

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

# *The George and Bernice Cooke Scholarship Foundation for Women*

## **APPLICATION PACKET**

Loyola University Chicago invites all female students enrolled in a degree program in the School of Continuing and Professional Studies, School of Social Work, School of Education and School of Nursing's Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (ABSN) to apply for the George and Bernice Cooke Scholarship for Women.

Named in honor of George and Bernice Cooke, this scholarship represents their lifelong dream of helping women achieve their academic and personal goals.

### **Deadlines:**

**Fall – August 1**

**Spring – December 1**

For more information about the **George and Bernice Cooke Scholarship Foundation for Women**, please contact:

School of Continuing and Professional Studies  
Loyola University Chicago  
820 North Michigan Avenue  
Lewis Towers, Room 401  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
Phone: 312.915.6501  
E-mail: [scps@luc.edu](mailto:scps@luc.edu)



*Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives*

## The George and Bernice Cooke Scholarship for Women

The vision and generosity of Bernice Walters Kane Cooke has made it possible for women returning to higher education in pursuit of a bachelor's degree program to achieve their dreams and ambitions. Awarded each Fall and Spring Semester, **The George and Bernice Cooke Scholarship for Women** is available to both full- and part-time students and is based on academic qualifications and demonstrated financial need. The awards are applied toward tuition and mandatory fees only. Preference for the scholarship is given to applicants who are part-time students, 24 years of age or older, pursuing a first degree and have demonstrated financial need.

### Criteria:

Applicants must:

1. Register for a minimum of three (3) semester hours of credit.
2. Demonstrate a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0. Students new to Loyola University Chicago must have a transfer GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in all previous college work or, if none, a minimum GPA of 3.0 in high school.
3. Demonstrate unmet financial need based on the results of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
4. Be a United States citizen.

### Application Procedures:

1. File a FAFSA. For instructions, please visit: <http://www.luc.edu/finaid>.
2. Complete and sign the application form. All information must be provided and all questions answered. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.
3. Submit a typewritten essay, minimum 500 words, stating the applicant's academic and personal goals and aspirations.
4. Students employed outside Loyola University Chicago, Loyola University Health System, or Stritch School of Medicine must submit a copy of their tuition benefit/reimbursement application, if applicable.

Consideration for a scholarship award will be strongly determined by the content of the essay. When writing your essay, you should include **but not be limited** to topics such as:

- How was the decision made to return to school?
- What is your motivation for choosing your current field of study?
- Who or what has been most influential in your life/educational decisions?
- How will you use your education to its best advantage?
- What are you passionate about in your chosen field?
- What steps or plans are you making to assure the completion of all courses to graduate?

Previous recipients of the George and Bernice Cooke Scholarship for Women must reapply for each semester. With each subsequent application, applicants must provide an **original** essay describing their personal goals and aspirations, and relate changes, progress and accomplishments.

### Deadlines:

**Fall Semester – August 1**

**Spring Semester – December 1**

Please note that final decisions on scholarship awards are made by the Trustees of the George and Bernice Cooke Foundation for Women. The Trustees reserve the right to amend the criteria without notice, if necessary.

**Please forward COMPLETED APPLICATION PACKET, no later than 5 p.m. of deadline date, to:**

The George and Bernice Cooke Scholarship for Women  
c/o School of Continuing and Professional Studies  
Loyola University Chicago  
820 North Michigan Avenue  
Lewis Tower, Room 401  
Chicago, Illinois 60611

PLEASE NOTE: Only original documents will be accepted. Faxed or e-mailed applications will not be considered. Applications received after 5 p.m. on the specified deadline will not be considered.

**For more information, please contact:**

School of Continuing and Professional Studies  
Phone: 312-915-6501  
E-mail: [scps@luc.edu](mailto:scps@luc.edu)  
Visit: [www.luc.edu/scps](http://www.luc.edu/scps)

**Bernice Walters Kane Cooke**

Bernice Walters Kane Cooke was a woman ahead of her time. Long before it was popular, she was a strong advocate for women's rights and their roles in leadership.

Bernice Walters was born on July 6, 1915, and grew up in the Chicago neighborhood of Rogers Park. In 1937 she graduated from Mundelein College with a degree in sociology. She received a scholarship from Loyola University Chicago to pursue graduate work, earning a master's degree in social work in 1943. Over the years, Bernice was an active member of Mundelein's Alumnae Association, and served as an officer and frequent supporter of alumnae projects.

Through her wise investments, Bernice was able to develop the capital which made possible the **George and Bernice Cooke Foundation for Women**. Bernice always felt that she owed her great success in large part to her Catholic education at Mundelein College and to her longtime association with her mentor, Sr. Ann Ida Gannon, B.V.M. The Foundation represents Bernice's and George's lifelong dream of helping women achieve their academic and personal goals, just as Bernice did.

Through the **George and Bernice Cooke Scholarship for Women**, George and Bernice's generosity provides women attending Loyola University Chicago the opportunity to continue Bernice's tradition of caring, compassion, and academic excellence. This scholarship represents the Cookes' lifelong dream of helping women achieve their academic and personal goals.

**About Loyola University Chicago**

Committed to preparing people to lead extraordinary lives, Loyola University Chicago was founded in 1870 and is among the largest of the 28 Jesuit colleges and universities in the United States. Loyola has a total enrollment of nearly 15,000 students, which includes 9,240 undergraduates, hailing from all 50 states, as well as 82 foreign countries. The university has four campuses, three in the greater Chicago area and one in Rome, Italy. Loyola's nine schools and colleges include: arts and sciences, business administration, education, graduate studies, law, medicine, nursing, continuing and professional studies and social work. Loyola offers 69 undergraduate majors, 77 master's degrees and 36 doctoral degrees. Recognizing Loyola's excellence in education, *U.S. News & World Report* has ranked Loyola consistently among "top national universities." For more information, please visit: [www.luc.edu](http://www.luc.edu).

## Application

### The George and Bernice Cooke Scholarship for Women

Please complete all information requested. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered. PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE:

Full name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Last Name* *First Name* *Middle Name/Initial*

Loyola Student Identification Number (PIDN) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth:     /     /      
*mm/dd/yy*

Mailing address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Number* *Street* *Apt.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*City* *State* *Zip Code*

Daytime phone \_\_\_\_\_ LUC e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently employed?  Yes  No If so, how many hours per week: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently employed by Loyola University Chicago lakeside (LUC)  Yes  No

Are you currently employed by Loyola University Health System (LUHS) or Stritch School of Medicine (SSOM)  Yes  No

Name of employer (company, corporation): \_\_\_\_\_

Does your employer provide a tuition benefits or reimbursement program?  Yes  No

I am currently enrolled as a:  Degree-seeking student  Certificate-seeking student

I am a student in: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ School of Continuing and Professional Studies  
\_\_\_\_\_ School of Social Work  
\_\_\_\_\_ Niehoff School of Nursing, ABSN Program  
\_\_\_\_\_ School of Education

My major is \_\_\_\_\_

I plan to enroll for \_\_\_\_\_ semester hours in \_\_\_\_\_ Fall \_\_\_\_\_ Spring (please check one)

Total no. of credit hours completed at Loyola: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Loyola GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Total no. of credit hours completed toward degree: \_\_\_\_\_

Most recently attended college/university prior to Loyola: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

High school: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Name* *City* *State* *Year of HS Graduation*

I certify that the information contained on this application is correct and that I am not eligible for full tuition reimbursement from another source. I understand that the information on this application and my level of financial need as determined by my FAFSA may be released to the Scholarship Committee and to the trustees of the Cooke Foundation for their use in making awards.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

**Please forward the application and essay to:** The George and Bernice Cooke Scholarship Foundation for Women, School of Continuing and Professional Studies, Loyola University Chicago, Lewis Towers, Room 401, 820 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611