**Scholarships for Physical & Occupational Therapy Students**

**NOTE:** If you are a Nursing Major, General Healthcare, or Dentistry major please also see their individual lists which have been posted to our Aid Database in their own categories. We found enough to have them each merit their own category lists.

**Instructions:**

Save this list to your desktop and delete the scholarships that you do not meet the eligibility requirements for. You can [download our tracking sheet](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/c70914_0a503e0e738d48ee845b0853edfedc17.xlsx?dn=Scholarship%20Application%20Organizer.xlsx) to organize and maintain your scholarships by deadline.

Click on the individual links for the updated deadlines of scholarships.

Like our Facebook Page for Scholarship Alerts:

<https://www.facebook.com/scholarshipsharing/>

Join our email newsletter for additional scholarship events and programs:

<https://www.scholarshipsharing.org/signup>

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**Scholarships for Physical & Occupational Therapy Students**

We worked really hard to put together this list of scholarship opportunities! To ensure we understood the differences we did a little research on the professions and here is what we learned:

The physical therapy profession (also called ‘physiotherapy’ in many parts of the world) tends to be more focused on evaluating and diagnosing movement dysfunctions as well as treating a person’s injury itself. While an occupational therapist will often also do diagnosis, the physical therapist will be more likely to diagnose and treat the physical source of the problem; the injured tissues and structures.

Occupational therapists often will directly treat injuries, but more even often occupational therapy focuses more on improving life skills and incorporating adaptive tools at times customized by the therapist.

As compared with Physical Therapy, occupational therapy tends to focus more on evaluating and improving a person’s functional abilities. An occupational therapist often does not directly treat a person’s injury using techniques such as manual therapy or acupuncture like a physical therapist would but more commonly helps a person optimize their independence and their ability to accomplish their daily activities following an injury or in situations of physical impairment.

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**Occupational/Physical Therapy Scholarship**

<http://www.dar.org/national-society/scholarships/nursing-medical-scholarships>

The Occupational/Physical Therapy Scholarship, in the amount of $2,000, is awarded to two students who are in financial need and have been accepted or are attending an accredited school of occupational therapy (including art, music, or physical therapy).

--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------- **National AMBUCS**

<http://www.ambucs.org/therapists/scholarship-program/>

National AMBUCS, Inc. has been awarding scholarships to therapy students in their junior/senior year in a bachelor’s degree program, or a graduate program leading to a master’s or doctoral degree. To date, more than $8.3 million in scholarships have been awarded to nearly 15,000 students pursuing degrees in physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech pathology and audiology.

Students must be accepted in an accredited program by the appropriate health therapy profession authority in physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech language pathology, or hearing audiology. Assistant programs are not eligible. Awards are based on financial need, US citizenship, and commitment to local community, character for compassion and integrity, and career objectives.

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**Health Resources and Services Administration Scholarships**

https://bhw.hrsa.gov/loansscholarships/schoolbasedloans

The Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students program provides funds to schools. In turn, the schools make scholarships to full-time, financially needy students from disadvantaged backgrounds, enrolled in health professions and nursing programs.

Participating schools are responsible for selecting scholarship recipients, making reasonable determinations of need, and providing scholarships that do not exceed the cost of attendance (tuition, reasonable educational expenses and reasonable living expenses).

**Eligible Applicants**

You are eligible to apply for this scholarship at a school that participates in the Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students program if you are

* **From a disadvantaged background** as defined by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services:  
  An individual from a disadvantaged background is defined as one who comes from an environment that has inhibited the individual from obtaining the knowledge, skill, and abilities required to enroll in and graduate from a health professions school, or from a program providing education or training in an allied health profession; or comes from a family with an annual income below a level based on low income thresholds according to family size published by the U.S. Bureau of Census, adjusted annually for changes in the Consumer Price Index, and adjusted by the Secretary, HHS, for use in health professions and nursing programs.
* **A citizen, national, or a lawful permanent resident of the United States** or the District of Columbia, the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico or the Marianas Islands, the Virgin Islands, Guam, the American Samoa, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated State of Micronesia.

**Eligible Disciplines**

Under this program, funds are awarded to accredited schools of

* medicine
* osteopathic medicine
* dentistry
* optometry
* pharmacy
* podiatric medicine
* veterinary medicine
* nursing (associate, diploma, baccalaureate and graduate degree)
* public health
* chiropractic
* allied health (baccalaureate or graduate degree programs of dental hygiene, medical laboratory technology, occupational therapy, physical therapy, radiologic technology, speech pathology, audiology, and registered dietitians)
* graduate programs in behavioral and mental health practice (includes clinical psychology, clinical social work, professional counseling, or marriage and family therapy)
* programs providing training of physician assistants

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**AOTA's E.K. Wise Scholarship**

<http://www.aota.org/Education-Careers/Find-School/Aid/EKWise_1.aspx>

AOTA's E.K. Wise Scholarship supports students from diverse backgrounds who can meet E.K. Wise’s and the Association’s objectives of developing a workforce to meet society’s diverse occupational needs in underserved areas or communities. Applicants must be enrolled (or accepted) in a post baccalaureate entry-level occupational therapy educational program on a full-time basis, demonstrate a sustained record of outstanding academic achievement, demonstrate leadership and community service, be able to contribute to a diverse work force, and be a member of AOTA.

The focus of the scholarship will be to support female students from diverse backgrounds who can meet E.K. Wise’s and the Association’s objectives of developing a workforce to meet society’s diverse occupational needs in underserved areas or communities.

The scholarship supports female students pursuing a post baccalaureate entry-level degree program in occupational therapy. Three awards will be granted in the amount of $2,500. Students may apply for a second year.

Qualified Female Applicants Must:

* Be enrolled (or accepted) in a post baccalaureate entry-level occupational therapy educational program on a full-time basis
* Be enrolled in the entry-level occupational therapy educational program for the full 2016-17 academic year
* Demonstrate a sustained record of outstanding academic achievement
* Demonstrate leadership and community service
* Be able to contribute to a diverse work force
* Be a member of AOTA
* Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**American Occupational Therapy Foundation (AOTF) Scholarships**

<http://www.aotf.org/scholarshipsgrants/scholarshipprogramoverviewandhistory/howtoapply>

AOTF offers more than 50 scholarships annually to students enrolled in occupational therapy programs at all levels. Corporations, charitable organizations, private individuals, and state occupational therapy associations contribute funds for the scholarships. Although each award has its own requirements, all recipients must be currently enrolled full-time in an occupational therapy educational program. You must also be an AOTA member.

Qualified applicants must meet all eligibility requirements:

* For Post-baccalaureate scholarships, this must be the first degree in Occupational Therapy. Students applying for a scholarship at the post-baccalaureate level must have completed the equivalent of one full-year of Occupational Therapy specific coursework. If you are studying to become an occupational therapy assistant, you must be in your final year to be eligible.
* Have a sustained record of outstanding scholastic achievement;
* Supply application data including: (1) Two references and (2) Program Director's statement;
* Applicants for post-baccalaureate scholarships must be enrolled at the professional level (Master's or OTD) in an accredited or developing occupational therapy educational program and have completed 1 full year of occupational therapy coursework.

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**Virginia Occupational Therapy Association**

<http://www.vaota.org/Student-Scholarships>

VOTA awards scholarships to second year OT and OTA students each year at the VOTA conference. Students must be a member of VOTA and apply for the scholarships during their first year of OT school. The OT Graduate Award and the OT Assistant Award are $1000 each. Two additional scholarships are also available: The Barbara Howard Scholarship which is $400 with a bonus of $100 if you take a position in the Tidewater area after graduation; The Kirsten Akehurst Scholarship is $500 and is awarded to a student of the Jefferson College of Health Sciences.  
  
**The OT Graduate Award** is a $1,000 scholarship awarded annually to an entry level graduate occupational therapy student. This scholarship is based on scholarly, leadership, and humanitarian qualities that OT students bring to their future profession. Requirements include a student essay, faculty endorsement, and at least one faculty letter of support/recommendation.  
  
**The OT Assistant Student Award** is also a $1,000 scholarship given annually to a student enrolled in any Occupational Therapy Assistant Program within the Commonwealth of Virginia. . This scholarship is based on scholarly, leadership, and humanitarian qualities that OT students bring to their future profession. Requirements include a student essay, faculty endorsement, and at least one faculty letter of support/recommendation.  
  
**Barbara Howard Memorial Scholarship**: Barbara Howard’s commitment to excellence was exemplified in both her professional and private lives. She maintained a quality of life that was an example for all who had the good fortune to know her. Barbara believed that physical and emotional challenges were opportunities to strive for quality of life. She derived her greatest satisfaction when her technical expertise and human relations skills combined to enhance the quality of life for those with whom she interacted. Those who knew her admired her compassion and organizational ability. Whether she was communicating with her client, a professional cohort, family, or close friend Barbara exhibited a warmth and genuine concern for the well-being of others. She shared her time and her knowledge freely. Her active participation in local, state, and national OT associations was indicative of the commitment she had to her profession. Barbara never rested on her success. She actively sought more knowledge to enhance her ability as an Occupational Therapist. She continually achieved her goals and set new ones in order to provide her clients with the quality services she believed they deserved. Barbara Howard chose to live and to work by a value system which put the emphasis on “Living with Dignity” and she made the best of any situation. She was committed to attracting the best and brightest OTs to the Tidewater area. She established a fund to provide scholarships to students, and added a $100 bonus to those scholarship recipients who chose to work in the Tidewater area upon graduation.  
  
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**A Place for Mom Scholarship**

<http://www.aplaceformom.com/scholarship>

Selection and Eligibility Criteria

1. The annual scholarship award is for (5) students enrolled in an associates’ degree, bachelor’s degree or graduate level program in a medical, nursing or social sciences related major. The student must intend on pursuing a career that involves working with senior citizens. The applicant must be attending classes at an accredited college or university at the time of the spring deadline.

2. Employees of A Place for Mom and members of their immediate family (spouse, parent, child, sibling and their respective spouses, regardless of where they reside) and persons living in the same household, whether or not related, of such employees, are not eligible to apply.

3. Applicants must complete a letter of introduction and an essay that is between 500 and 900 words on a selected topic and sign the Scholarship Award Agreement

4. Scholarship will be awarded to five students who write the most compelling essay in each of five categories as judged by an outside panel of senior living professionals.

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**Tylenol Scholarship**

<http://www.tylenol.com/news/scholarship>

**Who is eligible to apply?**

Applicants must meet all of the following criteria to be eligible for this scholarship:

• Be a resident of the 50 United States, Puerto Rico or the District of Columbia

• If the applicant is an undergraduate student: must have completed at least one year of undergraduate course study by the Spring of 2015 at an accredited Community College, University or Vocational – technical school, and be able to provide proof of enrollment to a public health/health education, med school, nursing and/or pharmacy degree program. This includes Occupational Therapy, and Occupational Therapy Assistants.

• If the applicant is a graduate student: must be able to provide proof of enrollment to a graduate program in public health/health education, med school, nursing and/or pharmacy degree program. This includes Occupational Therapy, and Occupational Therapy Assistants.

• Must have one or more years of school remaining

**What are the selection criteria?**

An independent selection committee will evaluate the applications and select the recipients considering:

• College GPA

• Academic records in public health/health education, med school, nursing and/or pharmacy

• Community Involvement/Volunteer Service

• Essay content

**What are the details of the award?**

• Up to 20 scholarships ranging from $500-$2500 will be awarded annually and are not renewable.

• 10 - $10,000 scholarships will be awarded annually and are not renewable.

• 30 - $5,000 scholarships will be awarded annually and are not renewable.

• The scholarships will be applied to tuition, fees, books, supplies and equipment required for course load.

• Institutions must be accredited, nonprofit two or four-year colleges/universities in the United States.

• A student may transfer from one institution to another and retain the award.

**Is this scholarship renewable?**

No, it is a one-time award. Students may reapply each year as long as they continue to meet the eligibility criteria and are not past winners. Past winners are not eligible to apply.

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**Scholarship of Excellence Program:**

http://www.asahp.org/scholarship/

The Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions in partnership with sponsors a scholarship program for allied health students.

**Scholarship of Excellence Program:**

The Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions in partnership with CastleBranch sponsors a scholarship program for allied health students enrolled in its member schools.

**Purpose:**The purpose of the scholarship program is to recognize outstanding students in the allied health professions who are achieving excellence in their academic programs and have significant potential to assume future leadership roles in the allied health professions. The selected student will receive a $1,000 scholarship.  
  
Starting in 2014, an additional scholarship in the amount of $1,000 and the title of Elwood Scholar is to be awarded to the most outstanding Scholarship of Excellence recipient.

**Qualifications:**

The following criteria must be met to be eligible to receive an ASAHP Scholarship:

1. Candidates must be enrolled in a college or school that is an institutional member of ASAHP.
2. Candidates must have successfully completed at least one term (quarter, semester, trimester, etc.) at that institution.
3. Candidates may be enrolled in any health discipline except those in the nursing, public health, psychology, or MOD-VOPP (medicine, osteopathy, dentistry, veterinary medicine, optometry, podiatry, pharmacy) group.
4. Candidates must be enrolled in a career entry-level, degree-granting program; all degree levels are eligible (associate, baccalaureate, master’s and doctoral).
5. Financial need is not a criterion for eligibility.

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**Physical Therapist & Occupational Therapist Scholarship**

<http://lambergoodnow.com/scholarships/>

Physical therapists and occupational therapists have one of the most important responsibilities in the healthcare industry: going through the day-to-day efforts of helping people rehabilitate and get back into life.

This work can be challenging on many levels. The specific exercises and programs themselves must be executed properly. Equally if not more important, however, is that physical and occupational therapists must be motivators for their patients. This rare combination is hard to find. When it happens, patients improve and their lives get better.  We hear this time and again from our clients. This is why we want to see the highest-caliber people who are passionate about health care entering the field.

**One $1,000 Scholarship Award**

**Eligibility criteria for applicants:**

1. Must either be applying for a physical therapy or occupational therapy academic program for enrollment the following year or currently be enrolled in this type of program and remain enrolled through the following academic year.
2. Essay submission must be received by December 1, each year.

**Your essay:**

* Submit a 500- to 750-word essay to [scholarship@lambergoodnow.com](mailto:scholarship@lambergoodnow.com) by or on December 1, each year.
* Tell us what drives you and why you want to pursue a career as a physical therapist or occupational therapist.
* We will choose finalists whose essays may be posted on our website and voted on via social media likes, shares, tweets and +1s. While this may have some influence on the eventual winning essays, it is not the sole basis of our final decisions.
* One individual will be awarded a $1,000 scholarship for education expenses at a school of their choice.

**Other application information:**

* Include your name, email address and phone number in your email.
* If possible, attach your essay to the email as a Microsoft Word document, including your name, email address and phone number at the top of each page.
* Attach your most recent school transcript and proof of school enrollment.
* Submitting your resume or CV is optional.

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**National Health Service Corps**

<https://nhsc.hrsa.gov/scholarships/>

<https://nhsc.hrsa.gov/downloads/spapplicationguide.pdf>

Eligibility Requirements:

Must be attending or accepted to attend one of the following accredited schools or programs located in a state, the District of Columbia, or a U.S. territory:

**Physician**

* A school of allopathic or osteopathic medicine, pursuing an M.D. or D.O. degree; and
* Accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (sponsored by the American
* Medical Association and the Association of American Medical Colleges) or the American Osteopathic Association, Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation.

**Dentist**

* A school of dentistry, pursuing a D.D.S. or D.M.D. degree
* Accredited by the American Dental Association, Commission on Dental Accreditation.

**Nurse Practitioner**

* A school or program of nurse practitioner education, pursuing a post graduate degree or postgraduate certificate
* Accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing or the Commission on
* Collegiate Nursing Education
* Leading to national certification as a nurse practitioner specializing in adult medicine, family medicine, geriatrics, primary care pediatrics, psychiatric-mental health, or women’s health by the American Nurses Credentialing Center, the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, or the Pediatric Nursing Certification Board.

**Nurse-Midwife**

* A school or program of nurse-midwifery education, pursuing a post graduate degree or postgraduate certificate
* Accredited by the American College of Nurse-Midwives, Division of Accreditation
* Leading to national certification by the American Midwifery Certification Board.

**Physician Assistant**

* A school or program of primary care physician assistant education, pursuing a post graduate degree or post graduate certificate
* Accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant and the affiliated school must be accredited by a U.S. Department of Education nationally recognized regional or state institutional accrediting agency
* Leading to national certification by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants.

Student must be attending a school located in a state, the District of Columbia, or a U.S. territory. Eligible schools and educational programs for which scholarship support is provided must be in a state (includes the 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Territory of Guam, the Territory of American Samoa, the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia). Students attending schools outside of these geographic areas are not eligible for NHSC scholarships, even though they may be citizens or nationals of the United States.

Students must also be eligible for federal employment. Most NHSC scholars should expect to serve their obligations as a salaried, non-federal employee of public or private entities approved by the NHSC SP. However, there may be vacancies that require federal employment, including a security clearance. In light of the potential for federal employment, an applicant must be eligible to hold an appointment as a Commissioned Officer of the Public Health Service or be eligible for a federal civil service appointment.

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**HOSA Scholarship**

<http://www.hosa.org/scholarships>

HOSA is proud to partner with STEM Premier to provide our members with the opportunity to apply for scholarships. Scholarships are generously provided by HOSA partners.

Through this application process, HOSA and its partners provide scholarships to HOSA members in a variety of career fields:

These include among others:

* Audiologist
* Pharmacist
* Dentist/Dental Hygienist
* Nurse/Nurse Specialist
* Allied Health (numerous occupations)
* Physical Therapist
* Doctor/Physician Assistant
* Public Health
* Speech Therapist/Speech-Language Pathologist
* Nuclear Medicine
* Occupational Therapist
* Recreational Therapist

The Postsecondary/Collegiate Division shall be composed of students enrolled in Health Science programs at the postsecondary/collegiate level. A postsecondary student is one who (a) is enrolled in a state-approved post-secondary program or college level program; (b) has received a high-school diploma (or its equivalent) and/or has been out of the continuous, sequential educational system prior to the current Health Science enrollment for two or more years prior to the current year's HOSA National Leadership Conference.

To apply for a scholarship students must follow these directions:

1. Join STEM Premier

* Go to [**www.stempremier.com/hosa**](http://www.stempremier.com/hosa)
* Click the [**Start Your Free Profile**](http://www.hosa.org/sites/default/files/STEM%20Premier_Good%20profile%20tips_members_HOSA.pdf#overlay-context=node/150) button and create your account
* All HOSA scholarships will be managed through STEM Premier.
* **HOSA Members must have a STEM Premier account and apply within the application**

2. Search For HOSA Scholarship

* Select your account dashboard
* Go to the scholarship section, click the search icon and search for HOSA under organization name
* Select HOSA Scholarship from the results list

3. Apply For Scholarship

* Follow the steps and provide required information (Your STEM Premier profile will act as a majority of your application!)
* Click Apply Now
* The deadline for applying for scholarships is April 1.

--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------- **Student Osteopathic Medical Association Foundation New Member Scholarship**

<http://www.somafoundation.org/scholarships.html>

The Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) is your portal to the greater osteopathic community and the best way to get your voice heard on issues that affect you and your future career! The SOMA New Member Scholarship was developed for new members of SOMA (i.e. students signing up for SOMA during the fall membership drive). Scholarships will be awarded based on an essay on the topic: "Vision of Osteopathic Medicine." Five new SOMA members, per fall registration, will each be awarded a $500 scholarship sponsored by the Advocates for the AOA. SOMA encourages scholarship recipients to use the award to help attend a future SOMA convention.

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**American Physical Therapy Association**

<http://www.apta.org/CurrentStudents/ScholarshipsAwards/>

**Scholarships, Awards, and Grants**

If you're a student, you are confronting the rising costs of higher education. Browse the following scholarships and awards to see if you are eligible for these financial rewards.

**Scholarships & Grants**

* [Federal/State Scholarship Resources](http://www.apta.org/CurrentStudents/ScholarshipsAwards/FederalState/)
* [Private Scholarship Resources](http://www.apta.org/CurrentStudents/ScholarshipsAwards/Private/)
* [Mary McMillan Scholarship Award](http://www.apta.org/HonorsAwards/Scholarships/McMillanScholarship/)
* [Minority Scholarship Award](http://www.apta.org/HonorsandAwards/Scholarships/MinorityScholarship/)
* [Minority Scholarship Web Sites](http://www.apta.org/CurrentStudents/ScholarshipsAwards/MinorityScholarshipSites/)
* [Minority Grants](http://www.apta.org/CurrentStudents/ScholarshipsAwards/MinorityGrants/)

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**The Foundation for Physical Therapy Scholarships**

<http://www.foundation4pt.org/apply-for-funding/scholarships/>

[Florence P. Kendall Post-Professional Doctoral Scholarship](http://www.foundation4pt.org/apply-for-funding/scholarships/florence-p-kendall-post-professional-doctoral-scholarship/)  
A 1-year, $5,000 scholarship to support physical therapists or physical therapist assistants with outstanding potential in their first year of a post-professional doctoral degree program.

[Promotion of Doctoral Studies (PODS) I Scholarship](http://www.foundation4pt.org/apply-for-funding/scholarships/promotion-of-doctoral-studies-pods-i-ii-scholarships/)  
A 1-year, $7,500 scholarship to support individuals in the coursework phase of post-professional doctoral studies.

[Promotion of Doctoral Studies (PODS) II Scholarship](http://www.foundation4pt.org/apply-for-funding/scholarships/promotion-of-doctoral-studies-pods-i-ii-scholarships/)  
A 1-year, $15,000 scholarship to support individuals in the post-candidacy phase of post-professional doctoral studies.

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**Celebrate Cherie Scholarship**

<http://www.cfnova.org/scholarships/other-scholarships/celebrate-cherie-scholarship>

The Celebrate Cherie Scholarship Fund awards scholarships to deserving up and coming graduate students pursuing careers in physical therapy. The fund was established to honor Cherie Amor Yadao, a physical therapist and manager for Commonwealth Orthopaedics in Arlington. On August 29, 2009, Cherie's life was cut short at the age of 35 after a valiant fight against a rare cancer, extra pulmonary small cell carcinoma. To the end, Cherie lived life to the fullest and touched so many lives in the process. The goal of the Celebrate Cherie Scholarship Fund is to help physical therapy students pursue their dream of helping others as Cherie did.

**Scholarship amount**

One non-renewable scholarship of $5,000 is awarded each year.

**Eligibility Criteria**

Applicants must be legal residents of Northern Virginia (defined as the areas of Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William Counties) enrolled in a first professional doctor of physical therapy degree.

**Contact**

Eligible students should contact Jo-Anne Burton, PT, DPT at [jburton@c-o-r.com](mailto:jburton@c-o-r.com) or Shannon Haynie at [shaynie@c-o-r.com](mailto:shaynie@c-o-r.com) for more information and to request an application.

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