

LaVonne A. Straub Annual Student Research Award

Purpose

The late Dr. LaVonne A. Straub devoted her professional career to working with students and professional organizations on rural health care issues in Illinois and the nation as a faculty member in the Department of Economics and the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs (IIRA) at Western Illinois University. To recognize her longtime commitment to fostering students' interest in rural health care issues through teaching and research, IIRA and the Illinois Rural Health Association will provide an annual award to a student who exemplifies the principles of sound research on a health care topic of major interest in rural areas. The award includes a \$1,000.00 stipend to help defray the costs of a research project on a suitable rural health care issue. Funds may be used to purchase data, conduct interviews, purchase software related to the project, and other research expenses. The project must be completed within a year and a report submitted to IIRA. If accepted, results will be published in the IIRA *Rural Research Report* series and the recipient will be invited to present the findings at the next Illinois Rural Health Association annual meeting.

Topics of Special Interest

Rural Illinois faces many issues in providing high quality health care. Population declines, under/uncompensated care by hospitals and health agencies, loss of pharmacies, health insurance, and other trends have threatened rural residents' access to health care. At the same time, rural areas have adopted innovative approaches to address these issues. Sharing these approaches will assist communities to provide high quality health care in the future.

Eligibility

Open to full or part-time undergraduate or graduate students conducting research on a major public health issue facing rural Illinois. Applicants must be enrolled in a degree program in a public or private university in Illinois.

Application Procedures

Applications must not exceed 10 double-space pages describing the issue(s) to be addressed, research design, and applications to issues facing rural Illinois with expected benefits to be received.

Applications should be sent by January 22, 2010 to:

LaVonne A. Straub Rural Research Award
Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs
Western Illinois University
1 University Circle
Macomb, IL 61455



Application
2010 LaVonne A. Straub Student Research Award

Name _____ **Phone** _____

Permanent Address _____ **E-mail** _____

This certifies that the applicant is a:

____ United States Citizen ____ Resident Alien ____ Nonresident Alien

University _____ **Year** (Fr, So, or Yr. in Med. School) _____

Major _____ **Faculty Sponsor** _____

Will you be able to attend at the Illinois Rural Health Association Annual Conference in April? ____ Yes ____ No

Title of Proposed Project _____

Proposed Project (2 double space pages or less)

Include purpose of project, steps in the research design, research procedures and expected results

How will the findings advance the knowledge about rural health? (250 words or less)

Proposed Detailed Budget

How will the funds be spent in conducting the research project? Include items such as transcription, postage, travel for interviews, commodities (paper and supplies), and related research expenses. Award funds do not cover incentives for research participants. Your own salary should not be included.

Timetable for conducting the research project

Provide a timetable regarding when you expect to conduct each phase of the project.

Has this project passed a Human Subjects Review? ____ yes ____ no

Include a letter of support from your faculty advisor with your application.

Submit the application to:

LaVonne A. Straub Rural Research Award
Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs
518 Stipes Hall
Western Illinois University
Macomb, IL 61455

Four copies of the applications must be received by **January 22, 2010**. Award winners will be notified by **February 22, 2010**.