

PROVIDENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Frequently Asked Questions

Health Professionals Scholarship

The **Health Professionals Scholarship** provides scholarships to medical students and students in a graduate-level clinical academic program. The Health Professionals Scholarship will support awardees who are from, and dedicated to serving, underrepresented communities in Cook County. Students are eligible for an award of up to \$20,000.

Qualifying Academic Programs

Medical students and students in graduate-level clinical academic programs, including but not limited to:

- MD, DO
- DDS
- Physician Assistant
- Nurse Practitioners

Allied Health & Undergraduate Scholarship

The **Allied Health & Undergraduate Scholarship** provides awards to graduating high school seniors, nursing, allied health and undergraduate students in select programs. The Allied Health & Undergraduate Scholarship will support awardees who are from, and dedicated to serving, underrepresented communities in Cook County. Students are eligible for an award of up to \$10,000.

Qualifying Academic Programs

Various health care academic programs at an accredited academic institution resulting in an industry-recognized certification, license, or undergraduate degree. The program's tuition must be equal to or greater than award, including but not limited to:

- Nursing (LPN & RN)
- Surgical Technology
- Respiratory Therapy
- Radiology Technician
- Paramedic

When does the scholarship application open?

Application Period Opens:

Thursday, April 20, 2023

Application Period Closes:

Friday, June 23, 2023 at 11:59 PM CT

What are the eligibility requirements for the Scholarship?

- Must be a permanent resident of Cook County (home address must be in Cook County, cannot use school housing address as proof of residency)
- U.S. citizen/permanent resident
- Must be a current student or enrolled in a qualifying academic program at an accredited academic institution
- Demonstrated financial need through FAFSA
- GPA of 2.7 or greater OR in good academic standing where GPA is not applicable
- Consent to allow CCH to use name, school, area of study, hometown, photo, etc. for publicity
- Attendance at the Awards Ceremony on July 31, 2023 encouraged

**If an applicant is selected and is unable to meet the timeline and conditions, the award may be forfeited, and a runner-up scholar may be selected.*

What are the required attachments for application?

Please be sure to upload all required documents, incomplete applications will not be considered. Required attachments include:

- **I-9 Document(s)** for proof of citizenship or permanent residency
- State ID/DL to show proof of Cook County Residency
- CV/Resume
- Current academic transcript showing your cumulative

GPA and current program

- Registration or acceptance letter into one of qualifying academic programs at an accredited academic institution.
- Current Student Aid Report (SAR) from FAFSA: This is the report you receive after you complete your online application. The document is 5-10 pages and can be downloaded from [FAFSA](#).
- Two letters of recommendation (one from a school administrator, dean, department chair or faculty member, and another from community)
- **Personal statement (400-800 words) responding to ALL the required prompts below:**
 - Your personal and professional motivation
 - Your career goals
 - Your understanding of and commitment to serve in medically underserved communities
 - Current efforts or future plans to eliminate inequities in health education or health care

What address should I use on my application?

Please use your home address. Do not use school address. Applicants are required to be permanent residents of Cook County.

How is financial need decided?

The Student Aid Report (SAR) from FAFSA will be used to determine financial need. The main factor considered is your Expected Family Contribution (EFC). To qualify EFC cannot exceed \$6,206, FAFSA must have been completed to apply.

How are Provident Scholars selected?

Provident Scholars are selected based on eligibility requirements, financial need, and quality of documents submitted: resume, letter of recommendations and personal statement. All prompts are required to be covered in your personal statement. Consideration will be given to the applicant's Cook County zip code and where it falls on the Social Vulnerability Index.

What expenses are eligible to be covered by the scholarships?

Scholarships are intended to reduce financial barriers associated with higher education. Scholarship funds can be used to pay tuition and for any educational expenses deemed necessary by your school. This may include books, laptops, lab equipment, housing, and more. Scholars are required to complete an Allocation Summary detailing scholarship use with supporting documents.

How are funds disbursed?

Funds are paid directly to the educational institution and/or specified creditor(s) associated with educational expenses. Provident Scholars will be required to complete an Allocation Summary and provide supporting documents for expenses.

Are disbursements restricted to the current academic year?

Provident Scholars can elect to have expenses paid in first year or have expenses paid over the course of program.

Do Provident Scholars need to pay the scholarship back?

The scholarship is a financial award for a student to further their education and is not required to be repaid.

How and when will I be notified if I received a scholarship?

Applicants who are selected for an award will receive an email notification of the award decision. Applicants must promptly follow instructions to accept the scholarship by deadline provided. **Notification of awards will be sent out by July 19, 2023. The award ceremony will take place on July 31, 2023.**

What are the document requirements for disbursement of scholarship funds?

- Provident Scholarship Allocation Summary
- Receipts for any expenses covered by the scholarship
- Completed Tax ID W-9 Form

What support is provided to Provident Scholars post award?

All Provident Scholars awarded will participate in the Provident Scholarship Mentorship. Provident Scholars will be matched with an experienced staff member at Cook County Health for collaborative learning experiences and personal and professional development.

Who should I contact if I have additional questions?

Email info@cchealthfoundation.org. This email should only be used to inquire about questions not covered in this FAQ. Any applications sent to this email will not be accepted or reviewed.

Application Instructions

Visit https://webportalapp.com/sp/psf_application to apply. The link is also available on the Cook County Health Provident Scholarship Fund [landing page](#) and via the QR Code below:

