

THE KATHY WELTER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

Kathy Welter was a nurse (RN) who worked on the SCI/D floor at Zablocki VAMC. Shortly after her retirement, she was unexpectedly taken from us. It is her family's wish that a self-sustaining scholarship program be set up under the auspices of the Wisconsin Paralyzed Veterans of America (WPVA). The scholarship will consist of one \$2000 scholarship to be given annually to the applicant who is the "best fit" for the following criteria. This scholarship program is geared to CNA I, CNA II, and LPN personnel who have 2 (two) or more years of work experience, currently working on or at a SCI/D floor/center and are aspiring to obtain an RN certification in the State of Wisconsin. This scholarship program also includes students who are in their final year of an RN program, recognized by the State, for acquiring RN certification and have intentions of working at a SCI/D facility.

- The applicant should be in his/her final year of an accredited RN program.

Or:

- The applicant should be working on or in an SCI/D center/floor.
- The applicant should have at least 2 (two) years of experience on a SCI/D center/floor.
- The applicant should be in the nurse-oriented sector of SCI/D rehabilitation (I.E. CNA I, II or LPN) and working toward acquiring an RN degree (or beyond).
- The applicant will be chosen on basis of financial need to obtain his/her RN degree.
- One \$2000 scholarships will be open each year for applicants working under the aforementioned conditions.
- The applicant does not have to be working at a VA (Veterans Administration) facility.
- This scholarship is open to those applicants working in a Wisconsin based SCI/D facility.
- The applicant must submit a written resume of their work record, higher education and demonstrate a financial need for the "Kathy Welter Memorial Scholarship".
- 2 (two) letters of recommendation from supervisory staff of the SCI/D center/floor will be a requirement for those currently working on such floor or letters of recommendation for potential RN candidates who have made a verbal commitment to work in the nursing field of a SCI/D facility. (These letters may be from their instructors or clinical supervisors.)
- A plan of study (whether it is from a technical or traditional college) should be submitted with the application for acquiring this scholarship.
- **Applications must be submitted by March 1** of each year and recipients will be notified of the awards so they may receive their scholarship award at the WPVA membership meeting in April (4th Tuesday of the month).
- All submitted applications shall be reviewed by the WPVA Education Committee after the March 1 cutoff date is reached (Committee consists of WPVA members and supervisory staff members of the SCI/D profession).
- All decisions are final and all applications become property of WPVA. All submitted applications are kept confidential. If an applicant does not receive the award in any given year, he/she may reapply in following years.

Any questions or requests for clarification and/or additional information concerning the application form should be addressed to the Chairperson of the WPVA Education Committee. WPVA wishes you the best of luck!

Kathy Welter Memorial Scholarship Application

The husband and sons of Kathy Welter to honor her memory created this Nursing Scholarship. Kathy was a Nurse Manager on the Spinal Cord Injury Unit of the Zablocki VA Medical Center. Per their request, the Wisconsin Paralyzed Veterans of America administers this program.

Kathy Welter as a Spinal Cord injury nurse gained the admiration, respect, and love of her patients through hard work, dedication, and a genuine desire to make a positive difference. Kathy was not glitz and glamour, she was a “get your hands dirty and let’s get the job done” kind of person. She was a non-traditional nurse in that she had the heart and soul of an artist, was a bit of a maverick, and marched to the beat of her own drummer. The bottom line is that she got the job done, and done right.

The Wisconsin Paralyzed Veterans of America (WPVA) is pleased to announce that we are accepting applications for the annual Kathy Welter Memorial Scholarship Award. **One \$2000 Scholarship** will be offered to nursing students enrolled in an accredited nursing program based in Wisconsin. In return, WPVA asks that the recipient seek employment in a Spinal Cord Injury Unit or in a Rehabilitation facility for one (1) year, to be completed within a three (3) year period after graduation.

To apply for the scholarship you must meet the following criteria:

- Be enrolled in an NLN accredited nursing program.
- Attending a Wisconsin based University or Nursing training program.
- Demonstrate a need for financial aid.
- Be willing to seek employment in a Spinal Cord Injury Unit or Rehabilitation facility.
- Complete the application by the deadline given.

Mail completed application to:

Wisconsin Paralyzed Veterans of America
WPVA Scholarship Committee
2311 South 108th Street
West Allis, Wisconsin 53227-1901

Kathy Welter Memorial Scholarship Application

Name: _____

Current Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Permanent Address: _____

Telephone # Home: _____

Work: _____

School of Nursing: _____

Date of Graduation (estimated): _____

Approximate GPA (Using 4.0 scale): _____

Marital Status: _____

Dependents: _____

RECORD OF EMPLOYMENT

<u>Name of Company</u>	<u>From/To</u>	<u>Job Description</u>
1.		
2.		
3.		

Community involvement or activities: _____

School extracurricular activities: _____

Briefly explain your plans for financing your education, and your need for the Kathy Welter Memorial Scholarship:

Additional comments you may wish to offer for use in evaluating your application [include your long term nursing goals and objectives]:

Supply two letters of reference with your application. References should be people familiar with your scholastic achievement, work performance, and/or both [Family members not accepted as references]. Comments should include your academic performance, leadership, career potential, and any other points regarding your qualifications for this scholarship.

I hereby certify that all of the information given is true and correct:

(Signature)

(Date)

All information and related documents will be kept confidential and used for screening purposes only. Recipients will be notified by mail.

- If necessary use back of each page to complete your response.



Gary Welter, his son, Nick, and WPVA President, Phillip Rosenberg present a Kathy Welter scholarship to the 2007 Award Recipient.