

NURSE HONOR GUARD of EASTERN OHIO

2026 Susan Bickerstaff Casto Legacy of Care Scholarship

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

2025-2026

Deadline for Application: March 1, 2026

There are over 260 NHG chapters in 48 states, established by volunteer registered and practical nurses. The guards perform services to honor nurses when they pass. The nurses wear whites, a cap and capes. A minimum of two nurses is needed to perform the brief, reverent ceremony.

The Nurse Honor Guard of Eastern Ohio Scholarship was established in 2024. This scholarship is for full time or part time senior level pre-licensure nursing students enrolled in an RN or LPN program. The NHG of Eastern Ohio Scholarship Committee will evaluate scholarship applications based on the following criteria: **Social/Financial Support (10%); Scholarship/Clinical Activities (15%); Leadership (25%); and Essay (50%)**

DEMOGRAPHICS

Name of Applicant: _____

Address of Applicant: _____

School Email: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

I am a pre-licensure nursing student in the nursing program listed below:

RN _____

LPN _____

I will be enrolled in senior level nursing course(s) Summer or Fall Semester, 2026:

Yes _____ No _____

I have previously received the NHG Eastern Ohio Scholarship: Yes _____ No _____

SOCIAL/FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Briefly describe any unique circumstances that lead you to need the financial assistance of this scholarship?

Are you presently receiving any other financial aid? Yes No Amount of financial aid: _____

Have you applied for any other scholarships, loans, or grants? Yes No

Are you presently employed in the nursing field (e.g., nurse tech)? Yes No Where?

SCHOLARSHIP/CLINICAL ACTIVITIES

Most recent cumulative GPA is: _____

Yes_____ I have requested a 1 page double spaced recommendation from a clinical instructor based on your clinical strengths. The recommendation should be written on nursing program letterhead and include date, instructor signature, and instructor position. **Please have your clinical instructor email this to Dr. Jackie Owens, Scholarship Committee Chair, at ojin_jackie_owens@sbcglobal.net before the due date.**

LEADERSHIP

List any college level school related activities (e.g., Delta Xi, NSNA). Include leadership positions, if applicable. _____

List any community service or organizational activities (e.g., volunteer service). Include leadership positions, if applicable.

ESSAY

Please attach an essay of no more than 300 words that discusses your vision of nursing as a profession/vocation. Please discuss your professional short-term and/or long term nursing goals. You may also wish to discuss such topics as coursework, clinical experiences, and/or life events that have impacted your perspective about a nursing career; the reason you are applying for the NHG scholarship; or other areas of importance to you.

IF SELECTED, I AGREE TO ATTEND 1 NURSE HONOR GUARD SERVICE IN THE 6 MONTH PERIOD AFTER RECEIVING THIS SCHOLARSHIP.

APPLICATION DUE March 1, 2026. PLEASE RETURN VIA E-MAIL TO Dr. Jackie Owens, Scholarship Committee Chair, at ojin_jackie_owens@sbcglobal.net.