The family of Lena Maxwell established an endowed scholarship in 1998 as a living memorial in her honor. Miss Maxwell graduated in 1928 from the Mennonite Sanitarium Training School, which later evolved to become Mennonite Hospital School of Nursing and then Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University. She served as superintendent of the school and director of nurses for 24 years (1935-36 and 1943-66). Miss Maxwell was an active member of the Mennonite Nurses Alumni Association until she died at the age of 94. She is a symbol of what it means be a Mennonite graduate, a Mennonite nurse. Her entire life was dedicated to the service of humanity.

The purpose of The Lena Maxwell Endowed Scholarship is to promote caring and compassionate nursing care as well as involvement in service and leadership activities in college and/or community organizations.

Undergraduate full time students are eligible. The undergraduate student must have completed at least the junior year of the nursing major at Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University. Candidates must demonstrate concern and compassion in the delivery of nursing care, demonstrate involvement through service or leadership activities in college and/or community organizations, and have a grade point average of 3.0 or higher.