



BIRTHWISE MIDWIFERY SCHOOL

Teaching the Art & Science of Midwifery Since 1994

The Midwives of Color and the Underserved Communities Scholarship Application

With the goal of increasing the numbers of midwives of color and midwives serving other distinct and underserved communities, Birthwise Midwifery School offers two scholarships designed to reduce the financial barriers to education for these prospective midwives. Birthwise would like to play a small part in making midwifery training, and ultimately midwifery care, more accessible to the people who need it most.

The two scholarships, **Midwives of Color** and **Underserved Communities**, consist of a tuition reduction and stipends for books and materials. The applicants' financial needs and their award amount is determined based on information generated by the Federal Application for Financial Student Aid (FAFSA) application. The tuition reduction is designed to eliminate out-of-pocket tuition costs above what the applicant is eligible to receive in Federal Financial Aid.

Applicants must apply for this scholarship by April 15 of any given year and up to 5 new recipients are chosen each year. Once awarded, the scholarships apply to each subsequent semester that the student is enrolled at least half time at Birthwise.

Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants without a prior college degree must be eligible for a Federal Pell Grant as determined in the FAFSA application process.
- Applicants with a prior college degree (Bachelor's, Master's, or Doctorate) must demonstrate financial need through the FAFSA application process.
- Scholarship application forms must be submitted by April 15 of any given year.
- Current students may apply for this scholarship by April 15 of any year while enrolled at Birthwise and if awarded it would apply to all future semesters.

For those who cannot complete a FAFSA, please contact the Financial Aid office.

Recipients of this scholarship must meet the following criteria. Applicants must:

- a) Identify as a person of color, and/or
- b) Be a member of a distinct and underserved community with the intention to serve that community upon graduation.

- c) Meet all the admission requirements as outlined in the Birthwise catalog and be admitted to the midwifery program.
- d) Maintain satisfactory academic progress, as outlined in the Student Handbook, in order to continue receiving the scholarship.
- e) Have proficiency in the English language.

Application Process

- Please fill out the application form below.
- Write a 2-4 page double-spaced essay addressing the statements and questions below.
- Return both to Birthwise by **APRIL 15th** at admissions@birthwisemidwifery.edu

Student Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Scholarship applying for: MOC ____ Underserved communities ____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please address the following in an essay:

- Describe how you meet the above eligibility criteria.
- Describe any life experiences that you feel have prepared you well to be a successful midwifery student and practicing midwife.
- If you are applying for the Underserved Communities scholarship, describe how your community would benefit from a trained midwife such as yourself.
- What are your professional midwifery goals, how do those goals relate to your community, and how do you imagine accomplishing them?
- How will receiving this scholarship assist you with your goal of becoming a midwife?
