

F.A. DAVIS ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF SPRING 2024 NURSING & HEALTH SCIENCE SCHOLARSHIPS

Philadelphia, PA, May 2024: F.A. Davis is delighted to announce the winners of its Spring 2024 Nursing and Health Science scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students. Awards of \$1,000.00 will be made to **Jose Mendoza**, a nursing student working toward his LPN/LVN degree at Tulare Adult School, **Mariana Jimenez**, a nursing student pursuing a bachelor's degree at Miami Dade College, and **Phong Pham**, a Physical Therapy student pursuing a doctoral degree at A.T. Still University. During these unprecedented and challenging times, they exemplify the commitment of today's students to improving the quality of healthcare for all of us and to giving back to the communities that have supported them on their journeys.



Jose Mendoza is a 26-year-old student pursuing an LPN/LVN degree at Tulare Adult School. CA. Growing up, his mother would share stories about her time as nurse, and her son developed a curiosity about and passion for the field. He has faced adversity from the start of his life. He was born prematurely and lived in the NICU for months before going home. His father died unexpectedly weeks after he was accepted into nursing school, and then a few weeks later, his mother was diagnosed with cancer. He hopes to use this scholarship to enable him to continue focusing on his schooling and to become an inspiration to others as his mother was to him.

"I may not ever obtain superhuman abilities, but being a nurse is the closest thing to being a superhero in my eyes. I am seeking this scholarship to aid my family and... to carry on a little boy's dream of one day being an everyday hero. I was born prematurely and ... for many months, I relied on an incubator to survive... I have developed a deep appreciation for life, my family, and the medical field. Since that traumatic event in the early days of my life, I have felt a sense of purpose—to one day bring life to others, just as I was given the opportunity to live. I am a dream chaser, a go-getter who does not give up when faced with adversity. Unfortunately, life presents us with obstacles and challenges that we must overcome.my father passed away unexpectedly a few weeks after I informed him of my acceptance [to nursing school. ... a few months later I was faced with a second

obstacle. My mother was diagnosed with cancer. These events not only had a profound emotional impact on me, but also affected my ability to secure enough funding to continue pursuing my journey. That brings me to the last quality that I will always carry with me: the quality to always strive to be the best version of myself for my family. It is the least I can do for how much they sacrificed in their lives for me to keep fighting for my dreams. With your help, F.A. Davis, I will be able to not only keep fighting for my dream but also fulfill my purpose in life.”



Mariana Jimenez is a 40-year-old student at Miami Dade College pursuing her BSN degree. She arrived in the U.S. in 2008 as a single mother with her then two-year-old daughter, Ana, seeking a better quality of life for her family. A stark reminder that life is fleeting, she once fell asleep on the side of the road during the commute from her job to school, exhausted from overtime work and studying. This scholarship will bring her one step closer to her career goals, building on her ability to remain positive in the face of adversity.

“Choosing a healthcare career wasn't just a decision for me; it was a calling deeply rooted in my journey and experiences. As a first-generation college student, every step I've taken toward my career has been a testament to perseverance and determination. My journey began when I earned my Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) in 2019. This achievement was not only a milestone for me but also a beacon of hope for my family. I am currently pursuing my Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN), driven by a desire to expand my knowledge and skills, particularly in high-acuity care. Volunteering has always been a significant part of my life. Giving back to the community and sharing my knowledge with others brings me immense fulfillment. It's not just about providing care; it's about making a meaningful difference in people's lives. My short-term goal is to gain experience in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU). This environment challenges me to think critically, act swiftly, and provide the highest level of care to patients in their most vulnerable moments. Looking ahead, my long-term goal is to become a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) within the next five years. Why a CRNA? Despite facing countless obstacles, I've never lost hope or stopped believing in myself. I've learned to remain calm and adapt to unexpected situations, qualities essential in the demanding field of anesthesia. Healthcare is dynamic and ever-changing, requiring professionals to think on their feet and adjust to new situations quickly. My ability to remain calm under pressure and adapt to unexpected circumstances will serve me well in any healthcare setting. Compassion is at the heart of everything I do. Lastly, dedication fuels my drive to excel in healthcare. I am committed to continuous learning and self-improvement, always seeking opportunities to expand my knowledge and skills. Whether it's

pursuing further education or volunteering in my community, I am dedicated to making a positive impact in the lives of others. As a first-generation college student, I've overcome obstacles with perseverance, adaptability, compassion, and dedication. With my sights set on becoming a CRNA, I am confident that these qualities will continue to guide me toward success in the ever-evolving field of healthcare.”



Phong “Scotty” Pham is 28-year-old first generation student at A.T. Still University studying to become a Doctor of Physical Therapy. His parents emigrated to the U.S. from Vietnam during the Vietnam War, determined to give him a better life. This scholarship will help him continue his education and make his family proud.

“As I stand at the intersection of my past and present, I am filled with gratitude for the journey that has brought me to where I am today. My path has been shaped by perseverance, a thirst for knowledge, and a deep-rooted desire to make a meaningful impact on the world. My story begins with humble origins. Born into a low socioeconomic family of Vietnamese immigrants, my parents’ journey to the United States began during the Vietnam War. My family’s desire for a better life placed them on a boat over capacity across the Pacific Ocean and to a new land full of opportunities, growth, and a future... My parents worked tirelessly in mushroom factories when they first arrived in the States... Despite their limited education, they instilled in me the importance of hard work and determination. Growing up, it was their sacrifices that became the foundation of my ambition. I graduated from Florida State University with a bachelor’s degree in Exercise Physiology, making me the first in my family to achieve such a milestone. My journey has fueled a profound sense of responsibility to be a voice for those who have been underrepresented for far too long. As a member of the LGBTQIA+ community and a Vietnamese-American, I envision myself as a symbol of inclusion and acceptance who challenges the status quo, advocating for improved access to quality care and promoting cultural sensitivity. Through my journey, I aim to bridge the gap between diverse communities and the healthcare system, breaking down barriers and fostering an environment where all individuals feel heard and valued. Whether it is through patient care, research, teaching, or community outreach, I am committed to making a positive and substantial difference. I am ready to embrace the challenges and opportunities ahead, driven by the unwavering belief that healthcare can be a patient-centered source of hope, compassion, and inclusivity.”

The scholarship application process was open to students pursuing undergraduate or graduate degrees or certifications in most of the leading nursing and health science specialties. Applicants were required to be enrolled in an accredited program for the Spring 2024 semester, students in good standing with an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher, and U.S. or Canadian citizens, legal residents, or holders of a valid student visa. Each completed an application form and submitted proof of enrollment as well as a short introduction and essay. Information about future scholarships will be announced on F.A. Davis's web and social media sites.

About F.A. Davis

Headquartered in Philadelphia, the city of its founding in 1879, F.A. Davis is an independent, family-owned publisher of teaching and learning solutions for nursing and health sciences. The breadth and depth of their print, digital, and online resources across disciplines and specialties provides a firm foundation on which to build for the future. From flagship titles like *Taber's Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary* to online, adaptive online platforms like *Davis Advantage* and *Medical Language Lab*, the company is dedicated to developing innovative products empowered by the technology that is changing how students are learning, instructors are teaching, and professionals are practicing.

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