of Health and Human Sciences at Western Carolina University has established a fund for student support through the generous gift of Mission Health System of Asheville, North Carolina. The purpose of this fund is to increase the number of qualified health and allied health care providers in and beyond the western North Carolina region. The fund will support scholarships for students demonstrating exceptional academic merit/promise and/or financial need. Though scholarships will be open to all qualified students, the college is especially interested in supporting applicants from western North Carolina who also reflect the diverse communities we serve.

# Scholarship Information and Participating Programs

* The Mission Health System Scholarship provides scholarship awards of varying amounts, dependent upon the selected program within the College of Health and Human Sciences.
* While some recipients may receive this award for consecutive years, they must reapply for consideration.
* Most programs require recipients to register for a minimum of nine (9) credit hours each semester.

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| **Certified Nurse Anesthesia Program** | **Shawn Collins,** DNP, Program Director [shawncollins@wcu.edu](mailto:shawncollins@wcu.edu) |
| **RN to BSN Program** | **Ramona Whichello**, MN, Program Director [rwhichello@wcu.edu](mailto:rwhichello@wcu.edu) |
| **Master of Science in Nursing** | **Linda Comer**, PhD, Associate Director of Nursing [lcomer@wcu.edu](mailto:lcomer@wcu.edu) |
| **Accelerated Bachelor of Nursing** | **Mary Knowlton**, DNP, Program Director [mcknowlton@wcu.edu](mailto:mcknowlton@wcu.edu) |
| **Traditional Pre-Licensure BSN** | **Amy Putnam, BSN Program Director** <awputnam@wcu.edu> |

# SCHOOL OF NURSING SUMMARY: ($20,000/year)

**Certified Nurse Anesthesia Selection Process: Program awarded $12,000/year**

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| **Program** | **Amount of Annual Scholarship** | **Will the award follow the student?** | **Deadline for applicants** | **Criteria used in selection process, including merit and financial need** |
| Certified Nurse Anesthesia Program | $2000-$3000 Initial  $1000-$1500 if renewed | Continuing students may reapply in the second year | -The top 5% of applicants will be invited to apply;  - Rolling deadline | -The Mission Scholarship will be used to recruit, admit, and retain highly qualified graduate students to complete the CRNA program at Western Carolina University.  -Merit based on academic and professional achievement  -Exceptional interview score as determined by Faculty Committee |

**Accelerated BSN Selection Process: Program awarded $2000/year**

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| **Program** | **Amount of Annual Scholarship** | **Will the award follow the student?** | **Deadline for applicants** | **Criteria used in selection process, including merit and financial need** |
| Accelerated Bachelor of Nursing Program | Two scholarships of  $1000 will be made available to current and newly accepted ABSN students | **N/A This is a one year program** | This availability will be made known to students in acceptance letters as well as through the ABSN website | Applications will be reviewed by ABSN faculty team and students ranked on the following criteria:  **Evidence of need** – demonstrated by FAFSA qualification and a letter of request from the student applicant - 50%  **Academic merit** as demonstrated by cumulative undergraduate GPA from previous degree – 25% (GPAs will be verified)  **Essay score** (scored blindly by 3 faculty) -25% The top two highest scoring students will be awarded the scholarships. |

**Traditional BSN Program Selection Process: Program awarded $2000/year**

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| **Amount of Annual Scholarship** | **Will the award follow the student?** | **Deadline for applicants** | **Criteria used in selection process, including merit and financial need** |
| Two scholarships of  $1000 will be made available to nursing students currently in the program | May be renewed for subsequent semesters if the student continues to demonstrate need and merit. | Applications are due no later than **April 1, 2012** | Applications will be reviewed by undergraduate faculty and students ranked on the following criteria:  **Evidence of need** – demonstrated by FAFSA qualification and letter of request from student applicant  **Academic merit** as demonstrated by cumulative GPA –  **Essay score** –The essay will be blindly scored by 3 faculty members on a 100-point scale. The essay should be 2 pages in length, and should address the following question:  *Since you have started the nursing program, how has your view of nursing changed?*  **Personal integrity** The student may ask any nursing faculty member from didactic or clinical rotations to score the student on the following categories. The categories are taken from the Mission Hospitals Student Reference Request form:   * Problem Solving Ability * Ability to Keep Confidences * Interpersonal Skills, Courtesy, Tact (with patients/families, peers/co-workers/ instructors * Assertive Communication Skills * Reliability * Clinical Performance (critical reasoning, prioritization) * Nursing team member (works cooperatively, decision- making ability, leadership) * Flexibility (approaches changing situations positively) |

# Nurse Administration, Nurse Educator, Family Nurse Practitioner: Program awarded $2000/year

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| **Amount of Annual Scholarship** | **Will the award follow the student?** | **Deadline for applicants** | **Criteria used in selection process, including merit and financial need** |
| **$2000/year (rotated annually)** All three programs will offer the scholarship to second year students only | **No** | Deadline for application will be  **June 1** for Fall awards.  The faculty of all three programs will serve as the review and selection committee. | Criteria used in selection process, including merit and financial need  **Academic Merit** will be determined by prior GPA of at least 3.75.  **Financial Need** will be determined by FAFSA qualification and a letter of request from the student applicant. |

**RN to BSN (Program awarded $2000/year)**

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| **Amount of Annual Scholarship** | **Will the award follow the student?** | **Deadline for applicants** | **Criteria used in selection process, including merit and financial need** |
| Two students who have completed the introduction block will be awarded $1000/year | **No** | **June 1** for Fall awards and  **December 10** for Spring awards  Notice of the application process will be provided to all students completing the introductory block of the program, with instructions on application. | Criteria used in selection process, including merit and financial need  **Academic Merit** will be determined by first year GPA of at least 3.75.  **Financial Need** will be determined by FAFSA qualification and a letter of request from the student applicant.  The faculty of the RN to BSN program will serve as the review and selection committee. |