

Financial Aid

Freshman and sophomore students of the Research/Rockhurst BSN Program who wish to apply for financial aid do so through Rockhurst University. Junior, senior, accelerated option and graduate nursing students apply for financial aid through Research College of Nursing.

Research College of Nursing and Rockhurst University subscribe to the principle that financial aid programs exist primarily to provide financial assistance to students who, without such aid, would be unable to attend the college of their choice. The free Federal Application for Student Aid (FAFSA) is the preferred form used to evaluate need for all financial aid.

Both institutions are committed to the concept that a student should select a college on educational rather than financial grounds. The financial aid programs, therefore, exist to assist students who have chosen a college for its educational merit to overcome any demonstrated need which might prevent a student from attending their college of choice.

Application for Financial Aid

Students who wish to apply for financial aid should:

1. Complete the admission procedure outlined in the chapter "Admission to the Undergraduate and Graduate Programs."
2. File a Financial Aid Form (preferably by March 1). The free Federal application (FAFSA) is the preferred form. No financial aid will be awarded until formal admission has been granted.
 - a) Both dependent and independent students must file a FAFSA.
 - b) Students can apply for all types of aid, including institutional, federal and state assistance by completing the FAFSA.

An undergraduate student who qualifies for financial aid typically receives any one or a combination of various types of aid--scholarship, grant, or loan. Financial aid awards are for one year only, so the student must reapply each year. The aid offered may vary from year to year because of changes in funding, statutory provisions, or student circumstances.

Undergraduate students completing a second degree and graduate students are eligible to participate in financial aid programs. The types of aid are limited due to federal regulations.

Scholarships and Grants

A number of scholarships and grants are available for qualified nursing students who need assistance to finance their college education. Some scholarships do not have a financial need prerequisite for consideration. All students applying for financial aid are considered for aid for which they qualify. Students do not need to apply for specific scholarships and grants except for the HCA Midwest Division Scholarship/Loan Program.

Following are scholarships available to nursing students through **Research College of Nursing**.

Harmon Presidential Scholar Scholarship.

The Research College of Nursing Governing Board, in an effort to attract highly qualified students to the nursing program, offers a full scholarship. The Harmon Presidential Scholar scholarship provides tuition for all four years of the nursing program. Qualified applicants are invited to participate in a competitive interview program. The winner is selected based on interview ratings. Applicants who are seniors in high school and who have outstanding academic records based on class standing and test scores are reviewed for selection. The scholarship award is for four years and the recipient must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.2

(A=4.0) to renew the scholarship for each succeeding year of the nursing program. In order to be considered for this scholarship, students must file a completed application for admission PRIOR to January 15.

HCA Midwest Division Scholarship/Loan Program.

This program offers a combination of scholarship and loan funding to qualified sophomore, junior and senior nursing students. Students agree to a work commitment following graduation based on the amount and number of years of participation in the program.

Research College of Nursing Grant.

Awarded based on need.

The following scholarships are available to junior and senior nursing students with a grade point average of at least 2.5 (A=4.0) and are awarded based on financial need through **The Research Foundation**.

The Foundation also awards scholarships to nursing students once a year. Students must submit applications to their office during the application period. The Foundation office will inform students when this period begins and provide applications.

Alumni Award Scholarship.

Each year the Research Nursing Alumni Association gives scholarships to senior nursing students in the name of the recipient of the Outstanding Alumnus Award. The scholarships are based on the criteria of excellence in clinical nursing skills and patient care.

Cheryl A. Burchett Memorial Scholarship.

Established in 2001 by her family and friends in memory of Cheri Burchett, former Team I Leader and faculty member, a scholarship is awarded to an outstanding student annually.

Dr. Kay Sullivan Scholarship.

Established in 1999 by her family in honor of Kay Sullivan, former Coordinator of the Accelerated BSN Option, a scholarship is awarded to an outstanding accelerated option student each year.

Mary Lutz Memorial Scholarship.

Provided in memory of Mary Lutz, M.N., R.N., a member of the faculty 1990-1996.

Sally S. Robinson Scholarship.

Provided in memory of Sally Robinson, M.P.H.N., R.N., a member of the faculty 1982-1992.

Research Belton Scholarship.

Provided by the Research Belton Hospital Foundation.

Research Scholarship for MSN in Nursing Education.

Scholarship program is funded by the Research Foundation. Compensation for each year will be up to \$2,500 for a period not to exceed 5 years for a total amount of \$5,000. The period of one-year may be defined as beginning in the fall, continuing through spring and summer. For each \$2,500 utilized, the individual is required to commit one-year of employment as a faculty member in the Greater Kansas City community following the completion of the MSN. Applications are available on line at www.theresearchfoundationkc.org.

Following is a list of scholarships and grants available through **Rockhurst University**. These are for freshman and sophomore nursing students. These scholarships are funded through Research College of Nursing for upper division nursing students provided criteria are met.

Achievement Scholarship.

Renewable scholarships valued at \$10,000 per academic year awarded to highly qualified entering freshmen students. Students are selected based on their academic credentials including grades, class rank, and standardized test scores. Recipients must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 (A=4.0) at the end of

each academic year in order to renew the Achievement Scholarship. In order to be considered for this award, students must file a completed application for admission PRIOR to May 1.

Alumni Grant.

Dependent children of Rockhurst or Research graduates are eligible to receive \$1,000 Alumni Grants assuming they are enrolled as full-time undergraduate students.

Chancellor's Scholarship.

Renewable scholarships valued at \$14,500 per academic year are awarded to highly qualified entering freshmen students. Students are selected based upon their academic credentials including grades, class rank, standardized test scores and extracurricular activities. Recipients must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.2 (A=4.0) at the end of each academic year in order to renew the Chancellor's Scholarship. In order to be considered for this scholarship, students must file a completed application for admission PRIOR to May 1.

Community Scholarship

Renewable scholarship valued at \$6,000 per academic year to highly qualified full-time freshmen students. Recipients are selected based upon their academic credentials. Recipients must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 (A=4.0) at the end of each academic year. In order to be considered for this scholarship, students must file a completed application for admission PRIOR to May 1.

Dean's Scholarship.

Renewable scholarships valued at \$13,000 per academic year are awarded to highly qualified entering freshmen students. Students are selected based upon their academic credentials including grades, class rank, standardized test scores and extracurricular activities. Recipients must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 (A=4.0) at the end of each academic year in order to renew the Dean's Scholarship. In order to be considered for this scholarship, students must file a completed application for admission PRIOR to May 1.

Director's Scholarship.

Renewable scholarships valued at \$11,000 per academic year are awarded to highly qualified entering freshmen students. Students are selected based upon their academic credentials including grades, class rank, standardized test scores and extracurricular activities. Recipients must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 (A=4.0) at the end of each academic year in order to renew the Director's Scholarship. In order to be considered for this scholarship, students must file a completed application for admission PRIOR to May 1.

Dowling Scholarship.

Renewable scholarships valued at \$15,000 per academic year are awarded to highly qualified entering freshmen students. Students are selected based upon their academic credentials including grades, class rank, standardized test scores and extracurricular activities. Recipients must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.2 (A=4.0) at the end of each academic year in order to renew the Dowling Scholarship. In order to be considered for this scholarship, students must file a completed application for admission PRIOR to May 1.

Finucane Service Award.

Renewable awards valued at \$1500 per academic year are awarded to entering freshmen students who have, in addition to a sound academic record, demonstrated outstanding service in their communities. The award is renewable based on service participation documentation by the Center of Service Learning, and maintenance of a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 (A=4.0) at the end of each academic year.

Family Award.

Should more than one family member be simultaneously enroll as full-time undergraduate students at Rockhurst and/or Research, each person may be given a Family Award of \$1,000.

Loyola Scholarship.

Renewable scholarships valued at \$1,500 per academic year awarded to highly qualified entering freshmen students. Students who are selected must have graduated from a Catholic High School. Recipients must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 (A=4.0) at the end of each academic year in order to renew the Provincial Scholarship. In order to be considered for this award, students must file a completed application for admission PRIOR to May 1.

Provincial Scholarship.

Renewable scholarships valued at \$8,000 per academic year awarded to highly qualified entering freshmen students. Students are selected based on their academic credentials including grades, class rank, and standardized test scores. Recipients must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 (A=4.0) at the end of each academic year in order to renew the Provincial Scholarship. In order to be considered for this award, students must file a completed application for admission PRIOR to May 1.

Rockhurst Need-Based Grant.

These need-based grants funded by the University are awarded to students demonstrating financial need. (NOTE: For upper division students this becomes the Research College of Nursing Grant.)

Trustee's Scholarship.

Renewable scholarships valued at full tuition are awarded to highly qualified entering freshman students. Students are selected based upon a competitive interview program. Students are selected to participate in the interview program based upon their academic credentials from high school including grades, class rank, standardized test scores and extracurricular activities. Recipients must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.4 (A=4.0) after the freshman year, and 3.5 (A=4.0) at the end of each subsequent academic year in order to renew the Trustee's Scholarship. In order to be considered for this scholarship, students must file a completed application for admission PRIOR to January 15 and meet the criteria for the Chancellor's Scholarship.

Athletic Awards.

NCAA, Division II – awards of variable amount. Awarded by the Rockhurst Athletic Department based on athletic ability and sport. Nursing students receiving athletic awards continue to receive them from Rockhurst University as long as they continue to meet the requirements set forth.

Following is a list of scholarships and grants available through **Rockhurst University**. These are for transfer students. These scholarships are funded through Research College of Nursing for upper division nursing students provided criteria are met.

Distinguished Scholar.

Scholarships valued at \$9,000 per academic year awarded to transferring students who bring in and maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.6 to 4.0.

Founders Scholarship

Scholarships valued at \$7,500 per academic year awarded to transferring students who bring in and maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.3 to 3.59.

Jesuit Opportunity Scholarship

Scholarships valued at \$5,500 per academic year awarded to transferring students who bring in and maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 to 3.29.

Phi Theta Kappa

Scholarships valued at \$2,000 per academic year awarded to transferring students who are members of the honor society Phi Theta Kappa. Proof of membership is required.

Greater Kansas City Community College Scholarship

Scholarships valued at \$1,500 per academic year awarded to transferring full-time students from the regional community college systems. Students must have at least 12 credit hours and a 3.0 cumulative GPA.

A+ Scholarship

Scholarships valued at \$500 per academic year awarded to transferring full-time students who have been recipients of the A+ program at community college and have a cumulative GPA of 2.5.

Alumni Award

Dependent children of Rockhurst or Research graduates are eligible to receive \$500 Alumni Grants assuming they are enrolled as full-time undergraduate students.

Family Award

Should more than one family member be simultaneously enroll as full-time undergraduate students at Rockhurst and/or Research, each person may be given a Family Award of \$1,000.

Government Aid

Students without a prior degree are eligible to receive all the following sources of financial aid. Students with a prior degree are limited to the Stafford, Perkins, Federal Nursing Loan and PLUS programs.

Federal Pell Grant.

This federal grant is administered by the Department of Education to undergraduate students demonstrating a high level of financial need. The amount of these grants varies and is determined by the Department of Education.

Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants (FSEOG).

These federal grants are awarded through Research to students demonstrating a high financial need. The amount of these grants varies and awards are limited.

Charles Gallagher Grant (Missouri Student Grant).

These need-based grants are awarded to undergraduate students who are Missouri residents demonstrating financial need. Eligibility is determined by the state based upon data from the student's need analysis form. Applications must be mailed no later than April 1 for consideration.

Brite Flight Scholarship.

Sponsored through the State of Missouri, this scholarship is awarded to Missouri residents that attend a Missouri college of their choice and have scored in the top 3% on either the ACT or SAT exam. The scholarship is automatically matched by Rockhurst University and by Research College of Nursing for those indicating nursing as a major. The scholarship is renewable for all four years of the program if the student maintains a 3.3 grade point average.

Federal Stafford Student Loan Programs.

These low interest loans are available to students who demonstrate financial need. Students may qualify for either a subsidized Stafford Loan (interest does not accrue until after graduation) or an unsubsidized Stafford Loan (interest begins accruing immediately). Interest rates on these loans are variable based on the 91-day Treasury Bill, but not higher than 8.25 percent (at time of printing). Loan amounts vary dependent upon year of enrollment in college, the level of demonstrated financial need, and previous loan history. Graduate and undergraduate students are eligible for these programs.

Federal Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS).

These loans are not based on demonstrated financial need. Parents may borrow up to the cost of attending college less any other financial assistance their son or daughter is receiving. Credit history is taken into account by the lender when determining eligibility for a PLUS Loan.

Federal Nursing Loan.

These federal loan funds are awarded to upper division nursing students based on demonstrated need. Repayment begins following a nine month, interest free grace period after a student ceases to be enrolled on at least a half-time basis (six (6) credit hours). Repayment is based on a simple interest rate (5 percent at time of printing) on the unpaid balance with up to ten years to repay the loan in full.

Further details on these programs may be obtained from the Financial Aid Office.

Reasonable Academic Progress for Continued Receipt of Financial Aid

Students receiving financial aid must make reasonable academic progress toward graduation according to federal and state regulations in order to receive financial aid. Rockhurst University and Research College of Nursing also adhere to the same expectation for students receiving financial aid from institutional sources.

In order to receive financial aid for the next academic year all full-time (12 credits or more) undergraduate students must progress at a rate that would lead to graduation within five years. Students must therefore earn credits each year and demonstrate the cumulative grade point average listed below at the end of each academic year regardless of whether the student received financial aid during these periods. Entering transfer students are expected to earn at least 18 credits during their first year and achieve the grade point average for the class level at which they enter Rockhurst or Research (determined by the number of transfer credits applicable toward the student's degree program).

At End of Academic Year	Credits Earned	Minimum Cum. GPA
1	30	2.00
2	60	2.00
3	90	2.00
4	114	2.00
5	128	2.00

Academic progress is reviewed at the end of each semester. Students not meeting the requirements listed above are placed in a "suspension" status during which period no financial aid from any federal, state or institutional source may be received. These students are removed from "suspension" when they can demonstrate academic progress as listed above.

Part time graduate students must progress at a rate that would lead to graduation within 12 semesters.

Students may appeal the withdrawal of financial aid to the Loan and Scholarship Committee. This written appeal must be submitted no more than one week after being informed of the withdrawal of financial aid and should explain any mitigating circumstances which apply to the particular situation.

The Loan and Scholarship Committee reviews the appeal and responds to the student within two weeks from receipt of the appeal.

Entrance and Exit Interviews

As required by federal regulations, Research College of Nursing conducts both entrance and exit interviews with students receiving financial aid in the form of loans. During these interviews, students are informed of all relevant information regarding their loans such as interest rates, amount of indebtedness, length of repayment period and the amount of expected monthly payment.

Federal regulations require the College to maintain signed documentation of the interviews. The Financial Aid Office will provide documents to sign for verification of these interviews.

Maintenance of Financial Aid Records

Research College of Nursing maintains all individual financial aid records in accordance with applicable Federal laws.