GOLDEN VALLEY HEALTH CENTERS

Flora R. Martinez
Nursing Scholarship Application

This is not work to me, it's my life." ~ *Flora R. Martinez*



Flora R. Martinez came to the United States from Mexico in 1941. Seeking a better life for herself and her children, she worked for many years as a field worker and spoke limited English. It was during this time that she saw the importance of child care, housing and healthcare. She began helping women from migrant camps with interpretation and addressing their basic health care needs. Flora decided to focus on her education and learning English so she could be of more assistance to her community. In 1962, she became a U.S. Citizen.

A founder of Golden Valley Health Centers, Flora served on its Board of Directors for 43 years from 1971 until her passing in 2014. Through this leadership position, Flora admired the work of nurses and recognized the critical role they play in the delivery of quality healthcare services.

We are proud to honor Flora's legacy through this annual scholarship in hopes that those from the San Joaquin Valley will join the nursing workforce to carry on her core ideals: effectively promote access to healthcare for all people, advocate for Community Health Centers, and carry on meeting the direct healthcare needs of the under-served in our community.

Instructions

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HEALTH CENTERS

Step 1: Determine if you are eligible - To be eligible, applicants must:

- Reside in the GVHC service area (Merced, Stanislaus or San Joaquin County)
- Be enrolled in or accepted to an RN, LVN or BSN program
  (CNA, FNP not eligible)
- Submit the application form by the deadline, including supporting documents
- Have maintained a GPA of 3.0 or higher in their most recently completed four semesters of high school and/or college
- Sign the agreement at the end of the application

Step 2: Tell us about yourself

Fill out the Flora R. Martinez scholarship application telling us about yourself. Your information will be kept confidential and shared only with evaluators unless you give us permission to use your story to publicize the program and/or Golden Valley Health Centers.

Step 3: Ask people to tell us about you

Include two letters of reference with your application explaining why you would be an excellent candidate to receive this award. The letters must be no more than two pages in length and written by someone not related to you.

Step 4: Include your most current, four (4) semester transcripts

Step 5: Submit your application

Applications will be accepted between **February 6 - March 31, 2026**. Awards will be announced in May. Five awards of $5,000 each will be distributed, on a one-time basis, directly to the school of enrollment.

Applications submitted after these dates will not be considered.

Award recipients may re-apply once for ongoing support.

Nursing Scholarship Application

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Part 1: Basic Information

Name (first and last):

Address (number and street):

City: State: Zip code:

Telephone: Email address:

Highest level of education achieved: Date completed:

Are you currently enrolled in an RN, LVN, or BSN program? Yes ☐ No ☐

If you marked 'Yes' please tell us the name of the school.
If you marked 'No' above because you have been accepted into one of these programs but have not yet started your classes please submit a copy of your acceptance letter along with your application.

Have you participated in any community service activities?* Yes ☐ No ☐

*If you marked yes above, please attach a separate page describing any community service you have participated in.

Please tell us which language(s), other than English, you are proficient in:

Are you currently, or have you ever been, employed by Golden Valley Health Centers? If yes, please state your position, site, and number of years of service.

Are you related to any current employee or board member of Golden Valley Health Centers? If yes, please state their name, position, and site.

Part 2: Education and Career Goals

A. What degree and/or license are you working toward?

B. When will you complete your degree/license?

C. What is your ultimate career goal?

Part 3: Tell us more about yourself

In 500 words or less, please write a short statement explaining why you are pursuing a career in nursing and how you will further the ideals of Flora R. Martinez (see cover page).

Part 4: Agreement

Please read the following carefully. When you sign your name below, you are agreeing to what you have read.

- I certify that all the information provided in this application is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I will notify Golden Valley Health Centers if there are any changes.
- If awarded, I will use this scholarship money for the purpose of furthering my education in nursing.
- I understand that awarding of the Flora R. Martinez scholarship is based on the full and complete discretion of Golden Valley Health Centers and I understand that there is no appeal process should I not be selected to receive this award.
- I understand that my application will become the property of Golden Valley Health Centers after I submit it. The application will be considered confidential unless I grant Golden Valley Health Centers permission to release personal information for the purpose of publicizing the award and promoting the scholarship program.

By signing your name below, you adhere to the above requirements.

_____

Signature of applicant Date

How did you hear about the Flora R. Martinez Nursing Scholarship?

- ◉ A friend or family member
- ○ An employee or Board Member of Golden Valley Health Centers
- ○ A career counselor or advisor at my school
- ○ A flyer posted in my community
- ○ Social media
- ○ Article in the newspaper
- ○ GVHC website
- ○ Other:_____

To submit your application, email all required documents to: foundation@gvhc.org. Please do not send hard copy applications, as they will not be accepted.

Questions:
For more information about the Flora R. Martinez Nursing Scholarship please email: foundation@gvhc.org.