



2010
AzHIMA MERIT SCHOLARSHIP



To: AzHIMA Members
From: 2010 Awards & Scholarship Committee
Date: February, 2010
Subject: 2010 AzHIMA Merit Scholarship

In a few short months the 69th AzHIMA Annual Convention will convene at the Tempe Mission Palms, Tempe, Arizona. This is a time to recognize and honor the merit of our future HIM professionals along with the state leaders of our profession.

The Merit Scholarships are awarded annually to HIT/HIA students for academic excellence, leadership and volunteer effort. In this packet you will find eligibility requirements and guidelines for submitting an application for the AzHIMA Merit Scholarship. This information will also be available for printing or downloading online at the AzHIMA website www.azhima.org.

Scholarship recipients will be notified prior to the convention and receive formal invitation and recognition at the Awards & Scholarship Presentation during the Convention Dinner. Come join us in Tempe and see our future HIM professionals along with your current leaders in the HIM profession!

2009-2010 AzHIMA Awards & Scholarship Committee

Arizona Health Information Management Association

MERIT SCHOLARSHIP

The Arizona Health Information Management Association offers merit scholarships, with the support in part from fundraising efforts, to outstanding undergraduate students pursuing a degree in health information management and health information management professionals pursuing graduate degrees to further their degree in Health Information Technology and Health Information Management.

This scholarship program acknowledges and rewards HIT/HIM students for academic excellence, leadership, and volunteer effort. Recognition of these students will encourage them to continue professional growth through active participation in the association.

Up to FOUR (4) \$500 scholarships will be awarded to qualified applicants enrolled in one of the following:

- a program of health information management/technology accredited by CAHIIM.
- or*
- a college or university accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency and pursuing a bachelor's degree or higher in a program related to health information management.

Eligibility Requirements

- Applicant *must* be:
 - a resident of Arizona;
 - a member of AHIMA/AzHIMA;
 - enrolled in an accredited Health Information Technology or Health Information Administration Program
 - registered and attending a minimum of one (1) class
- Applicant *must* have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0
- Applicant should demonstrate involvement in the AzHIMA community through (examples of involvement may include):
 - Attendance at AzHIMA association meetings
 - Service in AzHIMA committees
 - Employment in the HIM field
 - Participation in school activities
 - Volunteer work (AzHIMA committee participation)

Application Guidelines

- All applications *MUST* include:
 - Completed application form
 - Verification of enrollment
 - Letters from two references. References may be from educators, employers, or other health information professionals (no more than one letter may be from an instructor).
 - Current Transcript documenting completion of most recent semester (*official transcripts are not required, but are encouraged*)
 - Mail application materials to:
 - AzHIMA
 - Attn: Awards & Scholarship Committee
 - 10221 N. 32nd St., Suite D
 - Phoenix, Arizona 85028
- Previous scholarship recipients may not reapply.

Selection Criteria

- Each scholarship application will be reviewed by the Awards & Scholarship Committee. The committee reviews applications based on the following criteria, in order of importance:
 - Grade Point Average and Academic Achievement
 - Volunteer and Work Experience
 - Commitment to the HIM Profession
 - Clarity of Application

Notification

- Scholarship recipients will be notified prior to the AzHIMA Annual Convention and Exhibit
- Scholarship recipients will receive recognition at the Awards and Scholarship Presentation during the convention.

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MERIT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

To be considered for the Merit Scholarship, applicants MUST complete ALL three (3) sections.

Applications must be postmarked prior to April 15th 2010 to be considered.

SECTION ONE

APPLICANT INFORMATION

First Last

Address

City State Zip Code

Daytime Phone E-mail AHIMA ID Number (required)

CURRENT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

School Telephone

Program Enrolled In: HIT Program HIA Program

Please Check One: Part-time Student Full-time Student

Date Studies Began Expected Graduation Date

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SECTION TWO

This section MUST be typed, single space and include headings and sub-headings for each of the two items.

1. EXPERIENCE—Professional and/or Volunteer

- a. **Current Employment** (*a current resume may be submitted in place of this section*)
 - i. Employer
 - ii. Address
 - iii. Supervisor
 - iv. Length of Employment
 - v. Job Responsibilities
- b. **Professional and/or Volunteer Experience**
 - i. What skills have you gained in your past or present employment that has prepared you for a position in the HIM field?
 - ii. Describe your involvement in local, state, or national HIM association and volunteer activities. Explain your role in each (i.e., served on committee, organized event, attended event, and the like).
 - iii. Describe all other volunteer experiences and community activities you participate in, which you feel better prepare you for a career in Him.

2. STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES

- a. Why have you chosen a career in health information management?
- b. What do you see as current or upcoming challenges in the field of HIM? What changes do you see happening in the field in order to meet these challenges?
- c. What are your long-term professional goals?

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SECTION THREE

PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

(To be completed and signed by the HIT/HIM Program Director)

This is to verify that _____, an applicant for the

AzHIMA Merit Scholarship, is accepted for enrollment in the health information program at

Name of College or University

Anticipated date of degree completion _____.

This school is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM).

Name of Program Director (please print)

Date

Signature of Program Director

College or University

Telephone

Email Address