



Nurse scholarship program application available

A good nurse is invaluable whether you're an ill patient or a hospital administrator. In the coming years, those good nurses will be harder to find in Washington as many factors combine to bring back the nursing shortages of the 1990s and early 2000s.

- The current registered nurse workforce is aging and many will soon be retiring.
- Washington's population is growing, with the most rapid growth among the elderly.
- The Affordable Care Act is providing more access to health insurance for previously uninsured Washington residents.
- Chronic disease rates are increasing. [Workforce projections are available here \(PDF\).](#)

As part of the effort to train the nurses needed to care for Washington residents, we encourage nursing students of all levels to apply for the NURSE Corps Scholarship Program. Scholarship support includes tuition, required fees, other reasonable [educational](#) costs and a monthly living stipend for up to four years. For each year of financial support, a NURSE Corps scholarship recipient serves one year at a NURSE Corps-approved facility in one of many high-need urban, rural or frontier communities. Many of Washington's rural facilities will qualify as potential work sites for NURSE Corps scholars.

In previous years this program has been highly competitive. The federal government gives preference to qualified applicants with the greatest financial need who are enrolled or accepted for enrollment in an accredited undergraduate nursing program or master's nurse practitioner program as full-time students. We have been advised that up to 50 percent of the funds this year will go to nurse practitioner students. Good luck!