



Nurses Educational Funds Establishes Scholarship in Maternal-Infant & Pediatric Advanced Nursing Study Honoring [Dr. Rita Wiczorek](#)

Nurses Educational Funds, Inc. (NEF), the largest, single, private, nonprofit, professionally endorsed source of funds for advanced nursing study announces the establishment of a new scholarship to support graduate studies in maternal-infant and pediatric nursing. The scholarship is in honor of Rita Reis Wiczorek, EdD, RN, PNP, FAAN, who was also named the 2021 Honoree by NEF.

Joan Marren, President of the Board of NEF, said, “NEF is delighted to establish a scholarship to support graduate studies in this critical field of nursing. Dr. Wiczorek is a widely respected nurse, educator and leader in our field and has blazed a trail for nurses during her more than four decades of service. She represents the very best of the nursing community, and we are delighted to establish a scholarship in her honor and recognize her as our 2021 honoree.”

Dr. Wiczorek said, “This scholarship is an investment in our future, the United States’ future and the world’s future. I’ve always thought people who work in nursing are essential workers, always have been and will be in our future, they are the heroes. The work NEF is doing to help nursing students in graduate (master’s and doctoral programs) throughout the United States is so important.”

Dr. Wiczorek began her nursing education at the College of Mount St. Joseph (now Mt. St. Joseph University) in Cincinnati, Ohio. She graduated in 1964 with a BSN degree. Dr. Wiczorek then studied at New York University, School of Education receiving a Masters in Arts (MA) degree in 1966 with a major in Parent Child Nursing.

Following graduation from NYU, Dr. Wiczorek moved to San Antonio, Texas and she became an Assistant Professor at Incarnate Word College, School of Nursing. Dr. Wiczorek’s students were all women associated with the military services. At that time, women and men could study for a bachelor’s degree in colleges and universities obtaining full tuition and stipends. Upon graduation they became commissioned officers in the various services.

In 1975, Dr. Wieczorek was awarded a doctorate in Education (EdD) from Teachers College, Columbia University. It was there that Dr. Wieczorek met many of her mentors, Dr. Mildred Montag, Dr. Eleanor C. Lambertsen, and Dr. M. Louise Fitzpatrick. A link to brief video about Dr. Wieczorek's distinguished career follows: <https://www.cfny.org/archives/rita-reis-wieczorek-collection/>

To donate directly to the Rita Reis Wieczorek Maternal-Infant & Pediatric Scholarship Fund, please go to : <https://n-e-f.org/donate.html?to=25>

About Nurses Educational Funds

NEF was founded in 1912 as a fund for graduate nursing education scholarships. The nonprofit organization was established to honor Isabel Hampton Robb, a visionary leader of modern American nursing.

NEF's only purpose is to provide annual scholarships to graduate level nurses studying education, advanced clinical care, research, health policy, and administration.

NEF's Board of Directors is comprised of leaders from nursing practice and education and individuals working in the technology, finance, and business fields. Members volunteer their time and talent to the advancement of the nursing profession. NEF operates with exceptionally low overhead and employs only one individual who serves in several capacities. NEF is a non-profit organization with 501(c) status; thus, your contributions are fully tax-deductible.

To find out more about the work of NEF please go to the NEF website: www.n-e-f.org or email: info@n-e-f.org.

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