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**AEIX Risk Management and Patient Safety Advancing Excellence**

**Professional Development Scholarship Application**

**DEFINITION:**

The Lighthouse Risk Management and Patient Safety Scholarships for Professional Development are for team-members who inspire to advance their knowledge and expertise in the field with the intent of utilizing their learnings to promote a safer healthcare environment.

**ELIGIBILITY:**

Risk Management and Patient Safety Professionals that are members of AEIX. “Member” includes any organization (hospital, clinic, long term care, urgent care, behavioral health, outpatient services, etc.) within the member system.

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Complete the application in its entirety.
* In the event of missing or incomplete information, *if* the timeline allows, AEIX will send applications back to the member and request completion and/or clarification of the application.
* Blanks and/or incomplete information may result in disqualification if the deadline for application submission has passed.
1. Applications must be submitted to AEIX in **WORD** format.
* Applications must be completed electronically (typed) and be sent in an editable format (do not scan and send the document or send in a non-editable format such as a pdf).
1. Completed applications should be sent via email, as a WORD document attachment,  with a copy to the organization’s risk management leader, to the following email: aeixawards@premierinc.com.

**DEADLINE FOR AWARD APPLICATIONS IS FRIDAY JULY 18th, 2025**

*It is recommended that applications are submitted well in advance of the deadline as in the event of missing or incomplete information, if the timeline allows, AEIX will send applications back to the member and request completion and/or clarification of the application.*

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**TIMELINE**

* **5/12/2025** - Application period opens
* **7/18/2025** - Application period closes
* **8/19/2025** - Awards & Grants Subcommittee meeting (review applications and vote on winners)
* **9/16/2025** - Subcommittee recommendations to IAC the slate of winners for approval
* **11/11/2025 – SAC/Board Meeting – final approval of winners**

*Notification of winners/non-winners via U.S. Mail occurs following the SAC meeting.*

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| 1 | Applicant Full **Name:** | Benjamin Elliott Hiett | 2 | **Date** Application Completed: | 07/15/2025 |
| 3 | Applicant **Email:** | BHiett@valleychildrens.org | 4 | **Title** of Applicant: | Safety Specialist |
| 5 | Applicant’s Risk Management System Leader **Name:** | Kat Remner | 6 | **Title** of Applicant’s System Leader: | Manager of Workforce Health, Wellness & Safety |
| 7 | Applicant’s Risk Management System Leader **Email:** | KRemner@valleychildrens.org |
| 8 | Member Organization:(Name of the system) | Valley Children’s Hospital | 9 | Member Location:*Include full address* | 9300 Valley Children's PlaceMadera, CA 93636-8762 |
| 10 | Number of years applicant has been at the organization: | 4 Years | 11 | Years in Risk Management or Patient Safety Role: | 1 Year |
| 12 | Education Requested: | Master’s Degree: Business Administration (MBA) | 13 | Cost of Education: | Twenty Thousand Dollars. ($20,000) |
| 14 | Date of Education:(when do you plan on completing the education?) | From spring/fall 2026 toFall 2028/ Spring2029 | 15 | Where is the education located: | ☐ Virtual *or*City: FresnoState: California |
| 16 | Copy and Paste the link to education here→→*(if a link is not available, attach information about the education to the email as separate documents)* | <https://craig.fresnostate.edu/grad-business/mba.html>  |
| 17 | Does your organization have a reimbursement program in place for this type of education?  | [x] Yes [ ] No  |
| Notes/Explanation for financial need: (*i.e. the certification itself is covered by the organization, but the prep-course is not; or – there is no budget for this type of education, etc.)*5,250 per year for a graduate course.  |
| 18 | How does the education support your organization’s strategic goals as it relates to the advancement of healthcare risk management and patient safety?As a Safety Specialist in a hospital setting, I lead initiatives focused on implementing safety practices, developing policies, and assist in designing education programs to safeguard patients, visitors, and staff. My background in Business Management has strengthened my ability to communicate effectively, address safety hazards, and swiftly respond workplace violence. Leveraging strong organizational skills and data analysis capabilities, I am able to identify root causes of incidents and drive meaningful solutions.While I am confident in these competencies, I am pursuing advanced education to further enhance my expertise—particularly in data presentation, policy development, and hazard identification and mitigation. My goal is to excel in proactively promoting a culture of safety, serve as a resource in critical moments, and ensure consistent adherence to best practices across our facility. Safety is at the heart of everything we do, and I strive to be a continuous force for improvement within our hospital community.  |
| bi | Describe the potential impact of the education on your organization’s patient safety and risk management programs: Pursuing advanced education will enhance my ability to drive meaningful improvements in our organization’s staff and patient safety and risk management programs. Currently, I play an active role in documenting, reporting, and following up on incidents related to workplace violence and occupational illness or injury. With additional academic training, I aim to move beyond operational tasks to become a strategic leader—developing evidence-based initiatives, organizational policies, and preventive frameworks that will empower staff and safeguard patients. This education will strengthen my capacity to anticipate risks, foster a proactive safety culture, and create sustainable solutions that reduce harm across the facility. |
| 20 | How does the education align with AEIX’s mission of “*To partner with forward-thinking healthcare leaders to safeguard assets, enhance patient safety, and inspire innovation” and vision of “Through our collective experience and unique expertise, we will provide the leading pathway for managing risk and improving safety in healthcare*”? *“Knowledge is a tool, and like all tools, its impact is in the hands of the user.”* – Dan BrownAs I continue to grow in life, something that very much excites me is being apart of a team to better the lives of others. That is what drove me to work at a pediatric hospital. What pains me the most are the few incidents when I feel like I could have done more but was ill-equipped to contribute more than I could at that moment. I intend to remedy that. I strive to collaborate with forward-thinking professionals and to become one myself. My goal is to become a subject matter expert in patient and staff safety, contributing proactively rather than reactively. I value shared learning, but even more, I’m eager to one day be part of the source of meaningful contribution.I desire to grow in knowledge and stature so that I can be one of those who can work actively with others in a proactive role to mitigate risk and improve healthcare, that is why I am submitting this application. To ask if you are willing to help me along the way so that I can, someday soon, contribute to the highest-level capacity that I can do.This is why I am submitting my application: to expand my knowledge and capacity so that I may help lead safety initiatives, mitigate risk, and elevate the quality of care in healthcare settings. I hope you will consider supporting me in this endeavor, so that I may continue working toward the highest level of impact I can offer.Thank you for your consideration. |

**ATTESTATION:**

[x]  **Yes, I (the applicant), attest to the notification of my organization’s Risk Management Leadership of this application and its content.**

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