

Courage Center presents

## The EMPOWER Scholarship

Providing financial assistance to  
tomorrow's health care professionals.



3915 Golden Valley Road  
Minneapolis, MN 55422

763.588.0811

[www.CourageCenter.org](http://www.CourageCenter.org)

## EMPOWER

Encourage Minority Participation in Occupations  
With Emphasis on Rehabilitation

## Overview

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The demand for health care professionals working in rehabilitation continues to grow due to an aging population and technological advances that allow for survival after serious accidents and illnesses. In fact, according to the Minnesota Department of Trade and Economic Development, rehabilitation-related careers will be one of the fastest-growing occupations during the next few years. Despite increased demand, the number of graduates in these programs is not expected to keep up with needs.

Recognizing the importance of ethnically diverse students entering this field, Courage Center offers the EMPOWER Scholarship. Administered by Courage Center through a Scholarship Committee, EMPOWER encourages and supports ethnically diverse students pursuing a career in the medical or rehabilitation field. Funds are made available through the David M. Hersey Endowment Fund.

*“The EMPOWER Scholarship helped pay for class credits. I felt helpful when working with clients and I learned to listen to the client’s preferences and individual needs that might not have been apparent in a book.*

*You learn a lot about health care professionals, clients and the work environment.”*

— H Yen Nguyen,  
EMPOWER Scholarship Winner

EMPOWER applicants must identify how they will use their educational training and demonstrate their interest in this field. Selection is based on the applicants’ intentions, achievements and need, rather than solely on graduation ranking.

Courage Center is a nonprofit rehabilitation and resource center that advances the lives of children and adults experiencing barriers to health and independence. At Courage Center, we specialize in treating brain injury, spinal cord injury, stroke, chronic pain, autism, and disabilities experienced since birth. Founded in 1928, Minneapolis-based Courage Center offers advanced technologies and innovation provided in part through the efforts of thousands of volunteers and donors.

## Eligibility and Scholarship Information

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- EMPOWER Scholarships are open to ethnically diverse students accepted to or enrolled in a higher learning institution.
- Applicants must be a Minnesota or western Wisconsin (i.e. St. Croix, Pierce, Polk, Burnett counties) resident.
- Volunteer involvement in the community is required. Applicants must have demonstrated interest in medical or rehabilitation field by having some volunteer involvement related to a healthcare field.
- A minimum GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale is required.

You may fill out the enclosed application or download it from the Courage Center web site at [www.CourageCenter.org](http://www.CourageCenter.org), click on Volunteer and then the EMPOWER Scholarship link. Fill it out in its entirety, and send the application and the following items by the deadline:

- Two letters of personal recommendation; one must come from a Coordinator of Volunteers and should include hours worked
- Most recent transcript, grade or progress report
- Copy of school acceptance letter if you are a new student or transferring to a new school.

All correspondence and information should be obtained from and submitted to:

### Courage Center

Volunteer Services

3915 Golden Valley Road

Minneapolis, MN 55422

Attn: EMPOWER Scholarship Committee

Phone: 763.520.0214

E-mail: [empower@CourageCenter.org](mailto:empower@CourageCenter.org)

Web: [www.CourageCenter.org](http://www.CourageCenter.org);

click on Volunteer and then

the EMPOWER Scholarship link

## Deadline

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- Annual deadline for applications is May 15
- Scholarships are awarded annually in June
- Checks will be made out to the educational institution