

**RSA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

**Applicant Information**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Last First M.I.*

SC Student ID# \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*SC Email Address Personal Email Address*

Current Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street Address*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*City State Zip Code*

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street Address*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*City State Zip Code*

HomePhone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone#: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate #: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

- Current RC Student? YES  NO
- Applied to RC Program? YES  NO
- Accepted to RC Program? YES  NO

RC start date (semester first enrolled in classes Semester/Year): \_\_\_\_\_

Graduate GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ Undergraduate GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you currently receive or plan to receive:

- |                             |                                 |                                |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Financial Aid             | YES<br><input type="checkbox"/> | NO<br><input type="checkbox"/> |
| • GI Bill                   | YES<br><input type="checkbox"/> | NO<br><input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Tuition Assistance/Waiver | YES<br><input type="checkbox"/> | NO<br><input type="checkbox"/> |

Other Scholarships/Funding i.e. Americorps, Fellowship/Assistantship (Please explain) :

\_\_\_\_\_

Relevant Experience (paid/unpaid) :

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### References/Alternative Contacts

Full Name: (closest relative) \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alternate Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_  
Full Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alternate Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_  
Full Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alternate Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_  
Full Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Disclaimer and Signature**

*I certify that I am eligible to receive an RSA scholarship and that the information in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that inaccurate information may affect my ability to receive an RSA scholarship. If this application leads to award/receipt of the scholarship, I understand that false or misleading information in my application or interview may result in my removal from the scholarship program.*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Personal Information**

This information is **voluntary**. It will not be used when considering you for the RSA Scholar Program.

**Racial or Ethnic Group:**

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaskan | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Pacific Islander | <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino         | <input type="checkbox"/> White/Caucasian        | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____           |

**Sex/Gender:**

- |                                 |                               |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Female | <input type="checkbox"/> Male |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|

**Military Service**

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Active           | <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disabled Veteran | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

**Do you have a disability?**

- |                              |                             |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|

If yes, please explain:

**How did you hear about this scholarship opportunity?**

- |  |                                    |   |
|--|------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Email           | <input type="checkbox"/> Professor | <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Publication |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate Fellow | <input type="checkbox"/> Website   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____              |

**Application Submission Instructions:**

1. Complete RSA Scholarship Application form
2. Attach current Resumé
3. Attach Statement of Interest addressing the following questions –**Please describe your interest in rehabilitation counseling, specifically vocational rehabilitation, as well as your goals and objectives in becoming an RSA Scholar. Please describe what specific knowledge, skills, abilities, and attitudes you would bring to being an RSA Scholar in this program. (3 pages max).**
4. Submit all application materials to the RSA Program Director c/o: Dr. Kathleen Green at [kgreen5@springfieldcollege.edu](mailto:kgreen5@springfieldcollege.edu). Email submissions should contain “RSA Scholar Application” in the subject line. Hard copies of applications may be delivered to Dr. Green’s mailbox in Locklin Hall.

Note: This application is only for the RSA Scholar program. Acceptance to the Rehabilitation Counseling Program at Springfield College is required prior to admission to the RSA Scholar program.

*If you are a person with a disability and need accommodations for completing the application process including alternative formats, please contact the RC Program Director at 413-748-3566 or [kgreen5@springfieldcollege.edu](mailto:kgreen5@springfieldcollege.edu).*

A recipient of a scholarship under the RSA Long-Term Training Program shall obtain employment subject to the work-or-repay provisions of Federal statutes and regulations in a state vocational rehabilitation agency or related agency. Scholars **MUST** sign and acknowledge understanding of the Payback Agreement and must sign Exit Certification before leaving the program for any reason. Accepted scholars must attend a mandatory orientation session which will outline all provisions of accepting the grant.

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### **RSA SCHOLARSHIP SUMMARY**

Established in 1954, the Rehabilitation Training Program is one of the oldest existing federal training grant assistance programs. The Rehabilitation Training Program's purpose is to:

- a. Increase the supply of qualified personnel available for employment in the public rehabilitation program, which includes the state-federal program of vocational rehabilitation, federally funded independent living centers, and providers of services to state agencies and independent living centers and programs.
- b. Maintain and upgrade skills and knowledge of personnel employed in the public rehabilitation program.

Rehabilitation training grants are awarded to ensure that skilled staff is available to provide the broad scope of services required by clients of the state-federal programs of vocational rehabilitation, supported employment, and independent living. The Rehabilitation Long-Term Training (RLTT) program provides financial assistance to states, public and nonprofit agencies and organizations, including institutions of higher education (IHEs), to fund projects that provide academic training to scholars leading to a degree or certificate in various fields of rehabilitation. Upon completing the program, scholars who receive funding through the RLTT program must work two years for every year of scholarship support received. The scholar payback provisions can be found in the program regulations 34 CFR 386.

The major purpose of the RSA scholarship award is to increase the supply of highly qualified rehabilitation personnel available for employment as rehabilitation counselors in public and private nonprofit agencies involved in the vocational rehabilitation of individuals with disabilities. These scholarships are made available through a federal grant from Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), United States Department of Education. Scholarships are available to graduate students enrolled in the SC RC master's degree program. Awards are based upon an appropriate match of a person's career objectives in relation to the purpose of the scholarship program. Persons receiving a scholarship must:

- document United States residency or citizenship status;
- state an interest in a career in the vocational rehabilitation of individuals with disabilities;
- agree to the requirement to complete an internship in an approved Vocational Rehabilitation agency;
- agree to the employment obligation described in this summary;
- not be in default on a debt to the federal government under a non-procurement transaction;
- not be declared by a judge (under the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988) ineligible to receive federal assistance;
- be a graduate student in the RMHC program;
- maintain a grade point average of 3.0 or above;
- maintain satisfactory progress toward completing the degree requirements; and
- meet program matriculation and retention policies.

The typical length of time for which the RSA Scholarships is awarded is 2 years. All awards are contingent upon the program's receipt of an annual award of an RSA Long-Term Training Grant. Should a grant award be received by Springfield College, award levels for individual

Last Name:

Date:

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RSA Scholarships and Stipends are dependent on the number of qualified applicants, the need demonstrated by these applicants, and the level of funding.

**A. Internship Requirement:**

The scholar will complete at least 300 hours of their 600 hour internship in an approved Vocational Rehabilitation or related agency as a requirement for this scholarship. The following information outlines the terms and conditions of your employment obligation if you should receive an RSA scholarship.

**B. Employment Obligation:**

- a. The scholar will obtain and maintain employment -- in a state rehabilitation agency or in a nonprofit rehabilitation agency or related agency, including a professional corporation or professional practice group through which the individual has a service arrangement with the designated state rehabilitation agency -- on a full or part-time basis for a period of not less than the full-time equivalent of two years for each year for which a scholarship is received. The work requirements for portions of an academic year are prorated.
- b. After completion of the training for which the scholarship is awarded, the employment obligation must be met within a period of not more than the sum of the number of years in the period described in item one and two additional years. If the degree is not completed, the student is considered to be in repayment status
- c. The employment obligation as applied to a part-time scholar is based on the accumulated academic years of training for which the scholarship is received.
- d. Until the scholar has been notified that s/he has satisfied the employment obligation described in item one, or has entered repayment status, the scholar will inform the Springfield College Rehabilitation Counseling program of any change of name, address, or employment status and will document employment satisfying the terms of the agreement.
- e. Subject to the provisions regarding deferral or repayment exception, when the scholar enters repayment status, the amount of the scholarship that has not been retired through eligible employment will constitute –
  - a. a debt owed the United States that will be repaid by the scholar, including interest and costs of collection; and
  - b. may be collected by the Secretary of Education by any means permitted in federal law for the collection of debts, in the case of the scholar's failure to meet the obligation.

**C. Deferral/Repayment Exception:**

Deferral or repayment exception to the above may be granted, in whole or part, by the Secretary of the Department of Education as follows:

1. Repayment is not required if the scholar –
  - a. is unable to continue the course of study or perform the work obligation because

Last Name:

Date:

- 
- of an impairment that is expected to continue indefinitely or result in death; or
- b. has died.
2. Repayment of a scholarship may be deferred during the time the scholar is –
    - a. engaging in a full-time course of study at an institution of higher education;
    - b. serving, not in excess of three years, on active duty as a member of the armed services of the United States;
    - c. serving as a volunteer under the Peace Corps Act;
    - d. serving as a full-time volunteer under Title I of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973;
    - e. temporarily totally disabled, for a period not to exceed three years; or
    - f. unable to secure employment as required by the agreement by reason of the care provided to a disabled spouse for a period not to exceed twelve months.
  3. Written application must be made to the Secretary to request a deferral or exception to performance or repayment of a scholarship. Documentation must be provided to substantiate the grounds for deferral or exception.

**D. Failure to Meet Obligation:**

In the event of failure to meet the terms and conditions of a scholarship agreement or to obtain a deferral or exception, the scholar shall repay all or part of the scholarship.

1. Amount: The amount of scholarship to be repaid is proportional to the employment obligation not completed.
2. Interest Rate: The Secretary of Education charges the scholar interest on the unpaid balance owed in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 3717.
3. Interest Accrual:
  - a. Interest on the unpaid balance accrues from the date the scholar is determined to have entered repayment status.
  - b. Any accrued interest is capitalized at the time the scholar's repayment schedule is established.
  - c. No interest is charged for the period of time during which repayment has been deferred.
4. Collection Costs: The Secretary of Education may impose reasonable collection costs.
5. Repayment Status: A scholar enters repayment status on the first day of the first calendar month after the earliest of the following dates, as applicable:
  - a. The date the scholar informs the Secretary he or she does not plan to fulfill the employment obligation under the agreement.
  - b. Any date when the scholar's failure to begin or maintain employment makes it impossible for that individual to complete the employment obligation within the number of years required.
6. Amounts and Frequency of Payment: The scholar shall make payments to the Secretary that cover principal, interest, and collection costs according to a schedule established by the Secretary.

NOTE: Agreement is Subject to Change. Policies, regulations and procedures established by the Rehabilitation Services Administration, governing the scholarship, take precedence. The Springfield College is not responsible to provide scholarships to students should this Federal funding be withdrawn.

**Questions:** Please contact the RSA Program Director, Dr. Kathleen Green, at [kgreen5@springfieldcollege.edu](mailto:kgreen5@springfieldcollege.edu)



Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Acknowledgement of Receipt of RSA Scholarship Requirements**

*I certify that I have received a copy of the RSA Scholarship Requirements and that I understand the requirements. If I am awarded an RSA Scholarship, I understand that I will be subject to its terms and conditions as described in the RSA Scholarship application.*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**PROGRAM  
ADMINISTRATOR  
NOTES**

Date Application Received: \_\_\_\_\_ By Whom: \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship Awarded:

Yes

No

Other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Start Date (1<sup>st</sup> day of semester): \_\_\_\_\_

Assigned Project Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes/Status: