

Jonas Scholars 2018-2020

Eligibility and Selection Criteria

The Program

The goal of **Jonas Scholars** is to improve healthcare by creating a pipeline of PhD-prepared nurses who will conduct critical research and educate the next generation of nurse leaders and Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)-prepared nurses who will transform clinical care.

Launched in 2008 and sponsored by Jonas Nursing and Veterans Healthcare, the Jonas Scholars initiative partners with schools of nursing across the country to identify and invest in high-potential doctoral nursing students whose clinical focus areas and research address our nation's most pressing healthcare needs. The scholarships provide financial assistance, leadership development, and networking support to expand the pipeline of nurse leaders.

For the 2018-2020 cohort, the program will support 130 Scholars (two-third PhD students and one-third DNP students).

All Scholars must be focused on one of the following priority topic areas:

- **Chronic Health (35 scholarships available)**
- **Environmental Health (25 scholarships available)**
- **Ophthalmic Health (5 scholarships available)**
- **Preventive Health (30 scholarships available)**
- **Psych-Mental Health (35 scholarships available)**

Details for specific areas under each priority topic are listed below.

(Please note: Applications for Jonas Veterans Healthcare Scholars require a separate application.)

Overview and Requirements

Applications for the program must be completed by the school of nursing. Please note the updated application this year will require schools to nominate specific students for the available scholarships and provide a brief bio for each scholarship requested, including the following:

- previous earned degrees (with institutions);
- employment experience;
- highlighted honors and awards; and
- PhD/DNP focus.

As a general guideline, universities are encouraged to apply for no more than the total number of awarded 2016-18 Jonas Scholars. For universities with 0 Scholars in 2016-18, please only apply for one Scholar in the 2018-20 cohort.

Based on the school's application, Jonas will award a designated number of scholarships to each school and award the funds for those scholarships directly to the academic institution. The school is responsible for distributing the funds on a quarterly basis to the selected students over the two-year scholarship period. Funds should be distributed to the student's account to be applied to their tuition payment and should not be distributed directly to the student, unless for reimbursement purposes.

The school is also responsible for ensuring each Scholar has a designated faculty advisor whose research or clinical area of expertise matches that of the Scholar. Faculty advisors will also be responsible for providing annual reports on the students' progress.

The institution in which the student is enrolled is required to match the financial support amount and distribution schedule from Jonas. Jonas will provide the school grantee **with \$10,000 in financial support for each awarded scholarship, to be distributed in two \$5,000 installments for each of the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020** academic years (specifically, payments will be sent to the school in August 2018 and August 2019). **Four total payments of \$2,500 each should be made from the university to each Scholar in advance of each academic semester (August 2018, January 2019, August 2019, January 2020).** No partial scholarships will be awarded. Scholarship funds should be used for tuition and other academic costs as needed; no portion of the funding is permitted to be used for the school's indirect/overhead costs. Any remaining scholarship funds due to a Scholar becoming ineligible, leaving the program, graduating, or for any other reason, should be returned to Jonas (via AACN) unless approval from Jonas is given to keep the funds.

While we encourage schools to use Jonas funding as an opportunity to attract partner donors, the matching funds can come from a variety of sources and do not necessarily have to be new funds. Below are some examples of what qualifies as matching funds, and we are happy to consider other types of funding on a case-by-case basis:

- Private donor or foundation funding
- Dean's discretionary fund
- Traineeships and/or fellowships
- Government funds
- Matching funds from student's employer

Schools must provide support for all Scholars to attend the Jonas Scholar Conference in Washington, DC in fall 2019; these funds can be taken from the school's matching funds, however, no portion of Jonas funding should be used to cover these expenses.

Schools must provide support for the Scholar Leadership Development Project, wherein all Jonas Scholars at each university will work together to identify all past and current Jonas Scholars at their university and convene a networking meeting. **The dean from each school agrees to attend and provide financial support for the meeting;** these funds can be taken from the school's matching funds, however, no portion of Jonas funding should be used to cover these expenses.

School Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible, the **academic institution must meet the following criteria:**

1. Be a non-profit organization as defined under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, or have a partner organization with such non-profit status and experience acting as a fiscal conduit providing management assistance services.
2. Be accredited by a nursing accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.
3. Offer a research-focused doctorate (PhD) and/or practice focused doctorate (DNP) nursing program.

4. Provide evidence of a \$10,000 funding match (\$2,500 for each of the following semesters: fall 2018, spring 2019, fall 2019, and spring 2020) for each Scholar. *External funding sources are strongly recommended.*
5. Provide evidence of a commitment of funding to cover the travel and hotel costs for each Scholar to attend the Jonas Scholar Conference in fall 2019. These funds can be taken from the school match.
6. Provide evidence of a commitment to attend and provide funding to cover one meeting for all past and current Jonas Scholars at the university over the two-year scholarship term. These funds can be taken from the school match.

School Selection Criteria

The following factors pertaining to your academic institution will be considered in the selection process:

1. Evidence of a plan to recruit scholars who are committed to a career as faculty (PhD) or leaders in primary care and clinical faculty (DNP) in the priority topic areas listed above.
2. Description of a plan to select students who are eligible for the program (based on below criteria).
3. Evidence of the \$10,000 matching fund availability for all Scholars.
4. Evidence of commitment for selected scholars to complete a leadership development project (as described below).
5. Evidence of commitment to ensuring a fit between the student's research interest and the faculty advisor's research interest for PhD scholars and the student's clinical interest and the faculty advisor's clinical expertise for DNP scholars.
6. Agreement to provide evidence of Scholar progress through annual reports.
7. Agreement to comply with all of the requirements of the selection criteria.
8. Agreement to post press release about Jonas Scholar selection on website and in school magazine/newsletter.

Scholar Selection Criteria

1. Scholar is U.S. citizen or permanent resident of the United States or its territories at the time they will receive the scholarship.
2. Scholar is committed to a career as faculty (PhD) or leader in primary care/clinical faculty (DNP).
3. Scholar agrees to participate in the Jonas Scholar orientation webinar in fall 2018.
4. Scholar commits to attend the Jonas Scholar Conference in Washington, DC in fall 2019.
5. Scholar agrees to complete a leadership development project wherein all Jonas Scholars at each university will work together to identify all past and current Jonas Scholars at their university and convene a networking meeting (to be funded by the university). Scholar agrees to inform Jonas of the meeting date and list of attendees, and share a photo and update of the meeting both with Jonas and on social media.
6. Scholar is full-time student and has at least two years (20-28 months) remaining in her/his program.
7. Scholar is conducting research or clinical work in the priority topics below.

Priority Research Areas

The following topics are **required priority research/clinical practice areas for Jonas Scholars**:

1. **Chronic Health** (Specific topics include: Alzheimer's, Dementia, Cancer, COPD, Diabetes, Geriatrics, Quality and Safety)
2. **Environmental Health** (Specific topics include: Asthma, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Autoimmune Disorders, Lead Poisoning, School Health and Wi-Fi Radiation)

3. **Ophthalmic Health** (Specific topics include: Blindness, Children’s Vision and Low Vision)
4. **Preventive Health** (Specific topics include: Community/Public Health, Complementary Health, Disaster/Emergency Response, Maternal/Child Health, Population Health, Underserved Populations and Technology)
5. **Psych-Mental Health** (Specific topics include: Psychiatric-Mental Health, Sexual Assault/Forensic Nursing and Substance Abuse and Addiction)

In addition to the priority research areas identified above, **preference will be given to those applicants that:**

- Plan to award the scholarship to students who are early-to-mid career nurses.
- Plan to award the scholarship to PhD or DNP students who are in the last two years of the program (i.e. will graduate within 20-28 months after receiving the scholarship)
- Plan to award the scholarship to students from underrepresented populations in nursing.

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