

Webinar on Wednesday, February 17, 2021 from 4:30-5:30pm

Tips to Enhance the Success of Your Academy Foundation Scholarship Application

Moderator: Sharon Sweat, Dietetic Intern

Speaker: Suzanne Domel Baxter, PhD, RD, LD, FADA, FAND
South Carolina Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (SCAND)
Diversity and Inclusion Liaison

This webinar is part of the SCAND Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Plan 2020-2021.

Academy's Diversity and Inclusion Statement

“The Academy encourages diversity and inclusion by striving to recognize, respect and include differences in ability, age, creed, culture, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, size, and socioeconomic characteristics in the nutrition and dietetics profession.”

SCAND Diversity and Inclusion

<https://www.eatrightsc.org/diversity-and-inclusion>



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SCAND Diversity Mini-Grant Awards

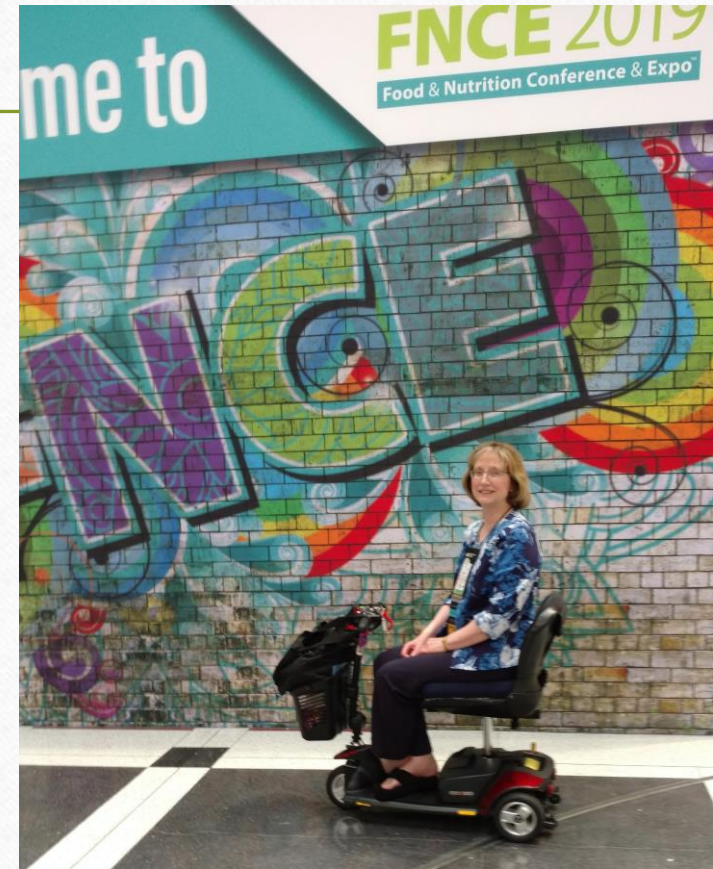
SCAND is excited to announce 11 award winners of the Diversity Mini-Grant funded by the Academy. Each winner has their Academy membership paid for the current 2020-2021 year and registration paid for the SCAND 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting! Each award winner is from an underrepresented group. The 11 winners consist of 7 students, 1 intern, 2 RD/RDNs, and 1 DTR/NDTR. Of the 11 award winners, 7 were not Academy members. Please congratulate the following 11 award winners and help them become active in their local district, SCAND, and the Academy:

Objectives for Webinar about Foundation Scholarship Applications

After this webinar, each attendee will be able to:

1. Name 2 ways to strengthen **academic achievement** – *other than a high GPA* – for your application,
2. List 3 ways to strengthen **professionalism** for your application, and
3. Identify 2 ways to help describe **financial need** on your application.

Suzanne Domel Baxter, PhD, RD, LD, FADA, FAND SCAND Diversity and Inclusion Liaison



Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation Scholarships

The Academy Foundation:

- world's largest provider of dietetic scholarships at all levels of study,
- invests in the current and future generation of food and nutrition practitioners, and
- awarded **\$511,750** in scholarships to **239** deserving students at all levels of study for the 2019-2020 academic year!

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation Scholarships

- This Foundation uses a singular, centralized, online application.
- By completing this application, applicants are automatically considered for **every scholarship** the Foundation offers that year for which applicants are eligible.

Eligibility: Academy Membership

- **Question:** Do I need to be a member of the Academy to apply for a Foundation scholarship?
- **Answer:** No, Academy membership is not required to apply, but is highly encouraged. All but a few Foundation scholarships require Academy membership.
- **Bottom line:** Be an Academy member to enhance success of your Foundation scholarship application.

Eligibility: Enrollment (Program Type)

- **Question:** To apply, do I need to be enrolled in a dietetic program?
- **Answer:** Yes, you must be enrolled in one of the following for the 2021-2022 academic year:
 - ACEND-accredited programs — Diet Tech, Didactic, Diet Internship
 - Master's, Doctoral, Coordinated or Future Education Model
 - Both graduate or doctoral program & ACEND Diet Internship
 - Other (specify [eg, med school])

Eligibility: Students (Minimum Enrollment)

- **Question:** Do I have to be enrolled for the entire academic year to apply?
- **Answer:** No, students must be enrolled for a minimum of 4 months of the academic year (which runs August 2021 – July 2022).

Eligibility: Dietetic Interns

- **Question:** Can I apply if I am an intern of a stand-alone DI program (ie, not also enrolled in a degree-granting program)?
- **Answer:** Yes; interns who participated in the Fall 2020 match and are currently enrolled in a DI program must be minimally enrolled through the end of July 2021 to apply.

Eligibility: Dietetic Interns [continued]

- **Answer:** Yes; interns participating in Spring 2021 match:
 - Must be accepted to a DI, with enrollment for a minimum of 4 months during 2021-2022 academic year, to apply.
 - Must wait to submit application until you receive match confirmation in early April.
 - **However, Foundation advises that you fill out application ahead of receiving match results.**

Eligibility:
US
Citizenship
or
Permanent
Residence

- **Question:** Do I need to have US citizenship or permanent residence to apply?
- **Answer:** No, you do not.

Ineligibility:
Employees
and Board
Members

- **Question:** Can I apply if I am an employee or Board member of Academy, Foundation, ACEND or CDR?
- **Answer:** No, employees and Board members of the following are not eligible to apply: Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, Academy Foundation, Academy Political Action Committee, Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics, CDR

Supporting Documents: Transcripts

- **Question:** Do I need to provide transcripts?
- **Answer:** Yes. You must either upload transcripts for each college in which you were enrolled for any courses OR provide a faculty member's verification of GPA(s). Unofficial transcripts are okay if they clearly state the your full name and university's name.

Supporting Documents: GRE

- **Question:** I am a doctoral student; do I need to provide information on my GRE if my university or college required it?
- **Answer:** Yes, and you must obtain a faculty member's verification for the information you provide related to the GRE exam.

Supporting Documents: Recommendation Forms

- **Question:** Do I need to include recommendations?
- **Answer:** Yes, you must include 2 recommendation **forms**:
 - One by an academic professor or instructor
 - One by a professional source (eg, work supervisor, volunteer leader, mentor, leadership colleague, etc)

Supporting
Documents:
Recommendation
Forms [continued]

- Academic and professional recommendation forms by current **RD/RDNs** are **preferred**
- Letters of recommendation are not accepted in place of recommendation forms.

Supporting Documents: Recommendation Forms [continued]

- **Question:** What else should I consider when asking someone to complete a recommendation form?
- **Answer:** Several things!
- Resume or completed application
- Time
- If hesitate, back out
- Never ask friend or relative

Application

- **Question:** Where can I find the application to apply for a Foundation scholarship?
- **Answer:** The application became available within the Foundation's application portal on February 15, 2021.
<https://eatrightfoundation.secure-platform.com/a/organizations/main/home>

Deadline to Apply

- **Question:** What is the deadline to apply?
- **Answer:** All applications and supporting documents (recommendation forms, GPA verification form, and GRE verification form) are due by April 19, 2021 at 5:00 pm Central Time.

Notifications

- **Question:** When will I know whether or not I will receive a Foundation scholarship?
- **Answer:** Notification will be emailed to all applicants (recipients and non-recipients) in late July 2021.
- Foundation staff cannot provide interim information, feedback on scholarship applications, or a specific date that notifications will be sent.

Questions
for the
Foundation
about
scholarship
application




- **Question:** Who do I contact at the Foundation with my questions about the scholarship application?
- **Answer:** Direct questions to the attention of Elisha Reichling at scholarship@eatright.org.

Personal Data



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Welcome Suzanne Baxter

-  [Home](#)
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 - [Complete \(0\)](#)
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Scholarships

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Personal Data

Personal Data

The Foundation exclusively awards certain scholarships to diverse applicants, which requires disclosure of sensitive data pertaining to race, ethnicity, gender, and disability. If you wish to be considered for these scholarships, check the following: *

- ☐ I prefer to disclose this information
- ☐ I prefer not to disclose this information, and I understand that I, therefore, will not be considered for some scholarships.

Prev

Save

Save and Next

Gender *

Select



Race/Ethnicity *

- ☐ American Indian or Alaskan Native
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ Hispanic/Latinx
- ☐ Middle Eastern or North African
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- ☐ Two or more races (please specify)
- ☐ White or Caucasian
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Long-Lasting Conditions (select all that apply) *

- ☐ I am blind or have a severe vision impairment
- ☐ I am deaf or have a severe hearing impairment
- ☐ I have a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting, or carrying
- ☐ Due to a physical or sensory condition lasting 6 months or more, I have difficulty dressing, bathing, or getting around inside the home
- ☐ Due to a physical or sensory condition lasting 6 months or more, I have difficulty going outside the home alone to shop or visit a doctor's office
- ☐ I do not have any of these conditions

Scholarship Applications Scored on 3 Aspects

- Academic achievement
- Professional potential
- Financial need

Common
Attributes of
Strong
Applicants:
**Academic
Achievement**

- **Question:** How does a strong applicant demonstrate academic achievement?
- **Answer:** Typically through one or more of the following:
 - High GPA
 - High standardized test scores (if applicable)
 - Demonstrated effort to attain academic success
 - Other academic achievements (research, publications, posters, presentations, etc)

Common
Attributes of
Strong
Applicants:
**Academic
Achievement**
[continued]

- **Question:** My GPA is average instead of high; what can I do to strengthen my academic achievement?
- **Answer:** You have options, but you need to get moving!
 - Volunteer to work on research studies, publications, posters, presentations for faculty and/or other RDs
 - Possible tasks – collect data; enter data; review literature; prepare tables, figures; draft slides, posters; perhaps a co-author

Common
Attributes of
Strong
Applicants:
**Academic
Achievement**
[continued]

- **Question:** How do I learn about volunteer opportunities to work on research studies and/or publications?
- **Answer:** Keep your eyes and ears open. Ask your professors. Check and/or post your availability/expertise:
 - preRD.org
 - Diversify Dietetics
 - Discussion boards/groups for MIGs/DPGs
 - SCAND, local district

*“Please discuss
your academic
achievements
and collegiate
achievements
to date.”*

(200 word limit)

- Avoid saying: getting into college/program/internship
- Avoid saying: doing well in college
- Instead say: changed careers and earned a second BS to become an RD
- Instead say: capstone project on herbal supplements during pregnancy; I learned how to conduct research and present results professionally

“If any special circumstances have impacted your ability to perform academically, and you would like the review committee to consider these circumstances, please detail them here.”

(200 word limit)

- Truthfully share details such as:
- I am a single parent raising 2 children; I work full-time and provide the only income to support us. This impacts my time to attend professional and volunteer activities, but I do what I can.
- I work each summer and weekends during the school year to support myself and pay for college for what is not paid for by scholarships. My parents both work hard at minimum wage jobs but can barely afford to feed and clothe the six children in my family and provide a place to live. Their jobs do not provide insurance, so they must pay medical bills. They cannot help me pay for any college expenses.

“Have you encountered any barriers to pursuing your education in nutrition and dietetics?”

- Response options: Yes, No, Prefer not to disclose
- If respond “Yes” another box opens and asks *“Please briefly describe the barriers you have experienced with regard to pursuing your education. Identify how you have overcome these barriers or if these barriers persist in your life today.”* (200 word limit)

Additional Criteria:

Currently enrolled in or a graduate of

Alabama A&M University	Prairie View A&M College
Alcorn State University	South Carolina State University
Delaware State University	Southern University and A&M College
Howard University	Tennessee State University
Marywood University, PA	Tuskegee University
Morgan State University	University of District of Columbia
Norfolk State University	University of Hawaii
North Carolina A&T State University	University of Maryland Eastern Shore
North Carolina Central University	University of Puerto Rico
Oakwood College	Virginia State University

Additional
Criteria:
Currently
Enrolled
in or
Accepted
to



NIH Clinical Center Dietetic
Internship Program



Syracuse University



University of Maryland College
Park



None of these

Additional Criteria:

- Currently a Diet Tech who graduated with associate degree from ACEND program at a 2-year community college
- Member of Nutrition and Dietetic Educators and Preceptors
- Member of Pediatric Nutrition Practice Group
- Interest in, or experience working, WIC programs
- Current member of Chicago Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
- Resident or student in Pennsylvania
- Resident of Ohio
- Professional goal to serve as a preceptor to dietetic interns in future

Future Career Interest 1 and 2

Future Career Interest 1 and 2	
Business	Government
Clinical Dietetics	HIV-AIDS
Clinical Management	Information Systems
Commercial Food Service / Culinary Arts	Media/Communications
Community/Public Health	Medicine
Consultant - Health Care Facilities	Nutrition Education
Consultant - Private Practice	Oncology
Diabetes	Pediatric Nutrition
Education	Regulatory Research
Food Service Systems Management	Research
Food Technology	School Food Service
General Dietetics	Sports Nutrition
Gerontology	Wellness
Global Research	Other (please specify)

Checks and Balances

- Future Career Interest 1 – Community / Public Health
- Future Career Interest 2 – Food Insecurity

Dietetic Practice Groups / DPGs (professional interest) & Student dues

Behavioral Health Nutrition	\$15	Nutrition Education of Health Professionals	\$35
Clinical Nutrition Management	\$15	Nutrition Entrepreneurs	\$20
Diabetes	\$20	Nutrition Informatics	\$15
Dietetics in Health Care Communities	\$20	Oncology Nutrition	\$15
Dietitians in Business & Communications	\$25	Pediatric Nutrition	\$20
Dietitians in Integrative & Functional Medicine	\$25	Public Health / Community Nutrition	\$20
Dietitians in Medical Nutrition Therapy	\$15	Renal Dietitians	\$20
Dietitians in Nutrition Support	\$10	Research	\$20
Food and Culinary Professionals	\$25	School Nutrition Services	\$20
Healthy Aging	\$15	Sports, Cardiovascular & Wellness Nutrition	\$25
Hunger & Environmental Nutrition	\$15	Vegetarian Nutrition	\$15
Management in Food & Nutrition Systems	\$15	Weight Management	\$20
Nutrition Education for the Public	\$20	Women's Health	\$20

Member Interests Groups / MIGs (common interest) & Student dues

Asian American & Pacific Islanders	\$10
Cultures of Gender and Age	\$10
Global	\$15
Indians in Nutrition & Dietetics	\$10
Latinos & Hispanics in Dietetics & Nutrition	\$20
National Organization of Blacks in Dietetics & Nutrition	\$15
Religion	\$10
MIG being formed to concern Disabilities	?

Common
Attributes of
Strong
Applicants:
Professionalism

- **Question:** How do I demonstrate professionalism?
- **Answer:** By specifying accomplishments to date and future professional potential including:
 - Participation, leadership, volunteering and work experience in dietetics, nutrition, food-related, or complementary organizations

Common
Attributes of
Strong
Applicants:
Professionalism
[continued]

- **Question:** How do I best list accomplishments to demonstrate professionalism?
- **Answer:** Specify organization, your role, details, time span & total hours:
 - Participation – College Food Club member; attended 9 one-hour monthly meetings (9 hours); helped with Souper bowl food drive (8 hours); organized food pantry (8 hours) = 25 hours overall 9/19 – 5/20

Common
Attributes of
Strong
Applicants:
Professionalism
[continued]

- Leadership – University Nutrition Club Secretary; kept minutes at 9 one-hour monthly meetings (9 hours); formatted monthly minutes & sent to leaders to prepare for each next meeting (9 hours); sent reminders to members to attend next meeting (2 hours) = 20 hours overall 9/19 – 5/20

Common
Attributes of
Strong
Applicants:
Professionalism
[continued]

- Volunteer – School Cafeteria Assistant; helped RDN prepare, bag, and distribute meals for 5 days @ 8 hours/day in April 2020 during COVID 19 = 40 hours overall

Common
Attributes of
Strong
Applicants:
Professionalism
[continued]

- Work experience – Nutrition Aide at Golden Age (long-term care center) worked under RDN for 40 hours/week for 14 weeks in summer 2020; checked meal trays & snacks for adherence; assessed residents' preferences of items served & amounts consumed; 560 hours overall

Common
Attributes of
Strong
Applicants:
Professionalism
[continued]

- **Question:** How do I **learn** about professional opportunities for participation, leadership, volunteer, or work experiences?
- **Answer:** Many ways:
 - University clubs/organizations
 - SCAND (state, district), website, Palmetto Leaf, eblasts
 - Academy, Foundation, DPGs, MIGs
 - preRD.org & Diversify Dietetics

Common Attributes
of Strong
Applicants:
Professionalism
[continued]

- **Question:** What are other ways to demonstrate professionalism?
- **Answer:** Provide thoughtful responses to:
 - Most significant accomplishment
 - Professional goals
 - Vision for the future of nutrition and dietetics
 - Plan to accomplish your vision for the future of nutrition and dietetics

*“Describe your
Most Significant
Accomplishment
related to your
dietetics
education or
career”*

(100 word limit)

- **Avoid** saying: First in my family to attend college; getting into college/program/internship; getting 4.0 in college
- Instead, explain project that meant something to you.

*“Describe your
Most Significant
Accomplishment
related to your
dietetics
education or
career”*

(100 word limit)

To date, my most significant accomplishment was creating a YouTube video for my nutrition communications project. I had to pick a topic and a target audience, and then create an infographic and another type of communication. I decided to create my first YouTube for a teenage audience on the importance of drinking water and ways to improve water intake. I worked very hard on this video as a one-woman camera crew with just a laptop and video editing software. I learned a lot about how to drink more water, teenagers, and making videos!

“Based on two career interests selected in application, describe your Professional Goals”

(100 word limit)

- **Avoid saying:** Do well in classes/internship; pass RD exam
- Instead, explain position(s) you hope to hold in say 5, 10, and 15 years and why, and/or when you plan to return to school for another advanced degree and why

*“Professional
Goals based
on two
career
interests
selected in
application”*

*(100 word
limit)*

My hopes are to pursue a mission-driven career to positively impact my local and broader community. I want to work more closely with pregnant women and help parents learn ways to keep their children happier and healthier through food and nutrition. My 5-year goal is to have a position as an RD in a WIC clinic where I assess mothers and children as well as plan and teach nutrition education. In 10 years, I hope to have earned an MBA and have a supervisory position in a local WIC program. In 15 years, I hope to have a position at the state level in the WIC program.

Academy's Vision & Mission for the Future of Nutrition and Dietetics



Vision: A world where all people thrive through the transformative power of food and nutrition.



Mission: Accelerate improvements in global health and well-being through food and nutrition.

Academy's Principles for the Future of Nutrition and Dietetics

Principles:

- Integrate research, professional development & practice to stimulate innovation & discovery
- Collaborate to solve the greatest food & nutrition challenges now & in the future
- Focus on system-wide impact across the food, wellness & health care sectors
- Have a global impact in eliminating all forms of malnutrition
- Amplify the contribution of nutrition practitioners & expand workforce capacity and capability

Your Vision
*for the
Future of
Nutrition and
Dietetics*

(100 word
limit)

- “What is ***your vision*** for the future of nutrition and dietetics?”
- Write several thoughtful and well-connected sentences to explain your vision, mission, and principles.

Your Plan to
Achieve Your
Vision for the
Future of
Nutrition and
Dietetics

*(100 word
limit)*

- Discuss how you plan to help achieve your vision for the future of nutrition and dietetics.
- Write a paragraph to explain **your plan**.
- Be creative yet realistic
- Tie your plan back to your vision for the future of nutrition and dietetics

Common
Attributes
of Strong
Applicants:
**Financial
Need**

- **Question:** How do I best explain my financial need?
- **Answer:** Clearly explain your financial history, short-term and long-term financial needs, special circumstances (eg, dependents, single parent, etc) and give details

Common Attributes of Strong Applicants: **Financial Need** [continued]

- 1) *Briefly describe your personal financial situation, including your financial need.*
- 2) *Please provide details on any additional expenses related to your education.*
- 3) *Please provide details related to your ability to work while enrolled in your program.*
- 4) *How have you been financing your education thus far?*
- 5) *State any special personal or family circumstances affecting your need for financial assistance.*
- 6) *How will receiving a Foundation scholarship directly impact your ability to continue your planned enrollment for the 2021-2022 academic year?*
- 7) *From a financial standpoint, describe the impact a scholarship will have on your education.*
- 8) *Please provide any additional details related to your financial circumstances (if applicable).*

Common
Attributes
of Strong
Applicants:
**Financial
Need**
[continued]

1) Briefly describe your personal financial situation, including your financial need.

(100 word limit)

Common
Attributes
of Strong
Applicants:
**Financial
Need**
[continued]

*2) Please provide details on
any additional expenses
related to your education.
(100 word limit)*

Common
Attributes
of Strong
Applicants:
**Financial
Need**
[continued]

3) Please provide details related to your ability to work while enrolled in your program. (100 word limit)

Common
Attributes
of Strong
Applicants:
**Financial
Need**
[continued]

4) *How have you been
financing your education
thus far? (100 word limit)*

Common
Attributes
of Strong
Applicants:
**Financial
Need**
[continued]

5) State any special personal or family circumstances affecting your need for financial assistance. (100 word limit)

Common
Attributes
of Strong
Applicants:
**Financial
Need**
[continued]

6) *How will receiving a Foundation scholarship directly impact your ability to continue your planned enrollment for the 2021-2022 academic year? (100 word limit)*

Common
Attributes
of Strong
Applicants:
**Financial
Need**
[continued]

7) *From a financial standpoint, describe the impact a scholarship will have on your education. (100 word limit)*

Common
Attributes
of Strong
Applicants:
**Financial
Need**
[continued]

8) Please provide any additional details related to your financial circumstances (if applicable). (100 word limit)

Entire Application

- Follow standard rules for spelling, grammar, punctuation, and capitalization.
 - (do u no wat i mean?)
- Proofread and correct typos
- Start early to allow time to prepare a complete and thoughtful application

Summary for Webinar about Foundation Scholarship Applications

Summary of today's webinar:

1. Name 2 ways to strengthen **academic achievement** – *other than a high GPA* – for your application,
2. List 3 ways to strengthen **professionalism** for your application, and
3. Identify 2 ways to help describe **financial need** on your application.

Food for Thought

- **Variety** is every dietitian's business.
- **Diversity and inclusion** must also be every dietitian's business.

Acknowledgements

Elisha Reichling, MS, RDN, LDN
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Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation

Sharon S. Sweat
Dietetic Intern

Your Time to Ask Questions

- Type your questions in the “Q & A” box.
- Questions typed in “Q & A” box come only to speaker.
- Check “anonymous” in the “Q & A” box if you don’t want speaker to know who you are.
- To share a comment, type it in the “Chat” box and select the recipient(s) – panelist (speaker) and/or attendees (everyone on webinar).