



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Catherine M Pepler
aaohnfoundationhq@gmail.com

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NURSES FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES:

- **NEW ABOHN CERTIFICATION SCHOLARSHIP AWARD
APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN YEAR-ROUND**
- **UPDATED FOUNDATION LIBERTY SCHOLARSHIP NOW
SUPPORTS ACADEMIC ADVANCEMENT**

Chicago — AAOHN (American Association of Occupational Health Nurses) Foundation is excited to announce that the [Certification Scholarship applications](#) will be open year-round and the Liberty Scholarship has been updated to support Occupational and Environmental Health Nurses pursuing academic advancement within the specialty!

The ABOHN Certification Scholarship supports occupational health nurses with funding to attain specialty certification through the American Board of Occupational Health Nurses. The Foundation Liberty Academic Scholarship awards funding to licensed occupational and environmental health nurses who are dedicated to advancing their academic studies within the specialty; this scholarship honors and memorializes the nurses who lost their lives as a result of the September 11, 2001 event. Specialty certification and academic advancement both support occupational health nurses' development, further enhancing the mission of AAOHN and the AAOHN Foundation, improving worker health and safety by advancing the field of occupational and environmental health nursing.

Every year, the AAOHN Foundation awards numerous scholarships, grants, and academic study awards to occupational and environmental health nurses who qualify for these funds. To qualify, AAOHN members must meet a strict set of criteria, demonstrate a commitment to professional development and contributing to the future of occupational and environmental health nursing, and must undergo a competitive review process by experts within the field. The funds are made possible by our generous sponsors, AAOHN chapters, and AAOHN members who have contributed to make these awards available.

This year we are opening the ABOHN Certification Scholarship year-round, meaning OHNs can apply for and receive funds on a rolling basis, making it more convenient for them to successfully prepare for and take the ABOHN certification exam (COHN/COHN-S) when they are ready, meeting them where they are in their preparation process. In addition to funding, the AAOHN Foundation and ABOHN will provide mentorship and support through the certification process, further enhancing the OHN's ability to successfully attain specialty certification.

At this time the Foundation Board of Trustees has also made the decision to shift the focus of the Foundation Liberty Scholarship to support the advancement of academic occupational and environmental health nursing studies, rather than leadership. This decision was made in response to the recent shift in funding, impacting [NIOSH](#) and removing funding for the 18 NIOSH [Education and Research Centers](#) (ERC's) in April. This directly impacts AAOHN members and OHNs who are actively engaged in graduate and post-graduate specialty occupational health, safety and medical training, research training, continuing education and outreach. The Foundation recognizes the impact of these efforts to provide an adequate

supply of qualified personnel to deliver interdisciplinary care, respond rapidly to deliver emergency response, support worker health and safety, and ensure the development of the future workforce.

These scholarship applications are now open. We urge AAOHN members to apply for these scholarships and to consider supporting these scholarships through the AAOHN Foundation Call-to-Action.

AAOHN Foundation Call-to-Action: The AAOHN Foundation has pledged to MATCH member donations in the amount of \$3,000 to support OEHN academic advancement (in addition to the current \$3,000 offered). Donate ANY amount NOW to support occupational health nurses academic advancement; when \$3,000 is raised, the Foundation will MATCH this with an additional \$3,000 in funds, enabling us collectively to support an additional FOUR students who are pursuing their academic studies within the specialty. Combined with the current applications, this would provide funding for a total of SIX students to continue their academic studies or research advancement.

We are grateful to our fellow AAOHN members and our AAOHN [Foundation Sponsors](#) and proud of our [past recipients](#) who characterize occupational health nurses committed to advancing the health, safety, and well-being of workers and the businesses and communities they serve.

TOGETHER, we can continue to protect the health and safety of America's workers and workplaces. Thank you for your partnership.

To learn more about the AAOHN Foundation and opportunities for support, visit <https://www.aaohn.org/AAOHN-Foundation/The-AAOHN-Foundation>

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About the AAOHN Foundation

The American Association of Occupational Health Nurses Foundation (AAOHN Foundation) is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, created by the American Association of Occupational Health Nurses Inc. (AAOHN) in 1997 to enable occupational and environmental health professionals to improve worker health and safety by preventing workplace illnesses and injuries. These purposes are accomplished through grants and scholarships to support scholarship awards to support ongoing professional education; leadership development; and grants for research initiatives.

AAOHN is comprised of more than 100 chapters and serves over 3000 members located across the United States, US territories, and the world, with our international membership. The AAOHN Foundation is committed to ensuring that occupational and environmental health nurses are seen as the authority on health, safety, productivity, and disability management for worker populations by providing them the opportunity to continue their education and conduct research which supports the sustainability of the profession. To learn more about the AAOHN Foundation, visit <https://www.aaohn.org/AAOHN-Foundation/The-AAOHN-Foundation>.