

Chou Nursing Scholarship Fund for Advanced Education

Established in 2015, The Chou Nursing Scholarship Fund supports continuing education for nurses A pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) or Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree while employed at Legacy Salmon Creek Medical Center. All funds are used to supplement the tuition reimbursement available through the Legacy Health Educational Assistance Program (LEAP.)

The Chou Nursing Scholarship Funds will be awarded on an annual, calendar year basis to best align with the LEAP tuition reimbursement program, and most effectively support the goals of this program and Legacy SCMC employee's financial needs. Applications are due in the fall and are approved for the following calendar year. All clinical programs are eligible and encouraged to apply.

Number of Awards: Maximum of 45

Submission deadline: October 29, 2018

Amount of Award: up to \$2,000 annually

Recipients notified by: December 14, 2018

Eligibility

Candidates must meet the following criteria to apply:

- Current employee (0.6 FTE or greater) of Legacy Salmon Creek Medical Center for at least one year.
- Accepted to/enrolled in a program leading to an advanced degree a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing (BSN) or Masters of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree. (All BSN programs are eligible, not just RN to BSN.)
- Family Nurse Practitioner ***(FNP) degrees are NOT eligible*** for Chou Award funds.
- Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) degrees are only eligible if the individual plans to remain in nursing (as opposed to a prescribing provider.) However, BSN and MSN students will be given priority over doctoral candidates.
- **Taking courses leading directly to a BSN or MSN degree** (prerequisite course work is not eligible.)
- Eligible coursework must first be approved for tuition reimbursement through the Legacy Educational Assistance Program (LEAP.) If you are planning to apply to LEAP but it is too early to do so, please estimate your expected LEAP reimbursement amount on this application.
- **GPA of at least 3.0 for a BSN student and a 3.7 for a MSN** must be earned in order to qualify for the reimbursement.*

**In pass/no pass programs at education institutions such as Western Governors University, a "pass" is considered a 3.0 GPA. Therefore, BSN students can be eligible for Chou Nursing Funds, but MSN students are not.*

Any employee in an advanced nursing degree program is eligible to apply, although RN to BSN applicants will be prioritized for scholarship awards.

When all other considerations are equal, priority for Chou funds will be given to nurses currently serving in leadership positions, including charge nurse and nurse supervisor roles.

Part-time employees will receive pro-rated awards.

Process for Reimbursement

Applicants MUST be approved by Legacy's Educational Assistance Program (LEAP) in order to be eligible for a Chou Nursing Scholarship award. To accomplish this, you must apply to the Legacy benefit department and receive approval within 14 calendar days of beginning the course(s). You can find more details about LEAP on the intranet:

<https://mylegacy.lhs.org/Administrative/hr/benefits/OtherBenefits/Pages/EducationAssistance.aspx>

Upon completion of the term/semester, the student must first submit to the LEAP program for reimbursement. LEAP will reimburse 75% of tuition expenses paid by the student, up to \$2,000 for full time employees (.9 or more) and \$1,000 for part time employees (.6 or more).

Once the awardee has received reimbursement from LEAP, they will need to provide proof of tuition payment, semester grades and GPA (at least 3.0 for a BSN student and a 3.7 for a MSN*) to Salmon Creek Hospital Foundation. They will then be reimbursed by the Chou Nursing Scholarship Fund for any remaining tuition expenses up to the award amount.

At this time, the awardee may opt to have their reimbursement sent directly to the educational institution toward a future term, or added to their pay check. If applied to the pay check and paid directly to the awardee, the reimbursement will be taxed at the bonus rate of 25% Federal and 9% state.

**Students attending a pass/no pass institution, a pass grade is considered a 3.0.*

Multiple Awards

While priority will be given to applicants who have not yet received Chou Nursing Scholarship Funds, employees who have previously received an award may apply again in a future year(s). Pending continued availability of funds, nurses may be eligible to receive annual awards for up to three years for BSN and up to two years for MSN.

Salmon Creek Hospital Foundation 2019 Chou Nursing Scholarship Fund

APPLICATION

Applicants must submit the following items for evaluation by the selection committee via email to Kristine Krause, kkrause@lhs.org, or mail to Kristine Krause, The Office of Philanthropy, PO Box 4484, Portland, OR 97208, with the subject line "Chou Nursing Scholarship Application", received no later than October 29, 2018:

- 1) Personal Statement of Financial Status
- 2) Personal Essay
- 3) A letter of reference from your manager

Candidates must type their application using this form to be considered.

Name _____

Address _____
Street City State Zip

Phone _____ Email _____

Employee ID# _____ Cost Center _____ Supervisor Name _____

Hospital department of employment _____

Position Title _____ Is a BSN/MSN required for your position? _____

Are you full time or part time? Please list your FTE status: _____

Length of employment with Legacy Salmon Creek Medical Center _____

Last completed degree _____

Name of educational institute funds are requested for _____

Program Name _____ Cumulative GPA (if currently enrolled) _____

When did/will you start this program? _____

When do you expect to complete your degree? _____

Have you been awarded this scholarship before? _____

If yes, in what year(s) and how much funding did you receive? _____

Has LEAP approved your 2019 term coursework? _____

Coursework must first be approved for tuition reimbursement through LEAP in order to be eligible for Chou funds. If you are planning to apply to LEAP but it is too early to do so, please estimate your expected LEAP reimbursement amount on this application. (Employees must receive LEAP approval within 14 calendar days of beginning the course in order to be eligible for reimbursement.)

Personal Statement of Financial Status:

| | |
|--|-------------|
| How many credit hours to you intend to take in the 2019 calendar year? | |
| Tuition cost per credit hour: | x \$ |
| Expected total 2019 tuition cost: | \$ |
| Expected 2019 LEAP reimbursement: | - \$ |
| Other scholarships or tuition assistance expected? | - \$ |
| Expected remaining balance needed in Chou Nursing Funds: | = \$ |

Please provide a brief statement generalizing your financial status. Consider how you plan to finance your education. If applicable, include details about your family's financial situation such as the number of family members currently pursuing post-secondary education or other important considerations. Please indicate if you have received other financial aid or scholarships, and from what source.

Essay

Explain 1) your desire to further your education, your career goals and any special interests you may have; 2) how furthering your education will positively impact patient care at Legacy Salmon Creek; and 3) why you should be awarded the scholarship.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that all the information provided in and with this application is true and accurate. Further, I certify that my own ideas and work product are set forth in this application.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Check List

- Completed application – signed by applicant and dated
- A letter of reference from your supervisor