



Becky & Dave Nelson Healthcare Career Scholarship

Purpose: To identify and retain outstanding area high school seniors dedicated to furthering their education in a health-related occupation. This scholarship is in honor of retired Chief Operating Officer of Sanford Health, Becky Nelson and her husband for her commitment and years of service to healthcare and Sanford Health.

Award: A minimum of two scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors who plan to attend the **University of South Dakota**, Vermillion and pursue a course of study in a **healthcare profession**.

Qualifications:

Applications for the scholarship must meet the following requirements:

- ◆ High school seniors who plan to enroll in a full-time undergraduate course of study at the University of South Dakota and pursue a course of study in a healthcare profession.
- ◆ Cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or greater.

Required Attachments:

- ◆ Complete attached application.
- ◆ **Essay:** Attach a self-written essay (no more than 2 pages) detailing the following information:
 - Your high school achievements or honors, community and school activities, and your employment history.
 - Plans for future study and why you are pursuing your chosen healthcare field.
 - Involvement in healthcare related activity (volunteer and/or paid activity).
- ◆ One letter of reference from a teacher, counselor or employer speaking to your interest in pursuing a healthcare career.
- ◆ Official High School transcript (cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or greater).
- ◆ Copy of your college entrance examination (ACT/ SAT) scores.

Other details:

- ◆ Recipients are **invited** to attend the Dakota Hospital Foundation Leadership Dinner on May 11, 2026..

Applications must be received by March 31 and submitted to:

Dakota Hospital Foundation Scholarship Program
20 S Plum Street, Vermillion, SD 57069
(605) 677-3500
Cindy.Benzel@sanfordhealth.org