

School of Medicine Watts Scholarships

The Daniel T. Watts fund was established in recognition of Dr. Watts' role as an eminent scholar and educator. After serving as a faculty member at the University of Virginia and department chair at West Virginia University, in 1966 Dr. Watts was recruited to the Medical College of Virginia as dean of the newly established School of the Basic Health Sciences, a position he held until 1982. Dr. Watts' commitment to educating the next generation of scientists and physicians touched many lives, including that of Thomas Robert Poole, a medical student at MCV. Ginny Poole Brinthaup, Dr. Poole's daughter, has provided a major gift to the Daniel T. Watts fund from Dr. Poole's estate to honor the life-long contributions Dr. Watts made as an educator and scientist to trainees like her father.

Watts Scholarship for Excellence in Pulmonary Disease Research

The Daniel T. Watts fund will provide up to two annual scholarships of \$2,000 each to Ph.D. students who (i) are making satisfactory academic progress in a School of Medicine Doctoral Program and (ii) have published a research article related to pulmonary disease in the past fiscal year.

Details for 2026

To be eligible, applicants must be

- enrolled in and making satisfactory academic progress in a School of Medicine Ph.D. program at the time of application
- author of a research article related to pulmonary disease accepted for publication or published between July 1, 2025 and June 30, 2026

Award

- \$2000 per recipient
- Up to 2 recipients

Application and decision time-line

- applications are due September 1, 2026
- applications will be reviewed by SOM graduate education executive committee
- awards will be made by October 1, 2026

Application materials and process: all materials below should be submitted as a single PDF via this [Google form](#)

- published article on which the student is an author
- letter of support from Ph.D. advisor

Watts Scholarship for Doctoral Student Enhancement

The Daniel T. Watts fund will provide several scholarships of \$1,000 each to newly matriculated SOM Ph.D. students.

Details for 2026

To be eligible, students must

- be new matriculants into a SOM PhD program in the fall of the award year
- be enrolled full-time in the fall of the award year
- have accepted standard support for stipend, tuition and fees for their doctoral training

Award

- \$1,000 per recipient
- several recipients per year

Application, decision and award time-line

- no application is necessary
- awards are made in late August each year