



For Immediate Release

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NHA Research and Educational Foundation awards scholarships for health care careers

LINCOLN—The Nebraska Hospital Association (NHA) Research and Educational Foundation is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2011 Graduate Studies Tuition Aid Program and the Undergraduate Health Care Career Scholarship Program.

The NHA Research and Educational Foundation is helping to address the ongoing shortage by assisting the future leaders of health care in their efforts to pursue a degree in health care or further their education through the two scholarship programs—the Graduate Studies Tuition Aid Program established in 1987 and the Undergraduate Health Care Career Scholarship Program created in 2002. The scholarship programs help address the ongoing shortage of health care professionals and encourage young Nebraskans to remain in the state as they establish their careers.

“Every year, I am impressed by the applicants who demonstrate a high standard of commitment to health care,” said NHA President, Laura J. Redoutey, FACHE. “The scholarship programs have helped talented people reach their career aspirations while simultaneously helping to build Nebraska’s pool of health care professionals and leaders.”

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The Graduate Studies Tuition Aid Program offers students \$3,000 per academic year and the Undergraduate Health Care Career Scholarship Program offers students \$1,000 per academic year. Hospital leaders evaluated scholarship applications, judging them on academic record, a written statement, letters of reference, extracurricular activities and health care-related activities. Scholarships were awarded to students from all parts of the state.

“The NHA Research and Educational Foundation is pleased to offer scholarship awards to passionate individuals who want to make a difference in health care,” stated Jon Borton, NHA’s Vice President, Educational Services. “To date, we have awarded more than \$400,000 in scholarships to support higher education in health care careers.”

Nebraska’s hospitals are proud to support these outstanding students who will keep our quality of care among the best in the nation.

Recipients of the 2011 Graduate Studies Tuition Aid Program include:

- Melissa Beerenstrauch, BryanLGH Medical Center West in Lincoln. Ms. Beerenstrauch is pursuing a Master’s Degree in Nursing Administration from Nebraska Wesleyan.
- Jay Colburn, York General Healthcare Services in York. Mr. Colburn is pursuing a Master’s Degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in health care from Bellevue University.
- Jordan Colwell, Box Butte General Hospital in Alliance. Mr. Colwell is pursuing a Master’s Degree in Healthcare Administration from Walden University in Baltimore, MD.
- Kelli Eaton, Nebraska Methodist Hospital in Omaha. Ms. Eaton is pursuing a Master’s Degree in Healthcare Administration from Bellevue University.
- Mirya Hallock, Rock County Hospital in Bassett. Ms. Hallock is pursuing a Master’s Degree in Healthcare Administration from the University of South Dakota.
- Arlan Johnson, Howard County Health System in St. Paul. Mr. Johnson is pursuing a Master’s Degree in Healthcare Administration from Bellevue University.
- Dianne Meyer, Thayer County Health Services in Hebron. Ms. Meyer is pursuing Master of Science Degree in Social Work From the University of Nebraska–Omaha.
- Heather Mosley, Avera Creighton Hospital in Creighton. Ms. Mosley is pursuing a Master’s Degree in Adult Health from University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC).

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Recipients of the 2011 Undergraduate Health Care Career Scholarships include:

- Chelsey Batenhorst, Alegent Health Memorial Hospital in Schuyler. Ms. Batenhorst is pursuing a degree in Nursing from Northeast Community College in Norfolk.
- Nancy Connot, Saint Elizabeth Regional Medical Center in Lincoln. Ms. Connot is pursuing a degree in Nursing from BryanLGH College of Health Sciences in Lincoln.
- Jessica Crawford, BryanLGH Medical Center East in Lincoln. Ms. Crawford is pursuing a degree in Nursing from BryanLGH College of Health Sciences in Lincoln.
- Shelby Jones, Memorial Community Hospital & Health System in Blair. Ms. Jones is pursuing a degree in Nursing from Nebraska Methodist College in Omaha.
- Robin Keller, Children's Hospital & Medical Center in Omaha. Ms. Keller is pursuing a degree in Nursing from Iowa Western Community College in Council Bluffs, Iowa.
- Amber Kutnink, Tri Valley Health Systems in Cambridge. Ms. Kutnink is studying pre-medical courses at Wayne State College in Wayne.
- Alejandro Pindeo, Tri County Hospital in Lexington. Mr. Pindeo is studying pre-medical courses at the UNMC-Kearney.
- Kira Putscher, Howard County Medical Center in St. Paul. Ms. Putscher is pursuing a degree in RRT from UNMC-Kearney.
- Adam Schleppenbach, Faith Regional Health Services in Norfolk. Mr. Schleppenbach is pursuing a Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) degree from Southeast Community College in Lincoln.
- Carmen Sizer, Ogallala Community Hospital in Ogallala. Ms. Sizer is pursuing a degree in Nursing from Mid-Plains Community College in North Platte.

For more information about health care career scholarship programs, please visit the Nebraska Hospital Association Web site at www.nhanet.org.

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The Nebraska Hospital Association is the unified voice for Nebraska's hospitals and health systems. The association offers collaborative leadership, assisting its members to provide comprehensive care to their communities, improving the health status of those communities. For more information, please visit the NHA Web site at www.nhanet.org.