



Osteopathic Education Scholarships

Frequently Asked Questions

Supporting future osteopathic physicians helps to ensure that our community will continue to have local access to a broad range of care. The goal of the scholarship program is to encourage physicians to return to the area, build their practices, and contribute to the long-term health of our community.

What scholarships are offered by the Osteopathic Foundation of West Michigan?

We offer three categories of scholarships:

1. Medical Education Scholarships

- Available to osteopathic medical students who are:
 - Graduates of a high school within the geographic area served by the Osteopathic Foundation of West Michigan (Muskegon, Oceana, and northern Ottawa County)
 - In good standing at a medical school accredited by the American Osteopathic Association (AOA)
- These awards are typically up to \$1,000 each.
- Students may apply each year of medical school.
- The application can be found at bit.ly/MedApp17

2. The Dr. David A. Dora Medical Education Scholarship

- This scholarship was established in 2014 to honor Dr. David Dora for his commitment to serve our community and his students
- It is available to one osteopathic medical student who is:
 - An outstanding third-year osteopathic medical student with Mercy Health Muskegon as his or her base hospital
 - In good standing at a medical school accredited by the AOA
 - Intending to participate in Mercy Health Muskegon's residency program
- An initial award of \$5,000 will be paid in the summer following the third year.
- Recipients are eligible for a second award of \$5,000 if they meet the following criteria:
 - Participate in a residency program at Mercy Health Muskegon **OR**
 - Return to practice in the Foundation's service area within 2 years of graduation from either residency or fellowship (no more than 10 years after the initial award).
 - Submit a personal statement
- Students should apply in the spring of their third year.
- The application can be found at bit.ly/MedApp17

3. Resident Retention Scholarships

- This scholarship is available to graduating osteopathic residents of Mercy Health Muskegon who have formally committed (i.e. contracted) to practice in the Foundation's service area.
- Awards are up to \$5,000.
- The Resident Retention Scholarship application can be found at bit.ly/ResRetApp



Osteopathic Education Scholarships

What can scholarship money be used for?

Scholarship funds can be used for educational expenses including medical school tuition, instruction-related fees, books, supplies, and equipment, subject to IRS guidelines.

What are the requirements if I receive a scholarship?

- Scholarship recipients will be required to sign a Scholarship Agreement.
- All scholarship funds must be used for approved educational expenses.
- Scholarship recipients may be asked to participate in the West Michigan OsteoScholars program as a mentor or guest speaker.
- Medical Education and Dora Scholarship recipients must remain in good standing in a medical school accredited by the AOA.
- Medical Education and Dora Scholarship recipients are encouraged to return to practice in the area that the Foundation serves.
- Resident Retention Scholarship recipients must practice within Muskegon, Oceana, or northern Ottawa counties for a period of at least one year.

How are scholarship awards determined?

All scholarship applications are reviewed by the Foundation's Grant & Scholarship Committee which recommends awards to the Board of Directors. All decisions to award (or not award) scholarships are at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors.

Where do I find a scholarship application?

For the Medical Education Scholarship and the David Dora Medical Education Scholarship, please go to bit.ly/MEdApp17. For the Resident Retention Scholarship please go to bit.ly/ResRetApp17.

What is the deadline for submission?

All scholarship applications are due by March 31.

How do I submit my completed scholarship application?

Completed applications can be submitted electronically (contact@osteopathicfoundation.org) or by mail:

Osteopathic Foundation of West Michigan
800 E. Ellis Road
Norton Shores, MI 49441

Where can I find more information?

Visit our website at www.osteopathicfoundation.org or call us at (231) 720-0288.