NSP II Hal and Jo Cohen GNF Scholarship

The NSP II Hal and Jo Cohen Graduate Nursing Scholarships (GNF) is for students to complete the graduate education necessary to assume roles as nursing faculty at Maryland institutions of higher education upon graduation or approved positions in Maryland Hospitals with NSP I and NSP II programs.

This Cohen Scholars grant is a competitive grant. Individuals with a strong intent to pursue and remain in nursing education (faculty, hospital based educator) are considered.

This award covers 100% tuition and mandatory fees for teaching service repayment.
Overview

Cohen Graduate Nurse Faculty Scholar Award Transition

• Overview
• Current Scholar
  • Continued Eligibility & Tuition

Program Requirements

• Personalized Mentoring Program
• Professional Leadership Development
• Annual progress
• Career placement activities for nurse educator role

Service Commitment, Validation, Nonadherence

• Service Obligation
• Annual Service Obligation Form
• Repayment

New Award Projections
JHSON Cohen Scholar Grant

• Transition Cohen GNF Scholarship program to Nurse Support II Cohen Scholars Program in 2020.
  • Cohen Scholars Program has state wide requirements
  • Managed at the institutional level
  • Recruit and graduate 14 new Doctoral and PMC students over a 5 year period

• All current and new Cohen GNF Scholars participate in required monthly mentoring program.

• Service Obligation begins within 6 months of graduation.

• All current and new Cohen GNF Scholars agree to provide post-graduation data for 4-6 years for grant reporting outcomes based on teaching commitment.
Current Cohen Scholars

- Continue to receive funding if grant requirements for scholarship are met (GPA 3.25) and participation in mentoring activities (described later).
- Tuition support is released to Cohen Scholars student account each semester after the drop/add period.
- Changes to plans of study must be approved to be eligible for continued funding.
- Nomination & Sponsorship Process.
- JHSON PI oversees the Cohen Scholar grant that JHSON has awarded.
Cohen Scholars Program Tuition Funding Process

At the start of each semester Cohen Scholar PI will confirm that Cohen Scholar recipients continue to meet eligibility criteria with Faculty Mentor.

At the start of each semester Faculty Mentor will confirm with Cohen Scholars PI courses Scholar is enrolled in.

Faculty Mentor will send confirmed courses of Scholar recipients to Departmental Graduate Aid (DGA).

DGA will:
- review the Cohen Scholars recipients confirmed courses each semester and apply amount of tuition and fees
- place a memo on each student’s account to ensure late fees do not accrue

DGA (each semester) will:
- award and disburse the corresponding amount of tuition support and fees for each recipient after the Add/Drop period
- confirm transactions have been completed and funds disbursed to each student by updating the spreadsheet

Cohen Scholars Program Grant PI will:
- approve any additions needed for scholars
- justify to NSP II/MHEC how the additions lead to the Maryland academic/hospital nurse educator role

Sr. Grants & Contracts Analyst can provide an update of amount of funding in the Cohen Scholars grant account.

Grant awards are based on approved program of study at time of Cohen Scholar award and within Cohen Scholar Grant award. PI approves any changes.
Required Mentoring Program*
Dr. Pamela Smith – Cohen Scholars Mentor

Mentoring Plan:
• 9 credits nursing education courses
• Teaching experience
• Monthly individual and group mentoring sessions
• Participation Lead Nursing Forward (LNF)
• CNE certification opportunity

Professional activities
• MDAC conference
• Scholarship: Poster/Presentation/Journal
• Professional organization membership and activity

Employment Placement
• MHEC Job Fair
• Lead Nursing Forward

Individualized mentoring plan with annual progress report mapped to NLN Nurse Educator Competencies
The Faculty Academy and Mentorship Initiative of Maryland (FAMI-MD) prepares experienced registered nurses who hold a bachelor’s degree or higher, for new roles as clinical nursing faculty.

Nurses who participate in FAMI-MD will complete a six-week long Academy, consisting of online instruction with synchronous sessions via videoconference (Zoom).

FAMI-MD offers two curricula: an Introductory Academy that provides a foundation for new educators and an Advanced Academy that explores learning theories, learning strategies, assessment and evaluation, and professional advancement. Group and individual mentoring activities are arranged thereafter.

The Academy maintains an electronic database of graduates that is available for use by partner schools when seeking clinical instructors. The database is updated semi-annually and contains contact information, educational preparation, clinical expertise and previous teaching experience.

FAMI of Maryland | Salisbury University
Cohen Scholars Service Obligation

• Employment in a nurse educator role within 6 months of graduation.
  • Faculty role in nursing educator
  • Hospital educator in NSP I or II Hospital with approved job description

• One year of full time nurse educator service required for each year of tuition support.

• Two years of part-time nurse educator service for each year of tuition support.

• One year tuition support is an academic year, regardless of the number of semesters enrolled (excludes full year LOA).
Required Service Obligation (Repayment)

- Cohen Scholars provide JHSON post-graduation employment information for 4 years (or more depending on commitment).
- Service obligation as nurse educator validation forms submitted to JHSON.
- JHSON notifies MHEC NSP II through annual performance report and bi-annual status report.
- Service obligation nonpayment is sent by MHEC NSP II to state of Maryland collections agency.
Challenging Situations

- **Non-adherence**: If a Cohen Scholar refuses to work with the mentor or meet the program requirements and/or decides they do not want to teach, the situation is referred to MHEC NSP II for follow up and the tuition award is not continued.
Projected 2024-2025 New Cohen Scholar Awards

There is approximately $523,000.00 to award in the last year of this grant.

Awards are granted to applicants who best align with the aims and selection criteria.

The award will cover 100% of tuition and mandatory fees for the recipient’s program, beginning upon receipt of the award. It is not retroactive to completed semesters.
Cohen Scholar Grants: Limited availability

• "Grant awards have a service obligation component and are by nomination only, subject to the availability of funds and not all eligible applicants may receive an award."

• [https://nursesupport.org/nurse-support-program-ii/grants/statewide-initiatives/-cohen-scholars/](https://nursesupport.org/nurse-support-program-ii/grants/statewide-initiatives/-cohen-scholars/)
FAQs

• What is the Cohen Scholars Program?

The Cohen Scholars Program is funded by the Nurse Support Program II for students to complete the graduate degrees (MS, MSN, DNP, PhD, EdD) and core education coursework, including post-master's teaching certificates, necessary to prepare to become a nurse educator, nurse faculty or clinical educator in one of Maryland’s nursing degree programs. The Cohen Scholars are recognized as the next generation of nurse educators to fill the positions needed now and in the future and will serve as new nursing faculty and clinical educators to produce the additional nursing graduates required by Maryland’s hospitals and health systems.

• What is the maximum amount of Cohen Scholars award?

The maximum amount of the award is equal to all tuition and mandatory fees for courses in the approved nursing plan of study at Maryland public and independent colleges and universities.

• What are the eligibility criteria for the Cohen Scholars?

New nominees will be selected by the Dean or Director of nursing graduate degree programs, reviewed and recommended by faculty committees at each participating school, with Cohen Scholars mentoring plans completed. Nominees should be enrolled at a Maryland college or university as a graduate student in a Master’s of Science in Nursing (MSN) program, post-graduate certificate program in nursing education, Doctorate (PhD, DNP) program or another graduate-level program required to advance the nursing educator career path. To be eligible, nominees must agree to the plan of study, core educational coursework, mentoring plan and maintain a 3.25 cumulative GPA.
FAQs

• What is the plan of study, core educational coursework, and mentoring plan?
  1. The plan of study is the student’s coursework required to complete their degree.
  2. The core educational coursework consists of additional education courses totaling 9 credits.
  3. The mentoring plan is an individualized mentoring plan with annual progress reports. In addition, there is participation with NSP II GNF synchronous sessions and monthly mentoring meetings.
FAQs

• **Does the Cohen Scholars automatically renew each year?**
  Students who have received this award in a prior year will continue to be eligible for the full program of study if they meet the requirements, follow the mentoring plan and continue to make good progress in the program with a GPA of 3.25 or higher.

• **Does the Cohen Scholars award automatically cover changes in my plan of study?**
  Cohen Scholars will need to submit a revised plan of study. Upon approval, the revised plan of study will be covered. This is not an automatic approval.

• **How do I apply for the Cohen Scholars award?**
  Students can apply by submitting the Nomination and Sponsorship Form along with a Cohen Scholars Essay Form, which should be submitted to the Faculty mentor at psmit106@jhu.edu

• **In addition to the Cohen Scholars Nomination and Mentoring Plan Form are there any other documents that need to be completed?**
  Cohen Scholars will need to complete and notarize a Promissory Note and a Service Obligation Agreement in addition to the Cohen Scholars Nomination and Mentoring Plan.
FAQs

- After graduation whom do I contact to submit documentation that I am teaching?
  - Contact the Faculty Mentor

- If I can’t meet the service obligations am I responsible for repayment?
  - A recipient will be required to repay the Cohen Scholars tuition support received (formerly Hal and Jo Cohen GNF) if the recipient has the award revoked; fails to meet the required GPA of 3.25; fails to complete the 9 SH of education core coursework; fails to complete the appropriate degree or certificate program; fails to graduate or demonstrate professional behavior; fails to become licensed or certified as required; has a license or certification revoked during education or service; fails to complete the Cohen Scholars mentoring plan with annual updates; fails to complete the annual questionnaire on performance of service obligation; fails to perform the required service for the required amount of time; or otherwise fails to carry out the obligations of the scholarship.
Questions