# NJDHA CHERYL WESTPHAL THIELE SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

This scholarship is named in honor of Dr Cheryl Westphal Theile, RDH, MS, EdD, Past President of NJDHA and the American Dental Hygienists’ Association (ADHA), and the first dental hygienist to serve on the New Jersey State Board of Dentistry.

The scholarship is presented at the NJDHA General Membership Meeting to a licensed dental hygienist who is pursuing a post-associates degree from an accredited institution in dental hygiene or studies related to the professional roles of the dental hygienist.

The scholarship is presented to a dental hygienist during the academic year for which applying. If graduating that same year, dental hygienist is still eligible. Note that the scholarship is distributed in October so this may be a reimbursement check given to the student for the expense already assumed during the semester.

The scholarship has a minimum base contribution from NJDHA as well as contributions from individuals and NJDHA components. The scholarship may not be presented every year.

Dental hygienists interested in applying for the Cheryl Westphal Theile Scholarship must meet the following criteria:

* Verification of a minimum GPA of 3.2 for the first twelve credits of the curriculum. A copy of the grade report may be submitted.
* Submission of an original essay on the topic of “Promoting Our Profession”. This topic was Ms. Westphal Theile’s theme during her year as ADHA President.
* The essay should be approximately 500 words in length, typed and double spaced.
* A separate cover sheet should be attached with the name of the dental hygienist, school and the date.
* Current membership in ADHA and NJDHA**.**

The essay will be evaluated on content, organization, development, grammar, and sentence structure. Electronic submission is preferred.

**Please submit application to CentralOffice@NJDHA.org by September 1, 2025**

**Privileges:** Monetary award contribution from NJDHA and its components.