Debbie Brand Caughron Endowed Scholarship

Type: Endowed

Amount: Varies (approximately $2,500)

 # Offered: One

Deadline: Refer to Allen College Institutional Scholarship Application

Established: 2021

Special Criteria: Nursing student who has a minimum GPA of 3.25. Preference may be given to a part-time student

Debbie Brand Caughron's passion for nursing began in childhood and led her to a lifelong career dedicated to helping others. A Waterloo native and 1976 graduate of Allen School of Nursing, now Allen College, Debbie began her healthcare journey as a volunteer Candy Striper at UnityPoint Health, providing companionship and support to patients. After graduation, she worked on a medical-surgical unit before building a distinguished 37-year career in Occupational Health at John Deere. Following retirement, she continued sharing her expertise by helping Fortune 500 companies implement occupational health software through Cority.

As an engaged alumna, Debbie served on the Allen College Alumni Association for six years and remains proud of her connection to Allen College.

Outside of her professional life, Debbie enjoys traveling and experiencing other cultures, collecting Red Wing stoneware and SCUBA diving, a passion she has pursued for more than 25 years. She also served on the Cedar Valley Underwater Search and Recovery Team for approximately 10 years.

Debbie established this scholarship to help ease the financial burden of earning a nursing degree. She believes Allen College provides an exceptional education that is both challenging and rewarding, preparing graduates for meaningful and fulfilling careers in nursing. As one of Iowa's premier nursing schools, Allen College has earned recognition for its excellence, including being ranked among the top nursing programs in the state and nation.

Through her generosity, Debbie hopes scholarship recipients have the opportunity to pursue their dreams, receive a high-quality nursing education and make a direct, meaningful impact on the lives of the patients, families and communities they serve. She is honored to support the next generation of Allen College nurses as they begin their own rewarding careers of service and compassion.