



Virginia “Bea” Root & Kathy Welter Research and Education Endowment Scholarship Policy and Procedure

Please read the policy and procedure below.

DISCLAIMERS / WAIVERS / CONSENT

To be eligible for any Paralyzed Veterans of America – Wisconsin Chapter (PVA-WI) program/benefit, an individual must be in good standing with the organization, must not be under suspension or subject to disciplinary action, and must conduct themselves in a manner that does not disparage PVA-WI's reputation or mission.

Eligibility Requirements for PVA-WI Programs/Benefits

To participate in PVA-WI programs/benefits, individuals must:

- Meet the eligibility requirements for the applicable program/benefit as outlined in this Manual.
- Comply with all obligations described in the PVA-WI Chapter bylaws, this manual, and any required registration forms. Noncompliance will result in suspension of eligibility until the requirements are met and approved.
- Agree to complete a brief survey, if requested, to aid in research or donor development efforts.

Additional Program Information

- Programs/benefits, policies, and procedures may change at any time and are contingent upon the availability of chapter funds.
- Applications and forms are available at: <https://wisconsinpva.org/formspolicies-procedures>
- For questions or additional information, email info@wisconsinpva.org or call (414) 328-8910.
- All application materials will be kept confidential.

Liability Waiver

By participating in PVA-WI events or programs, participants release and discharge PVA-WI, event organizers, sponsors, volunteers, staff, property owners, affiliated organizations, and their representatives from any liability, claims, or actions arising from injury, loss, or damage experienced while participating in, observing, or traveling to or from an event.

Media Consent

By participating in PVA-WI programs or events, participants grant permission to PVA-WI to use their verbal or written statements, photographs, digital images, and audio or video recordings. These materials may be used for publicity, promotional, educational, or informational purposes, including but not limited to newsletters, websites, social media, marketing materials, and other PVA/PVA-WI communications, in any medium now known or developed in the future.

VIRGINIA “BEA” ROOT & KATHY WELTER RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIP POLICY & PROCEDURE

Eligibility

- Applicants must be currently employed at the Clement J. Zablocki VA Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) Center or provide care to patients within the SCI Center.
- Eligible professionals include, but are not limited to:
 - Nurses
 - Physical Therapists
 - Occupational Therapists
 - Dietitians
 - Social Workers
 - Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs)
 - Individuals pursuing Certified Rehabilitation Registered Nurse (CRRN) certification

PVA-WI is proud to offer the Virginia “Bea” Root & Kathy Welter Research and Education Endowment Scholarship to support the professional growth and development of staff serving veterans in the Clement J. Zablocki VA SCI Center.

This tuition scholarship is designed to enhance education, training, and professional advancement, ultimately strengthening the quality of care provided to veterans living with spinal cord injury, dysfunction, or disease.

Program Guidelines

- Scholarships are awarded up to a **maximum of \$1,000**.
- Eligibility is limited to **1 application** per PVA-WI fiscal year (October 1 - September 30).
- Scholarship funds are **paid directly to the educational institution** and are not distributed to the applicant.

Employment Commitment

- In exchange for receipt of scholarship funding, recipients are expected to maintain employment within a VA SCI Center for a minimum of **2 years**.

Application Review and Notification

- Applications are **accepted on a rolling basis**.
- Scholarship applications are **reviewed at the monthly board meeting** (2nd Wednesday of every month).

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- To be considered at that month's board meeting, the application must be received **no later than the 1st Wednesday of the month**; otherwise, it will be reviewed at the following month's meeting.
- Applicants will be notified of the funding decision via email within **2 weeks** of the committee vote.

Application Requirements

To be considered for a scholarship award, applicants must submit the following documents to info@wisconsinpva.org:

- Members must complete the **Research and Education Endowment Scholarship Application** available in the forms section of our website or by visiting: <https://forms.office.com/r/tfdNFgj0VF?origin=IprLink>
- A statement demonstrating **financial need** (included in the online application).
- A description of any **civic engagement or community involvement** activities (included in the online application).
- Proof of enrollment in an **accredited college, university, or technical school**.
- A **500–600 word essay** describing how the applicant has been impacted by a veteran living with a spinal cord injury or disease
- Proof of a **cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher**, including the most recent transcript showing grades and GPA (if currently or recently enrolled)
- An **itemized bill** from the educational institution showing charges and a due date
- A letter from your supervisor verifying your association with the Clement J. Zablocki SCI Center.
- Incomplete applications will result in processing delays.