

The David Calkins Memorial Scholarship



David R. Calkins (May 27, 1948 – April 7, 2006), MD, MPP, was a physician, teacher, and health care improvement champion. At the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI), he was a member of the 100,000 Lives Campaign team and an IHI Fellow. David was also an Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and Associate Physician at Massachusetts General Hospital. David was instrumental in researching the evidence supporting the six interventions that formed the “platform” of the 100,000 Lives Campaign, and developing the Campaign’s How-to Guides. David was devoted to securing the scientific underpinnings of the Campaign; he embodied the Campaign’s spirit of optimism and shared learning.

IHI awards the **David Calkins Memorial Scholarship** annually to one student who demonstrates a strong interest in health care improvement. The Calkins Scholarship will cover the cost of General Conference fees for [IHI's 27th Annual National Forum on Quality Improvement in Health Care](#) in Orlando, Florida from December 6-9, 2015. In addition, the scholarship will reimburse the winner for up to \$1,000 for travel, lodging, or other Forum expenditures (including fees for Learning Labs on December 6 or Minicourses on December 7).

Eligibility:

Any currently enrolled, full-time student (including but not limited to those in medical, nursing, pharmacy, social work, hospital administration, or engineering programs) may apply for the Calkins Scholarship.

Requirements:

David Calkins played an important role in helping IHI close the gap between current practice and best practice. In this spirit, we invite applicants for the scholarship in his name to complete an essay that describes a health care quality improvement project you would like to undertake or have undertaken. In **no more than 500 words** (a maximum of two double-spaced, type-written pages), your essay should describe a problem in current care and detail how your project would address it. Please include who you would engage to help develop your goals and plans for implementation and how you will know if the changes tested in your project are leading to the desired improvement. We will judge essays on the project’s potential to improve patient care and awarded points for clarity, simplicity, and brevity. Please do not include graphs or charts with your essay; we will only accept the 500-word essay in a Word file. Please do not submit your essay in a PDF format. We will only accept one essay per student.

All Calkins Scholarship entrants must also submit the Scholarship and Special Discount application (see below) and proof of full-time student status with your essay. Please indicate that you are applying for an academic scholarship. (Note: All full-time students are eligible for an academic scholarship that amounts to a 75% discount on Forum General Conference fees if they do not win the Calkins Scholarship.)

Deadline: Please complete the [online Scholarship and Special Discount Application](#) and submit proof of your full-time student status and your essay to Kimberly Mitchell at kmitchell@IHI.org with the subject line “David Calkins Scholarship application” no later than **Friday, October 9, 2015**, by 5:00 PM Eastern Time. The winner will notified by Monday, November 2, 2015.