Sister Colman Coakley Education Scholarship

About the Scholarship
This endowed scholarship, established in 1992, has been made available because of charitable gifts given in honor of Sister Colman. Gifts to the foundation in Sister Colman’s name enable the scholarship award to grow each year. Her belief in the value of education was strong.

She was a native of County Cork, Ireland, having immigrated to the United States in 1949. She entered the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Aberdeen and enjoyed a 44-year administrative career. She devoted herself to meeting the health care needs of eastern South Dakota and surrounding states by serving as the first president of the Presentation Health System and having served on the Avera McKennan Board of Trustees for 38 years. She was chairperson of the Board of Trustees for 18 of those years and was inducted into the South Dakota Hall of Fame in 1997. Contributions to this scholarship fund may be made through the Avera McKennan Foundation Office.

Scholarship Applications
Applications for the Sister Colman Coakley Education Scholarship are available online at Avera.org/about/scholarships/. Applications will be accepted March 1 - March 31. The scholarship will be awarded in May.

Eligibility Requirements
Applicant must be an employee of Avera McKennan who demonstrates a commitment and loyalty to the mission and philosophy of Avera Health, be enrolled or currently accepted into a college or university with plans to further one’s education in health care at Avera McKennan and demonstrate good-standing within the organization. Consideration will be measured with preference to full-time employees and/or longevity with Avera McKennan. The scholarship will be $1,000.

Completed packet may be emailed to: Foundation@Avera.org

Or mailed to:
Avera Foundation
P.O. Box 5045, Sioux Falls, SD 57117-5045

Please contact 605-322-4750 with any questions.