

**GAIL NORRIS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**  
**(Revised : April, 2004)**

**GUIDELINES:**

1. The Gail Norris Memorial Scholarship is awarded each year to eligible health Information technology/management students who meet the stated criteria. Students from Health Information Technology programs, Health Information Management programs are eligible to apply. The following students are eligible to apply:
  - A. Health Information Technology students who are currently enrolled in an accredited Massachusetts RHIT program, leading to eligibility to take the national AHIMA registered health information technology examination, and completed a minimum of thirty (30) semester hours or thirty-nine (39) quarter hour credits of academic work as required by their educational program
  - B. Health Information Technology students who are enrolled in a AHIMA approved educational program (i.e. advanced HIM degree) employed in Massachusetts and completed at least fifty percent (50%) of the program
  - C. Health Information Management students who are enrolled in an accredited Massachusetts RHIA program leading to eligibility to take the national AHIMA registration examination, and have completed two (2) quarters of professional health information coursework as required by the HIM curriculum

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Eligible students may apply for the scholarship by submitting the following materials to the MHIMA Awards Task Force by mid March. Materials to be submitted are:
  - A. An essay on one of the following topics:
    1. "What are your reasons for joining the health information profession and what is your vision for how your skills and interests can contribute to the advancement of the profession?"
    2. "What is your personal vision for the management of a totally automated electronic health care record?"

The essay must be a minimum of five-hundred (500) words and is expected to meet college level criteria for writing (grammar, spelling, punctuation).
  - B. A letter of recommendation from the HIT/HIM Program Director verifying stated criteria listed below:
2. Criteria for students applying for the Gail Norris Memorial Scholarship:
  - A. Student must have at least a 3.25 quality point average.
  - B. Students should demonstrate professionalism, leadership, and have high ethical and moral values.
  - C. The essay should reflect a creative vision of the future of the HIT/HIM profession and should be written in a manner that demonstrates quality college level writing (grammar, punctuation, spelling).
  - D. Students must submit the essay and letter of recommendation to the Chairperson of the Awards Task Force by mid March.
3. Scholarship will be awarded at the MHIMA Annual Meeting.

