



The Health Plan to Award Full Medical School Scholarship to Cabell County Native

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, November 3, 2025

Cabell Co., W.Va. — A Barboursville native is attending medical school at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (WVSOM) without the burden of tuition and fees thanks to a medical scholarship program offered by The Health Plan (THP).

WVSOM second-year student Morgan Christian has been awarded The Health Plan Scholarship, which covers tuition and fees for up to four years, allowing Morgan to graduate medical school without worrying about those costs.

"4-H taught me to use my head, heart, hands, and health to make a difference—and that's exactly what I hope to do as a doctor," Christian said. "I'm so grateful for the mentors who've guided me along the way, and I want every student in West Virginia to know that with hard work and big dreams, anything is possible."

Since 2009, The Health Plan has provided more than \$3 million in full scholarships to more than 50 medical and nursing students who attend West Virginia institutions and intend to practice healthcare in West Virginia. Christian is one of four students awarded a full medical scholarship this year.

"Morgan's commitment to service instilled in her by her involvement in 4-H really impressed our scholarship selection team," said Jeff Knight, President and CEO of The Health Plan. "We also appreciate Morgan's interest in practicing family medicine – a specialty very much needed in our rural communities."

Knight was joined by Don Smith, Associated Vice President Associate Vice President at WVSOM, Morgan's family, faculty members at Cabell Huntington High School and other local leaders to announce the award.

Smith thanked Knight and The Health Plan for offering the scholarship program at WVSOM, which educates an average of 800 medical students each year. According to a report by the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, the school is No. 1 in producing both primary care physicians who practice in West Virginia and who practice in rural areas of the state.

"With this program, The Health Plan is directly impacting the physician shortage in West Virginia. Medical school is not inexpensive. This scholarship, by financially assisting recipients who want to stay in West Virginia, benefits not only our students but the state," Smith said.

David Flatley

Director of Marketing

1110 Main Street
Wheeling, WV 26003-2704

1.800.624.6961

dflatley@healthplan.org

- **The Health Plan to award a full medical school scholarship to Cabell County Native.**
- **Since 2009, The Health Plan has provided more than \$3 million in full scholarships to more than 50 medical and nursing students who attend West Virginia institutions and intend to practice in West Virginia.**
- The Health Plan hopes to make an impact in the shortage of physicians and nurses in the state of West Virginia.
- **The Health Plan emphasized its commitment to the community, both financially and hands-on involvement in improving our state.**

