



**AVERA ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL
Pierre, SD**

MEDICAL ASSISTANT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Avera St. Mary's has created a program to enable and assist students pursuing education in a healthcare vocation of Medical Assisting in areas that have been designated as hard to fill positions in the Avera St. Mary's region.

The scholarships will begin to be awarded starting November 1, 2025 for the 2025-2026 school year:

**Medical Assistant \$10,000 Scholarship Maximum,
awarded over no longer than a 2-year school period.**

Within 6 months of graduation, student must pass his/her certification or registration from a national organization as defined on the Avera St. Mary's job description and also be a registered Medical Assistant with the SD Board of Medical Examiners, and shall commit to becoming a full-time employee of the Avera St. Mary's region in a Medical Assistant role. Students receiving financial assistance are committed to 3 years of full-time employment in a designated need role. If a student is not selected for a position or a position is not available at the time of graduation, the financial assistance will be needed to be repaid in monthly installments plus accrued interest. If the employee leaves employment, reduces employment status, or transfers out of the designated role prior to the full commitment period, the employee shall reimburse the employer for the financial assistance received within 30 days plus any accrued interest.

Recipients of the scholarship program will also be eligible for Tuition Assistance if currently employed in a benefit eligible role with Avera St. Mary's. Reimbursement as follows:

- Part-time employees: \$1,500 annual maximum reimbursement
- Full-time employees: \$3,000 annual maximum reimbursement

**Application Deadline: Award cycle begins September 1, 2025
and continues until all scholarships are awarded.**

**Application requests or questions can be made through
e-mailing kathryn.haarstad@avera.org**

4. Education History: High School, College

<u>School</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Attendance Dates</u>
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Please attach a transcript of your most recent educational experience and your GPA.

5. Employment Record:

<u>Business/Contact Person</u>	<u>Address/Phone #:</u>	<u>Dates:</u>
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6. List Honors, Awards and Recognition you have received: _____

7. List Extra-Curricular Activities and Interests (i.e. athletics, dramatics, music clubs and community service): _____

8. Describe why you want to become a Medical Assistant:

9. Submit two sealed letters of professional recommendation from an employer or an educational professional.

Statement of Intent and Agreement:

If I am awarded a scholarship by Avera St. Mary's, it is my intention to complete my education as outlined and to serve as a member of the profession for which I am preparing myself. I also agree to immediately inform Avera St. Mary's about discontinuing or postponing my program/degree. I agree that this application and all credentials submitted by me or others on my behalf will remain the property of Avera St. Mary's.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Submit this complete application and attachments requested under question 4 and 9 to:

**Avera St. Mary's Hospital
Attn: Kat Haarstad, Talent Ambassador
801 East Sioux Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501**