



## Scholarship Application Instructions for Academic Year 2018-2019

### HISTORY

Before there was Managed Care, and before there was the Affordable Care Act, there was a LPN named Janie B. Geer who was small in stature but had a bed-side manner that extended beyond the walls of a clinic. More than 45 years ago, she spearheaded the effort to bring accessible and affordable healthcare to the residents of Northwest Baltimore. In doing so, she opened her heart and the doors of a medical clinic within the New Elizabeth Church's basement with the sole purpose of providing healthcare to those in need.

Because of this commitment, a health organization was founded by the name of Park West Health System (PWHS). Today, Park West Health System is a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) that provides health, dental and wellness services to all, keeping to Mrs. Geer's legacy of unconditionally serving those in need. This scholarship fund was created in her memory.

### PURPOSE

The Janie B. Geer Nursing Scholarship Fund was established in 2015. The mission of the fund is to provide financial assistance to individuals enrolled in accredited schools of nursing who have an interest in community health nursing. Preference will be given to nursing students who have a desire to work at a Federally Qualified Health Center upon graduation. The scholarship fund targets second, third, and fourth year nursing students.

### TIMELINE

The deadline for submitting an application is April 30, 2018. Applicant must provide all information, including the upload of required documentation, for the application to be deemed complete. Notification of awards or denials will be issued by June 30, 2018.

### ELIGIBILITY

An applicant must:

- Currently reside or work in the 21215 zip code: or, has participated in a clinical rotation at Park West Health System.
- Provide a state-issued ID and proof of residency or employment in the form of one of the following:

For residency,

- Lease/Mortgage Statement
- Utility Bill in the Applicant's Name

For employment,

- Employee Paystub
- W2
- Letter from Employer on official letterhead.



## **Janie B Geer NURSING SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

- Proof of full-time, 12 credits minimum per semester, undergraduate enrollment in a 2 or 4-year accredited nursing program.
- Explain his/her knowledge of a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC).
- Submit a 1000-word essay.
- Submit two (2) professional references. One must be academic.

### **CRITERIA**

- Must have satisfactory attendance and a minimum GPA of 2.5.
- Completion of the first year of nursing courses.
- Official copy of transcript from the Registrar's Office must be submitted. Unofficial transcripts are acceptable providing they clearly show institution, dates, courses and grades. Pre-nursing courses are not eligible.
- Plan to work at a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) for at least two (2) years immediately after completion of the undergraduate nursing program.
- Mandatory attendance at the Janie B Geer Scholarship Fund Golf Classic sponsored by Park West Health System in the year of award.

### **ESSAY**

Submit and upload a 1000-word essay in response to the below.

***Explain why you have chosen to pursue a career in nursing and how these studies will contribute to your immediate or long-term career goals. Describe any community or civic involvement and how it relates to your field of study. Finally, from a financial standpoint, please express your need for the scholarship.***

Essay must include your name and institution with address in the header. The essay is a very important component of the selection process. Your submission will be used by the JBG Nursing Scholarship Fund Committee and the Park West Board of Directors to help distinguish among applicants. Thus, insightful thoughts and perspectives are encouraged.

### **AWARDS**

Four (4) scholarships up to the amount of \$2,500 each will be awarded annually and are limited to undergraduate studies at accredited educational institutions. Scholarships will be payable to the institution in two (2) equal installments. The second installment is contingent upon the awardee's satisfactory attendance and performance per guidelines for students of good standing. Scholarships are not automatically renewable but preference will be given to prior awardees in good standing. Current scholarship recipients must reapply each year and are limited to a total of three (3) awards if applicable.



## GENERAL RELEASE

In the course of activities, the JBG Nursing Scholarship Fund Committee, Park West Health System and/or the news media may occasionally wish to interview, photograph or videotape applicants, their likeness or names for promotion purposes. With your submission, you freely and without restraint grant the aforementioned the unrestrained right to perpetually own, utilize, alter or release subject matter at their sole discretion.

## SUBMISSION

To apply, visit [www.parkwestmed.org](http://www.parkwestmed.org) and select the Janie B Geer Nursing Scholarship Fund Page.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: APRIL 30, 2018.**

## Donations to the J.B. Geer Scholarship Fund

Financial gifts are greatly appreciated. Donors are essential to our continued ability to offer nursing scholarships. For more information regarding making a tax-exempt financial contribution, visit ([www.parkwestmed.org](http://www.parkwestmed.org)) or call 410-542-7800, extension 7507.

***\* Please note the Selection Committee reserves the right to verify submitted information and to interview candidates in person.***