

F.A. DAVIS ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF FALL 2025 NURSING & HEALTH SCIENCE SCHOLARSHIPS

Philadelphia, PA, December 2025: F.A. Davis is delighted to announce the winners of its Fall 2025 nursing and health science scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students. Awards of \$1,000.00 will be given to **Judith Tisselin**, a nursing student pursuing an LPN/LVN certificate at Orange Technical College, **Germain Walker**, a nursing student pursuing an associate degree at Abraham Baldwin Agriculture College, **Shaniya Sauders**, a physical therapy student pursuing a doctoral degree at Temple University, and **Ariba Rizvi**, a student in the physician's assistant program pursuing a master's degree at Stony Brook 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.



Judith Tisselin is a 41-year-old student at Orange Technical College pursuing an LPN/LVN certification. Growing up in Haiti, she witnessed the devastating effects of poverty and limited access to healthcare on families and communities. Educating young people about STIs and HIV prevention in Haiti and her work now as a home caregiver reinforced her compassion, patience, and understanding of the importance of individualized, holistic care. This scholarship will enable her to continue her education and reach her goal of becoming a registered nurse specializing in pediatric or women's health to educate families, promote preventive health practices, and advocate for accessible and equitable healthcare services.

"Growing up in Haiti, I witnessed the devastating effects of poverty and limited access to healthcare on families and communities. These experiences deeply influenced my decision to pursue a career in nursing and strengthened my commitment to improving health outcomes for underserved populations. My professional goal is to become a registered nurse specializing in pediatric or women's health. I am particularly drawn to these fields because they allow me to care for mothers and children—two populations that are often the most vulnerable yet hold the greatest potential to shape healthier

communities. I aspire to work in underserved areas where I can educate families, promote preventive health practices, and advocate for accessible and equitable healthcare services. Ultimately, I hope to contribute to breaking the cycle of poor health outcomes that disproportionately affects disadvantaged populations.”



Germain Raeshon Walker is a 19-year-old student pursuing an associate degree to become a registered nurse at Abraham Baldwin Agriculture College. As a first-generation college student, he witnessed fear, stigma, and misunderstanding around medicine which inspired him to pursue nursing. Driven by his personal experiences, he plans to use his skills to become a registered nurse specializing in community health and addiction recovery, using his lived experience to advocate for healing, connection, and equitable care.

“Growing up in a family where no one had ever gone to college, I always felt the weight of expectations—not to succeed, but to stay the same. What inspired me most to pursue nursing was the stigma my family carried toward medicine. They believed hospitals were places where people went to die, not to heal. They distrusted doctors, avoided treatment, and saw healthcare professionals as cold and uncaring. I saw the fear in their eyes — fear rooted in misunderstanding, trauma, and generational pain. I wanted to be the person who could bridge that gap. I wanted to be the nurse who listens, who explains, who advocates, and who earns trust one patient at a time.

I’ve already earned my CNA license through Wiregrass Tech, completed my core prerequisites, and gained hands-on clinical experience. I’m not just dreaming about becoming a nurse — I’m actively building the foundation. With this scholarship, I will continue my education, deepen my clinical skills, and eventually become a registered nurse who specializes in community health and addiction recovery. I will be the nurse who breaks cycles, builds trust, and reminds people — especially those who’ve been forgotten — that healing is possible.”



Shaniya Saunders is a 24-year-old student pursuing a doctoral degree in physical therapy at Temple University. Witnessing how limited healthcare affected family members, Shaniya is driven by a belief that healthcare should be a universal right. During her studies, she has focused on leadership and advocacy by creating supportive spaces for underrepresented student and promoting visibility in healthcare. She plans to use this scholarship to earn her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree and work in community-based settings to help underserved populations health and thrive.

"Growing up in a small town like Atlantic City, New Jersey, I saw firsthand how limited access to healthcare affected people I loved most. Living with my grandparents, I watched them navigate long waits, travel outside the city for appointments, and often go without needed services because local clinics were under-resourced or unaffordable. What struck me most was how these barriers didn't just impact health but how they affected independence, dignity, and quality of life. Seeing this taught me early on that healthcare should never be a privilege reserved for those with the right insurance or proximity; it should be a right available to everyone."

"Receiving this scholarship would not only help ease the financial challenges of pursuing my Doctor of Physical Therapy degree but would also allow me to continue my mission of improving access to care in underserved communities. I plan to work in community-based settings and help expand pro-bono physical therapy services across Philadelphia, following the example of Temple University's clinic that inspired me. I also hope to mentor aspiring minority students in healthcare, helping them see themselves in spaces where we are often underrepresented. My goal is simple but powerful: to ensure that every person, regardless of race, background, or income, has the opportunity to move, heal, and thrive."



Ariba Rizvi is a 33-year-old student pursuing a master's degree in the Physician's Assistant program at Stony Brook University. Ariba's journey into healthcare began in childhood caring for her mother as she recovered from domestic violence and serious illness. Professional experiences as a pharmacy technician, pharmacy liaison, and medical assistant further developed her skills in patient advocacy, teamwork, and crisis response. She plans to use this scholarship to continue her journey to become a PA who expands access to care, supports survivors of domestic violence, mentors future healthcare professionals, and helps create a more equitable and compassionate healthcare system.

"My journey into healthcare didn't begin in a classroom or in a clinic it began in my living room, watching my mother recover from years of domestic violence neglecting her medical care to save our lives from this abuse. I was the oldest child, and when she became too sick to take care of herself, I had to grow up fast. I learned how to read her discharge notes, call her doctors, and translate her medical records. I didn't always understand the terminology, but I understood what it meant to fight for someone's care. That lesson became the foundation of everything I've done since."

"As a future Physician Assistant, I hope to start a foundation for women who have survived domestic violence, helping them rebuild their physical and mental health. My story began with pain, but it's guided by purpose. Every hardship taught me empathy. Every patient taught me hope. Every opportunity like this scholarship, brings me one step closer to shaping a future in healthcare that's more compassionate, more equitable, and more human."

About F.A. Davis's Nursing & Health Science Scholarships

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 Fall 2025 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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