Nursing is a high-demand career field that also happens to be one of the fastest growing occupations in America today. In 2012, there were more than 2.7 million nursing positions in the United States. These nurses earned an estimated median annual pay of $65,470 per year and were required to have only an associate’s degree and proper state licensing. But most encouraging is the field’s rapid expansion, anticipated at 19% through 2022, easily outpacing most other industries.*

As a result, this faster-than-average job growth rate has made the nursing profession very attractive to jobseekers. However, persistent concerns over the current shortage of licensed professionals have inspired organizations to create a number of scholarships to encourage and assist prospective students. These scholarship programs’ requirements vary widely, but they are also designated for a number of circumstances including ethnicity, citizenship status and more. Unfortunately, prospective students are frequently unaware they qualify for one or more of these scholarships. This guide has been created to overcome that hurdle by revealing some of the scholarships you may qualify for RIGHT NOW!

Prospective students are encouraged to conduct independent research as career opportunities and salary potential may vary depending on location, experience and education.
The National Nursing Education Initiative (NNEI)

The National Nursing Education Initiative (NNEI) provides a scholarship up to $31,080 to support qualified registered nurses who hold associate's degrees and diplomas in the completion of a baccalaureate degree in nursing. Eligible RNs must be enrolled or accepted into an accredited BSN or MSN program and employed for at least one year with VHA. The NNEI applies to full-time and part-time VHA registered nurses. A student may enroll in the BSN program as a full-time or part-time student. Nursing scholarship recipients must also serve a period of obligated full-time service to VHA. If you are a nurse at a VA hospital contact your approved NNEI program coordinator. Each VAMC has appointed an NNEI program coordinator, and funding decisions are made at each facility.

Website – www.vacareers.com

A.T. Anderson Memorial Scholarship

Offered only to students of Native American heritage, this one-year nursing scholarship awards $1,000 at the undergraduate level and $2,000 at the graduate level. Students must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher to be eligible.

Website – www.aises.org/scholarships

Deadline to apply – June 15

Gates Millennium Scholars

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation funds 1,000 scholarships a year. Providing $1,000 a year to offset educational costs, this scholarship is open to students with a minimum of a 3.3 GPA. Students must be of African American, American Indian-Alaska Native, Asian Pacific Islander American or Hispanic American descent to be eligible.

Website – www.gmsp.org/

Deadline to apply – The application period typically closes on Jan. 15 of each calendar year.

Estelle Massey Osborne Scholarship

These scholarships are open to minority RNs enrolled in a master's or doctoral degree program in nursing. Applicant must be a U.S. citizen and a member of a professional nursing association. The scholarship amount varies based on available funds.

Website – www.n-e-f.org

Deadline to apply – Scholarship application period closes March 1 annually.

Please note:
This list is not all inclusive. Prospective students are encouraged to conduct independent research as career opportunities and salary potential may vary depending on location, experience and education.
National Institutes of Health Undergraduate Scholarship Program

Providing up to $20,000 per academic year in tuition, educational expenses and living expenses, these scholarships can be renewed for up to four years. Designed for students from disadvantaged backgrounds, the competitive scholarship program is open to students who are pursuing careers in the biomedical, behavioral, social science health-related research areas. In addition to scholarship support, recipients receive paid research training at the NIH during the summers and paid employment and training at NIH after graduation. Eligibility requirements include a minimum GPA of 3.3, U.S. citizenship or permanent residency and acceptance or enrollment in an accredited four-year institution.

Website - www.training.nih.gov/programs/ugsp
Deadline to apply – The application period closes in March.

National Student Nurses Association

Offering scholarships that range from $1,000 to $2,500, the foundation awards more than $345,000 each year to students with dreams of becoming nurses. To be eligible, students must be American citizens or registered aliens who are currently enrolled in nursing school or pre-nursing programs. Recipients are selected based on academic achievement, financial need and involvement in student nursing organizations and community activities related to the profession.

Website - www.nsna.org/FoundationScholarships
Deadline to apply – Jan. 16

National Black Nurses Association (NBNA) Lauranne Sams Scholarship

This scholarship is awarded to a student nurse based on scholastic achievement, financial need and community service. Applicants must be currently enrolled in a nursing program (BSN, AD, Diploma, or LPN/LVN) and in good scholastic standing at the time of application. Applicant must also be a member of NBNA and of a local chapter (if one exists in his or her area), and have a minimum of one year of school remaining.

Barbara Rhomberg Excellence in Nursing Scholarship

This scholarship program is specially tailored to meet the needs of non-traditional nursing students with a desire to become K-12 school nurses or specialize in infection control. Non-traditional students are defined as those who postponed or halted college to enter the workforce, military or raise a family. This one-year scholarship is granted in the amount of $1,000 and is non-renewable.

Website - www.b4brands.com/blog/announcing-the-barbara-rhomberg-excellence-in-nursing-scholarship
Deadline to apply – Sept. 30

Touchmark Foundation Nursing Scholarship

Geared to students at all levels with a desire to pursue advanced degrees for the purpose of teaching or working with senior citizens, this one-year scholarship is granted in the amount of $1,000. Students must be accepted or enrolled in an accredited nursing program to be eligible.

Website - www.touchmarkfoundation.org/programs.htm
Deadline to apply – The end of June each calendar year.
Charlotte McGuire Scholarships
Administered by the American Holistic Nurses Association, this four-year scholarship is open to students pursuing degrees in holistic nursing. Students must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Students must have current R.N. licensure.
Deadline to apply – April 15

Nurses of Tomorrow
This scholarship is open to undergraduates and graduating high school seniors with a 2.8 GPA or higher who have a demonstrated financial need. Three $1,000 scholarships are awarded annually.
Website - [www.medicalsolutions.com/nurses-week-scholarship](www.medicalsolutions.com/nurses-week-scholarship)
Deadline to apply – June 6

International Nurse Development Scholarship
This $5,000 award is available to students internationally with a 2.0 GPA or higher. It also provides assistance with hospital employment and relocation assistance.
Website - [www.globalscholarship.net/](www.globalscholarship.net/)
Deadline to apply – March 1

Nurses Make a Difference Scholarship
Sponsored by Cascade Healthcare Solutions, this competitive $1,000 scholarship is open to students who are currently enrolled in nursing school or who have been accepted into a program. Students must complete an essay to be eligible.
Website – [www.cascadehealthcaresolutions.com/Chs_Scholarship_a/364.htm](www.cascadehealthcaresolutions.com/Chs_Scholarship_a/364.htm)
Deadline to apply – Aug. 1

Mayo Foundations Scholarship
This National Black Nurses Association scholarship is awarded in the amount of $2,000. Eligible students must be of African American descent and must be currently enrolled in a nursing program. Students must also have at least one full year of school remaining.
Website – [www.nbna.org/](www.nbna.org/)
Deadline to apply – April 15

This is just a sampling of the many nursing scholarship opportunities out there. Contact your school advisor to find out what other programs are available and if you qualify!