The Robert and Betty Parkinson Social Justice Scholars Award

The Parkinson Scholars

Description:
The Parkinson School of Health Sciences and Public Health is delighted to announce the Robert and Betty Parkinson Social Justice Scholars Award. Named for Loyola alumni Robert (“Bob”) and Betty Parkinson, this Award honors their commitment to helping ensure access to quality health care and the recognition that such health care is a basic human right. Bob and Betty Parkinson took to heart the Ignatian value of “being persons for others.”

The Robert and Betty Parkinson Social Justice Scholars award will support exceptionally-talented students with demonstrated financial need who are dedicated to being “persons for others” and will use their Parkinson education to improve the health and health care of individuals, communities, and systems. This award will provide up to 10 Parkinson upper-class undergraduates (rising juniors or seniors) and graduate students with an $8,000 tuition-restricted scholarship and additional funds to support scholarly activity. Scholars will be selected to represent the broad range of the School’s disciplines. The Parkinson Scholars will have the opportunity to expand their social justice leadership skills through community service, scholarly activity, and mentorship of future Parkinson Scholars.

Qualifications:
1. Matriculation in a Parkinson School of Health Sciences and Public Health degree program with a minimum part-time enrollment status
2. Superior academic performance in their current program
3. Demonstrated financial need based on information provided to the Loyola University Chicago Financial Aid Office, including FAFSA and the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid
4. Upper-class undergraduate (rising junior or senior) or graduate student status
5. Demonstrated commitment to social justice through academic and/or service work
6. Strong interest in developing leadership skills and serving in a leadership capacity

Requirements:
Parkinson Scholars will serve a minimum one-year term beginning Spring 2021 and will commit to the following:

1. At the beginning of the first scholarship year, the Parkinson Scholars cohort will identify a social justice issue as the focus of their academic and service work for the year.
2. Submission of a paper, abstract, or poster to an academic or professional meeting on the cohort’s annual topic. Additional funds will be reserved to sponsor student participation at conferences that may take place after their year of funding.
3. Mentorship of future Parkinson Scholars and students
4. Completion of a reflection based on the year as a Parkinson Scholar. Reflections will be published by the School and presented at an annual meeting of the School’s community partners
5. Continued participation in the Parkinson Scholars’ Alumni Committee

How to Apply:
Students are encouraged to apply by submitting an essay describing qualifications and relevant aspects of background or achievements focused on their commitment to social justice and health equity. Your identity will remain anonymous during the essay review process. Full application link: https://forms.gle/qTFD75ofMPGW7wL36

Questions? Contact your Program Director for more information.

Deadline to Apply: Friday, January 22, 2021