Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing
Re-Awarded Scholarships through RWJF New Careers in Nursing Program

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) School of Nursing has been selected as a grant recipient for the fourth year in a row by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Careers in Nursing Scholarship Program (NCIN). During the 2011-2012 academic year, the School of Nursing will receive $50,000 to support students in the school’s Second Degree Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) track who are traditionally underrepresented in the field of nursing. The NCIN Scholarship Program was launched in 2008 by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing to address the national nursing shortage, develop a diverse professional nursing workforce, and fuel the pipeline of nurse faculty and leaders.

At TTUHSC School of Nursing, scholarships in the amount of $10,000 will be awarded to each of five students entering the accelerated nursing program during the 2011-2012 academic year. To date, the NCIN program has supported 55 combined scholars at the TTUHSC School of Nursing with a total dollar amount of $550,000.

To meet the goals of the NCIN Scholarship Program the School of Nursing maintains an aggressive state-wide student recruitment agenda. As a result, overall enrollment of male students has increased 70% in the past four years. The number of Hispanic students has also increased by 68% since the school became an NCIN grantee. In addition, the school takes all new Second Degree accelerated BSN students through a unique online pre-immersion program, using RWJF guidelines, to assist them in the transition back into student life and to prepare them to handle the rigors of an accelerated one year program.

The school’s Second Degree Accelerated BSN track is for students with a previous degree. The twelve-month program has coach and nurse educator oversight in the student’s own community in Lubbock, Austin, Abilene or Permian Basin.

For more information about the school’s Second Degree BSN track, visit www.ttuhsc.edu/son or for NCIN scholarship information e-mail Tonia Borrego, senior administrative assistant, at tonia.borrego@ttuhsc.edu.