

Dear Applicant,

I am pleased to announce that Samuel Merritt University School of Nursing has received 10 scholarships in the amount of \$10,000 each from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Careers in Nursing (NCIN). The school will be making 10 awards to qualified incoming ABSN students for spring 2012 admission in the San Mateo and Sacramento campuses.

Nursing's academic leaders have long recognized the strong connection between a culturally diverse nursing workforce and the ability to provide quality patient care. According to the National Advisory Council on Nurse Education and Practice, policy advisors to Congress and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, diversifying the nursing profession is essential to meeting the health care needs of the nation and reducing health disparities that exist among many underserved populations. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) has joined with the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) to create New Careers in Nursing: an RWJF Scholarship Program to help alleviate the nursing shortage and increase the diversity of nursing professionals. Through grants to schools of nursing, the program will provide scholarships to non-nursing college graduates enrolled in accelerated baccalaureate nursing programs. The scholarships may be used to pay tuition, academic fees and living expenses.

If you are interested in this scholarship, please apply on-line at http://www.samuelmerritt.edu/financial_aid/scholarships#RWJ by priority deadline of December 2nd, 2011, applications will be accepted until December 6th 5pm; however, the selection process will begin on December 2nd; therefore, applicants are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. Recipients will be notified no later than December 8th. Preference will be given to underrepresented students in nursing. You may apply for the scholarship, even if you do not qualify for other types of financial aid. Please note that as a condition for being an RWJF NCIN scholar, you must commit to attending the mandatory NCIN two-day Pre-entry Immersion Program (PIP) on 12/15 and 12/16 at the Oakland campus, prior to beginning the ABSN program, in addition to participating in mentorship and leadership activities (approximately once a month). The two-day PIP will provide you with the tools to succeed in this intensive accelerated program. For students who do not live in Alameda county, hotel accommodations will be provided for one night on 12/15. Meals will also be provided during the two-day PIP.

For more information visit our financial aid website, or www.newcareersinnursing.org

I wish you all the best in your path to becoming a nurse.

Warmly,

Aara Amidi-Nouri, PhD, RN
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Field Code Changed