

About the DeSchepper Rehabilitation Education Scholarship

This endowed scholarship, established in 1994, has been made available because of charitable gifts given in honor of Hector DeSchepper. Gifts to the foundation for this scholarship enable the award to continue each year.

In the mid 1980's, Hector DeSchepper experienced a serious stroke. The family was told that he would never care for himself again and to plan for nursing home care. After one month as an inpatient on Avera McKennan's Rehabilitation Unit followed by outpatient therapy and determination by Hector, he made a wonderful recovery. He was independent and lived at home until a heart attack took his life in 1994. His wife, Carol DeSchepper, was a 26-year employee of Avera McKennan Hospital & University Health Center, serving as Vice President of Patient Care Services prior to joining Avera Health. During her tenure, the Rehabilitation Unit was started, and eventually, Carol was the vice president responsible for it. Carol has always felt that it is "one of the highest quality rehab programs in the upper Midwest." She values the "excellent staff with their great passion for rehab care and people with disabilities." Carol personally believes that learning and continuing education is a lifelong responsibility for all professionals and initiated this scholarship to reflect that belief.

Eligibility Requirements

- Employee of Avera McKennan Hospital Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Department who demonstrates a commitment and loyalty to the mission and philosophy of Avera Health.
- Scholarship is to be used for education in Rehabilitation Medicine. This may include a college course, workshop, conference or seminar.

Deadline

- All application materials must be submitted by **March 31** to be considered
- One or more scholarship of up to \$1,500 per scholarship awarded annually
- All applicants will be notified by July 1

Disbursement

- Fall Semester - \$1,500

DeSchepper Rehabilitation Education Scholarship Application Form

Application materials required:

- 500-word essay** defining:
 - 1) Your objectives and rationale for wanting to further your education in rehabilitation health care.
 - 2) How you have demonstrated commitment to the mission and philosophy of the Avera Health and Avera McKennan physical medicine and rehabilitation programs.
- Three letters of recommendation** from co-workers, co-volunteers, professors, or advisor. (Letters of recommendation should be confidential, please ask references to email directly to foundation@avera.org with your name and the scholarship in the subject line)
- Completed application form below:**

Name: _____

Permanent Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Personal Email Address: _____

Avera Email Address: _____

Department: _____ Position: _____

Employment Status: FT PT PRN

Class or Workshop you wish to participate in:

It is strongly encouraged to send your completed application form and essay by email to:

foundation@avera.org. Due to security settings, we are unable to open any documents shared in Google Drive, please attach documents to email in PDF or Word format.

***Please use this subject line: DeSchepper Scholarship – your name**

You may also mail your completed application packet to:

Avera Foundation – DeSchepper Scholarship
PO Box 5045
Sioux Falls, SD 57117