



## **Practical Nurse Community Sponsorship Program**

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Practical Nurse Community Sponsorship Program is to invest in our community by promoting career growth and opportunities in healthcare.

### **POLICY**

To provide tuition assistance, up to \$10,000, for approved applicants pursuing education through the Jefferson-Lewis BOCES (JLB) Practical Nursing Program (PN). The applicant must apply for sponsorship and be approved by the selection committee. Approved applicants will have a work commitment to Samaritan Medical Center (Samaritan) immediately following graduation based on their initial enrollment date. A commitment of two years will result in a sponsorship up to \$5,000, subsequent to graduation and being licensed as a LPN. A commitment of three years will result in a sponsorship greater than \$5,000 and up to \$10,000, subsequent to graduation and being licensed as a LPN. Sponsorships are granted to the approved applicant after they have successfully been accepted to the JLB PN Program. Participation in the Community Sponsorship program does not guarantee employment. The Community Sponsorship program is offered through Samaritan Medical Center Foundation of Northern New York.

### **PROCEDURE**

#### ***Documentation***

The Applicant must complete and submit the following items for sponsorship consideration:

- Submit a completed online application.
- Provide a minimum of two professional letters of reference with original signatures.
- Provide official copies of high school transcripts.
- Provide release of information between Samaritan and JLB Financial Aid Office.
- Provide a copy of proposed related expenses to reflect a cost of attendance, e.g., admission application fees, uniform, transportation, personal expenses, housing & meals, childcare, loan fees, etc.

Submit an essay of 300 words or less describing:

- reasons for pursuing a career in healthcare,
- short and long term career goals,
- the impact of this sponsorship will have to complete a PN program
- reasons for Samaritan Medical Center Foundation to select you.

Sponsorship shall be provided for approved applicants. Approved applicants will have a Samaritan work commitment as noted above. Submit all required materials through the online form found at [samaritanhealth.com/pnsponsorship](http://samaritanhealth.com/pnsponsorship).

### ***Tuition cost JLB PN Program (Amount is subject to change)***

Current tuition for the FY 2022 – 2023 academic year is \$18,481.

### ***Funding Opportunities***

Potential financial aid options available:

- Federal Pell Grant Program
- The WorkPlace (serving Jefferson County and Lewis County) Grant
- St. Lawrence County One-Stop Center Grant
- ACCES-VR
- Military Spouse Grant
- Veteran's Education Benefits
- Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans

### ***Selection Process***

All applications will be reviewed by the Samaritan Foundation PN Sponsorship selection committee. Final selection and acceptance into the program will be based on the following criteria:

- The applicant will participate in an interview process with the selection committee:  
The selection committee will include a Human Resources Leader, Long Term Care Director of Nursing, a current LPN, Clinic Nurse Manager, and an Acute Care Nurse Manager.
- Verification of two professional/supervisor references.
- The applicant's academic records.
- Verification the applicant's acceptance into the JLB PN Program (provisional or final).
- The applicant must continuously exhibit Samaritan's H.E.A.R.T. Values: Honest, Empathetic, Accountable, Respectful, and Trustworthy.

### ***Program Requirements***

- Samaritan will obtain JLB Financial Aid Offer and in combination with the approved applicant need will determine the scholarship amount.
- Samaritan will sponsor the applicant up to \$10,000 to cover the cost associated with the program to include tuition, books, fees, living costs, etc.
  - work commitment of 2 years for up to \$5,000 dollars
  - work commitment of 3 years for greater than 5,000 dollars up to 10,000 dollars.
- Samaritan will provide JLB the scholarship amount as a component of the approved applicant's financial aid plan.
- JLB will invoice Samaritan after the start of the semester. Funds that are over and above the cost of tuition will be released to the approved applicant in accordance to JLB Financial Aid policy.
- The approved applicant may be required to pay taxes on the tuition assistance received. It is advisable in these circumstances that guidance from a qualified tax professional is pursued.

- The approved applicant understands that if a course is not completed or a failing grade is attained, the approved applicant will not be reimbursed for readmissions to the PN Program.
- The work commitment starts subsequent to PN Program graduation and is contingent on licensure as a LPN.
- The approved applicant is required to complete a Letter of Agreement with signature of a notary.
- If Samaritan does not offer employment after the applicant graduates from the PN Program, no repayment is required.
- If Samaritan offers fulltime or part-time employment and the approved applicant declines a position, the approved applicant is required to reimburse the Samaritan Medical Center Foundation of Northern New York for all Community Sponsorship funds received within 90 days of declination.

### ***Applicant Requirements***

Applicants accepted into the program are required to notify Samaritan of any of the following:

- If the applicant fails to enroll in any semester during the period of program participation.
- If the applicant withdraws from the PN program.
- If the applicant is suspended from the school for any reason (a leave of absence is considered withdrawal).
- If the applicant transfers to another school.
- If the applicant changes name (e.g. maiden name to married name) or changes address.
- If the applicant becomes permanently disabled.