

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

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.

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

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=|prLink>
- 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.