The Jesse and Louise Schmied Endowed Scholarship Fund provides support for educational expenses to deserving students at Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University in order to prepare them for excellence in nursing care.

The Jesse and Louise Schmied Endowed Scholarship Fund was established in 2003 by their daughter, Merry Anne (Tudy) Schmied as a memorial to her parents, Jesse Frederick and Louise Marie Schmied. They were wonderful, loving parents who didn’t have the opportunity to attend college, but worked hard to give their five children the educational opportunities they desired. Both died of cardiovascular problems – Jesse in 1966 and Louise in 1993.

The purpose of The Jesse and Louise Schmied Scholarship Fund is twofold: (1) To reduce the financial burden as a barrier that may prevent an individual from enrolling and/or continuing as a nursing student at Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University. (2) To provide financial assistance to Mennonite College of Nursing faculty for scholarly pursuits and faculty development that result in innovation and excellence in the teaching of nursing students.

Each student candidate for The Jesse and Louise Schmied Endowed Scholarship must be enrolled as a full time undergraduate or graduate student at Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University, must demonstrate a compassionate heart and a desire to serve mankind through excellence in nursing care, must maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75 on a 4.0 scale and exhibit a strong potential to succeed, must demonstrate financial need as required by the Scholarship Fund Administrator, must use the scholarship for educational expenses, and must be a non-smoker.

Each faculty candidate for The Jesse and Louise Schmied Endowed Scholarship must be a member of the faculty at Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University, and must use the monies for scholarly pursuits and faculty development that result in innovation and excellence in the teaching of nursing students. This includes professional conferences, meetings, forums, etc. Monies cannot be used leading to a degree.