

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 22, 2024 Contact: Catherine M Pepler info@aaohn.org

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NURSES FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2025 SCHOLARSHIP AWARD APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

Chicago — The American Association of Occupational Health Nurses (AAOHN) Foundation is excited to announce that the <u>2025 Scholarship and Grant Award applications</u> are now open! These scholarships and grants support occupational health nurses who aim to continue their personal, professional, and leadership development, or who aim to support the mission of AAOHN/AAOHN Foundation by improving the health and safety of workers by advancing the field of occupational and environmental health research. Every year, the AAOHN Foundation awards numerous scholarships and academic study awards to occupational health and environmental nurses who qualify for these funds.

AAOHN Foundation Chair Dr. Stephanie Weinsier states, "As we continue to experience rapid innovation and work redesign to accommodate an aging workforce, we need strong leaders who are adaptable, think strategically, and have the confidence and skills to successfully navigate the future."

She continued, "Supporting leadership advancement is the catalyst to preparing our future leaders. With this in mind, the AAOHN Foundation Board of Trustees has partnered with our generous sponsors to offer the following scholarships in 2025: Annette Haag Leadership and Professional Development (donated by AAOHN's own leader Annette Haag), Grace Fortuna Leadership Development (initiated by the family of Grace Fortuna and backed by generous AAOHN members and fellows to honor her legacy), Liberty Leadership (sponsored by AAOHN Foundation in memory of Nurses who perished in the 9/11 event), Medique Leadership, and the Meditrax Leadership Institute (sponsored by Dr. Joe Fanucci) scholarships. In addition to these, the Arkansas chapter of AAOHN established the AAOHN Foundation Richard G. Johnson Memorial Scholarship which will afford eligible Arkansas AAOHN members to advance their professional development by attending the 2025 National Conference and the AAOHN Conference of Leaders. The AAOHN Foundation Trustees recognize a longtime sponsor Dr. Joe Fanucci with Meditrax as well as the Virginia Chapter of AAOHN and Central Virginia Chapter of AAOHN for their financial support of The AAOHN Foundation Certification of Occupational Health Nurses Scholarship."

To maintain a high-quality standard, applicants must meet a strict set of criteria to qualify for scholarships and undergo a rigorous review process to ensure funds are administered equitably to quality applicants who demonstrate a commitment to professional development, make ongoing contributions to the field of occupational and environmental health nursing, and who are willing to undergo a competitive review process. These funds are made possible by generous sponsors, AAOHN chapters, and AAOHN members who have contributed to making these awards available. We are grateful for our AAOHN <u>Foundation</u> <u>Sponsors</u> and proud of our <u>past recipients</u> who characterize occupational health nurses committed to advancing the health, safety, and well-being of workers and the businesses and communities they serve.

All are welcome you to join foundation trustees on April 1 for a special session at the 2025 AAOHN National Conference, taking place in Pittsburgh, to learn about improving financial well-being, network with foundation trustees, leaders, sponsors, and past scholarship and grant recipients. Scholarship winners will also be recognized during this event.

To learn more about the AAOHN Foundation, available opportunities, or to <u>make a contribution</u>, visit <u>www.aaohn.org/AAOHN-Foundation/The-AAOHN-Foundation</u>.

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About the AAOHN Foundation

The American Association of Occupational Health Nurses Foundation (AAOHN Foundation) is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, created by the American Association of Occupational Health Nurses Inc. (AAOHN) in 1997 to enable occupational and environmental health professionals to improve worker health and safety by preventing workplace illnesses and injuries. These purposes are accomplished through grants and scholarships to support scholarship awards to support ongoing professional education; leadership development; and grants for research initiatives.

AAOHN is comprised of more than 30 chapters and serves over 3,200 members located across the United States, US territories, and the world, with international membership. The AAOHN Foundation is committed to ensuring that occupational and environmental health nurses are seen as the authority on health, safety, productivity, and disability management for worker populations by providing them the opportunity to continue their education and conduct research which supports the sustainability of the profession. To learn more about the AAOHN Foundation, visit https://www.aaohn.org/AAOHN-Foundation/The-AAOHN-Foundation/The-AAOHN-Foundation.