

Freeman Nurse Scholars Program

The Freeman Nurse Scholars Program is a scholarship program for outstanding RN students who wish to practice in Vermont following graduation. It is funded by a gift from the Stowe-based Freeman Foundation. The Program has two goals:

- ◆ Provide an incentive for excellent candidates to seek a career in nursing.
- ◆ Provide motivation for RN graduates to practice in Vermont.

The Freeman Nurse Scholars Award is \$7500 per year and will follow the Scholar through successive years of education, assuming continued eligibility. Awards are made annually.

Who is eligible?

Eligibility for the Freeman Nurse Scholars Award is based on:

1. A cumulative GPA of 3.0 or its equivalent.
2. Enrollment as a *full-time* student (12 credits) in an accredited Vermont ADN or BSN program with on-going verification of successful progression.
3. Agreement to practice nursing in Vermont for two years upon graduation.

A total of 74 scholarships are granted each year. Students who are licensed RNs are not candidates for the Scholars Program.

What are the obligations of accepting this Award?

Scholars are expected to meet the terms of eligibility for the duration of the Award. Following graduation, Scholars will be asked to validate their employment in Vermont for two years. It is the responsibility of the Scholar to provide the Program office with a current address. Scholars must complete a baccalaureate degree or associate degree within 4 years or 2 years respectively. The maximum potential award for the BSN Scholar is \$30,000 and the maximum potential award for the ADN Scholar is \$15,000.

Application Process

1. Applicants must first be accepted as an RN student in one of Vermont's five schools of nursing.*
2. Students may obtain application forms from their nursing school, the Nurse Scholars Program or online at www.choosenursingvermont.org. **The deadline date for new applicants is April 1** for the following fall. Application criteria include: proof of academic excellence/promise, pledge to practice in Vermont, short essay.
3. Scholars are selected by the Freeman Nurse Scholars Board according to the following criteria, in order of importance:
 - ◆ academic performance/promise
 - ◆ commitment to Vermont
 - ◆ leadership/community service
4. All serious applicants will receive notification of the Board's decision by May 1.

**Castleton State College, Norwich University, Southern Vermont College, University of Vermont, Vermont Technical College.*

For more information, contact: Freeman Nurse Scholars Program, Rowell 106, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05405 *** 802.656.5496 *** toni.kaeding@uvm.edu