

Scholarships Awarded in the College of Allied Health and Nursing at Minnesota State Mankato

Scholarships are awarded through each department of the College of Allied Health and Nursing, as well as through the College Dean's office. Please contact the respective department for information on the selection criteria and/or application process for each scholarship listed.

Dental Hygiene

Alice K. Weed Endowment

Professor Alice K. Weed taught for 24 years in the Dental Hygiene Department of Minnesota State University, Mankato. During her tenure at MSU she implemented an annual externship to Native American Reservations, initiated the first partnerships between Dental Hygiene students and long-term care facilities, and initiated a class so students within the department would have the opportunity to learn how to serve those with disabilities. In keeping with her community service traditions, Alice established an endowment for dental hygiene students who share her same ideals: leadership, community service, and volunteer activities. Alice wishes to recognize these individuals with this award.

Dr. Deborah O'Keefe Strand Endowment

Minnesota State University, Mankato Alumni Foundation Scholarship

Wornson-Polzin Dental Hygiene Scholarship

The Wornson-Polzin Dental Laboratory manufactures dental products in Mankato, Minnesota. The company was started in 1930 by Arnold Wornson and Paul Polzin. Today, the business is co-owned by Robert Menzel and Fred Polzin. Each Spring, MSU dental hygiene students participate in an educational tour of the laboratory, enhancing their understanding of the dental product industry. Robert and Fred have generously established the Wornson-Polzin Dental Hygiene Scholarship to support dental hygiene students who plan to stay in southern Minnesota upon graduation.

Family and Consumer Science

Family Consumer Science Department Scholarship

This scholarship is provided by faculty and alumni of the Family Consumer Science Department.

Fern Snure Williams and Howard Williams Scholarship

This scholarship was established in 1981 by Howard Williams in honor of his late wife, Fern. Following his death in 1993, their children (Julie Miller and Howard Williams) changed the name of the scholarship to include both of their parents. Fern and Howard were both actively involved in the community and at Mankato State College.

Lydia Gens Keitzer Scholarship

This scholarship was established in 1981 with a gift from the estate of Lydia Gens Keitzer, an alumna of Mankato State Teachers' College. The endowed fund provides MSU tuition scholarships and support for students to attend professional conferences.

Health Science

Professional Conference Scholarships

Annual Minnesota School Health Conference
Beta Kappa Chapter, Eta Sigma, Gamma Scholarship

Human Performance

Clem W. Thompson Physical Education Scholarship

This scholarship was established in 1991 by Mary Thompson in memory of her late husband, Clem. Scholarships from this fund benefit physical education majors who demonstrate an established commitment to sport and exercise science.

Colonel Emma E. Vogel Scholarship

Emma Vogel, an MSU alumna, entered the U.S. Army in 1918 and retired as a colonel in 1951. Colonel Vogel established and organized the first army physical therapy branch during World War II, and was the first army-wide director of physical therapists. She championed regular Army status for women in the Army Medical Department; Congress granted such status in 1947 and established the Women's Medical Specialist Corps, with Colonel Vogel as its first director. At the time of her death, her sisters established this scholarship in her memory.

Roy B. Moore Physical Education Leadership Scholarship

This scholarship was established in memory of Roy B. Moore (1908-1993) to support student memberships in AAHPERD. Roy was an emeritus faculty in physical education; his daughter, Julie, is a physical education alumna of MSU.

G.L. "Gordy" Graham Athletic Training Scholarship

This scholarship was established by "Gordy" Graham, who retired from the MSU Athletic Training program in 1993 after a thirty year career. Many of Gordy's former students contribute to this fund, and Gordy continues to work tirelessly to provide resources for current students.

David Neidhart Memorial Award

Dr. David Neidhart was a physician at the Orthopaedic and Fracture Clinic in Mankato, and one of the first involved in the MSU Athletic Training program on a regular basis. His involvement enhanced the education of student athletic trainers and the injury care of MSU student athletes. After Dr. Neidhart's death in May of 1999, Dr. Wynn and Pam Kearney, in cooperation with the Orthopaedic and Fracture Clinic, established the David Neidhart award in his memory.

Vi Holbrook Scholarship

Vi Holbrook graduated from Mankato State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Health and Physical Education in 1945, and a Master of Science degree in 1959. She taught physical education, and she coached women's track & field and gymnastics at MSU from 1966 to 1974, while earning her Doctorate

degree in 1970 from the University of New Mexico. Vi belonged to many professional and community organizations, and is an active volunteer. Prior to her death in 2005, she established scholarships in support of female athletes, international students, and graduate students in physical education

Wendy and Kent Kalm Exercise Science/Athletic Training Scholarship

This scholarship was established in 2005 for a Junior or Senior level student who is majoring in both the Athletic Training and Exercise Science Programs. The scholarship represents Kent's dual involvement during the past 25 years at Minnesota State University, Mankato in both the Athletic Training Education and Service Programs, as well as the Exercise Science Major Program. The scholarship recipient has demonstrated a high level of academic achievement and involvement in university and community activities.

Recreation, Parks and Leisure Services

James and Detta Jack Scholarship

James and Detta Jack Scholarship donors are James and Detta Jack.

Joanne Ardolf Decker Scholarship

Joanne Ardolf Decker Scholarship donors are Jim and Joanne Decker.

School of Nursing

Golden Jubilee Endowed Scholarship

In 2003, the MSU School of Nursing celebrated its 50 year anniversary with a Golden Jubilee event. In honor of fifty years of nursing education, the Golden Jubilee planning committee decided to establish an endowment for nursing scholarships.

Anonymous Donor Scholarships

Art of Caring Award

This award is given annually to a student in the nursing program who best exemplifies commitment to caring. To be considered for the award the student must demonstrate behaviors which are characteristic of caring and intervention in a caring manner to promote client and family adaptation.

Award for Excellence in the Implementation of the Roy Model

The Roy Model was developed by Sister Calista Roy during her Doctoral studies in the mid-sixties. The School of Nursing faculty adopted this model as part of the nursing framework which is very useful in helping students organize their thinking about the recipients of nursing care.

Blue Earth County Medical Alliance Scholarship

The Blue Earth County Medical Alliance is an organization of physicians' spouses dedicated to the advancement of health care in the area. The Alliance provides an annual scholarship for a MSU nursing student.

Blue Earth County Medical Society Scholarship

The Blue Earth County Medical Society is an organization of local physicians dedicated to quality education. The Society provides an annual scholarship for a MSU nursing student.

Clarice Joan Amundson Nursing Endowment Scholarship

This scholarship was created in memory of Clarice, a nursing student who died in a car accident on her way home for a weekend in 1974. Her parents, Sid and Dorothy Amundson, created this fund through an estate gift.

David Schober Memorial Nursing Scholarship

David Schober (1965-1998) was a student at MSU earning his Baccalaureate degree in Nursing at the time of his death. David enjoyed, excelled in, and valued education. David died in 1998 following aorta surgery, after being diagnosed with Marfan Disease. It is the hope of David's family and friends that this scholarship will help a male nursing student in his pursuit of a nursing education.

Elsa Johansen Natvig Endowed Scholarship

This scholarship was established by Hal Natvig, husband of the late Elsa Natvig, in her memory. Elsa planned the scholarship over the period of her illness, while she relied on excellent nursing care given by skilled and compassionate nurses. It is the recognition of these nurses' potential for professional growth and her value of excellence which shaped this scholarship for nursing students who demonstrate compassion and pursuit of their goals.

Gertrude Jane Timmerman Award for Creative Expression

Gertrude was born in 1901. Her interest in nursing was encouraged by a "horse and buggy driving" family doctor. She graduated from a small nursing school in Mankato (Immanuel Lutheran). Gertrude learned the art of massage and used it throughout her career. After World War I she married a newspaperman, Francis Lawrence O'Neill. This scholarship was established to recognize creative expression related to nursing.

Helen C. & Helmer J. Nilson Memorial Endowment Scholarship

This award was established by friends and family in memory of Dr. Helmer Nilson, a Mankato area physician who shared in the vision of establishing a nursing program at MSU. One week before his death he participated in the pinning ceremony for the first class of MSU nursing graduates.

Lillian Crawford Endowed Scholarship

This scholarship was established in memory of Lillian Crawford, wife of former MSU President C.L. Crawford.

Lisa Buerhaus Schumacher Scholarship

The Lisa Buerhaus Schumacher Scholarship in Gerontological Nursing is sponsored by Peter Buerhaus, in memory of his sister Lisa who was a graduate of the 1976 MSU nursing class. Peter started the scholarship to honor his sister and her passion for nursing care for the elderly. Lisa passed away in 1996, but her legacy continues through the scholarship established in the School of Nursing.

LuVern L. and Bess Penn Endowed Scholarship

Dr. George Penn established this scholarship in 1966 in memory of his wife, LuVern Penn. Following the death of his second wife, Bess, Dr. Penn added her name to this memorial endowment for nursing students.

Melba Leichsenring Leadership Scholarship

Dr. Melba Leichsenring was the Dean of the School of Nursing at Mankato State University from 1976 until 1986. This scholarship was established in her memory.

Michael and Linus Schramski Nursing Scholarship

This scholarship was established for Linus and Michael Schramski by Vivian Borak and Terry Kruse. Linus and Michael both graduated from Minnesota State University, Mankato. Linus spent three and one-half years in a World War II POW camp in Japan, passing in November 1963. Michael earned a Nursing degree at MSU, then a Nurse Anesthetist Master's Degree from UCLA. He was working as a Nurse Anesthetist at the time of his death in 1989.

Nancy Schaffler Henry Endowed Scholarship

Dr. and Mrs. Theodore Schaffler established this endowment in memory of their daughter, Nancy Schaffler Henry, in 1988. The late Dr. Schaffler was a Professor Emeritus of the Sociology Department at MSU, and his daughter was a practicing nurse.

Patrick Willette Memorial Nursing Scholarship

Patrick Willette was the husband of Karen Willette-Murphy, Associate Professor of nursing at MSU. After his death from an extended illness, Karen established this endowment in his memory. Karen and Patrick met at the "Old Main" campus of MSU, and dated throughout college. They married and had five daughters. Patrick was very supportive of Karen's career in Nursing, and encouraged her to pursue her Master and Doctoral degrees. Karen provided nursing care for Patrick in the latter stages of his battle with colon cancer. He died at the age of 51.

Robert, Jean, Linus, and Michael Schramski Endowed Scholarship

This award was established by Robert and Jeanne Schramski in memory of Robert's brother Linus and nephew Michael. Linus was an MSU graduate who served in World War II, passing in 1963 while a POW in Japan. Michael graduated from MSU in 1978 and completed graduate work at UCLA before working as a Nurse Anesthetist. Michael was proud to be an MSU alumnus, and he was grateful for his nursing education.

Waunda-Mae Wyndle Endowed Scholarship

Waunda-Mae Wyndle was a faculty member in the MSU School of Nursing from 1965 to 1991. Her career in nursing included active involvement in professional organizations. She was the recipient of the President's Award from the Minnesota Nurses' Association in 1989. Waunda-Mae established this scholarship in 1993 to support students in the School of Nursing.

Dr. Walter and Lorna E. Zettler Memorial Endowed Scholarship

Dr. Walter Zettler was a Mankato dentist for 52 years and helped create the nursing program at MSU. He was an Assistant Instructor when the program first began. This memorial scholarship was created in 1993 with a gift from Dr. Zettler's estate.

Dr. Donald and Marjorie Meredith Nursing Scholarship Endowment

Dr. Meredith is a retired orthopaedic surgeon and is one of the founders of the Mankato Orthopaedic and Fracture Clinic. As philanthropists, Dr. and Mrs. Meredith want to make an impact by supporting a significant scholarship for students in the field of nursing. Each semester, one nursing student will be selected to receive the three semester renewable award based on the criteria established in the endowment. This endowed scholarship provides the student scholars with the opportunity to focus on their academic endeavors and develop their leadership skills in the field of nursing.

Sophomore Nursing Faculty Scholarship

Junior Nursing Faculty Scholarship

Senior Nursing Faculty Scholarship

Nursing Accelerated Option Scholarship

Continuing Education Scholarship

School of Nursing Graduate Scholarship

Speech, Hearing and Rehabilitative Services

Pennington Communication Disorders Scholarship

This fund was established in 1989 by Chuck and Evelyn "Babe" Pennington. Chuck attended MSU in the mid 1930s, where he was an all-conference basketball player and lettered twice in football and track. He served with the Army in World War II, and afterwards was employed as an electrical sales representative for Graybar Electric in Minneapolis. He returned to Mankato in 1952 and founded Kato Light Corporation, from which he retired as president. Chuck supports several programs at MSU, and has served on many community boards. He served as the Vice President and President of the MSU Foundation Board, and the Pennington Foundation Building on the MSU campus was named in his honor. This scholarship supports undergraduate and graduate students in Communication Disorders and Speech Pathology.

C. Esco Obermann Rehabilitation Counseling Scholarship

Immanuel St. Joseph's –Mayo Health System Auxiliary Scholarship

This scholarship was established to encourage students to enter a health profession field of study and continue their education. The Auxiliary recognizes scholastic ability, leadership and personal goals as they relate to healthcare-related professions.

Mankato Clinic Allied Health and Nursing Scholarships and Grants

The Mankato Clinic was founded in 1916 by a small group of area physicians. Today the Mankato Clinic staffs over 90 Physicians, Physician Assistants, and Nurse Practitioners. Mankato Clinic and its satellites employ nearly 500 people, and rank among the top 15 employers in the region. In support of Allied Health and Nursing students, the Mankato Clinic Foundation has established a generous scholarship for tuition, study abroad, and professional conference participation.