

AAMC Northeast Group on Educational Affairs

SCHOLARS GRANTS

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who is eligible to apply?

Scholars Grants are awarded to *individuals*, not teams. Any medical educator from an NEGEA-affiliated institution is eligible to apply. Trainees (including medical students, residents, and fellows) are not eligible.

2. How is the SCHOLARS GRANT different from the Collaborative Research Grant?

The NEGEA offers two kinds of grants. In addition to the Scholars Grants, the Medical Education Scholarship, Research, and Evaluation (MESRE) Committee offers Collaborative Research Grants. These grants seek to build a community of researchers in the NEGEA region, and encourage collaboration among applicants. Grants are up to \$3,000 for individual institution projects and \$5,000 for multi-institutional projects.

NEGEA Scholars Grants are professional development grants, funding *individuals* to complete their own research and professional development projects. Individual grants can be up to \$15,000 with a \$5,000 matching institutional contribution.

For more information on MESRE Collaborative Grants, visit their [website](#).

3. Can I apply for a Scholars Grant and a MESRE Grant at the same time?

Applicants may not be a principal investigator (PI) on more than one NEGEA grant at a time. This means that applicants may not apply to both the Scholars Grants and MESRE Grants at the same time as PI, though they may serve on a team that is applying for a MESRE grant at the same time that they themselves are applying as PI for a Scholars Grant.

4. How can the funding be used? What are allowable expenses?

Funds may be used on direct expenses related to the individual and their project. Funds may not be used on indirect expenses. A sample budget is included with the Call for Proposals.

Some allowable expenses include:

1. Appropriate professional development opportunities at various regional and national venues, and expenses related to attendance
2. Consultation with educational scholarship experts (such as statistical consult)

3. Approved expenses related to the awardees' project

5. How long do I have to complete the project?

Each grant cycle is for two years, beginning July 1 (e.g., July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022). While the project must be completed in 2 years, awardees will have up to 1 additional year to complete their manuscripts.

During these 2 years, awardees must complete and submit progress reports to the NEGEA Scholars Grants Committee every six months, which detail work completed, funds spent, and problems or challenges encountered along with a plan for addressing those challenges. The final progress report should also include plans for disseminating the project.

In addition, awardees are expected to submit their work to the NEGEA Annual Meeting, when appropriate.

6. Do I have to find my own mentor? What if I don't have a mentor? Should I have more than one mentor?

Having a local mentor that is familiar with this work and available to support you will be ideal. This may be someone you've worked with in the past or someone you have identified with the expertise and experience needed to guide you. Their help is likely going to be valuable in submitting your grant application. However, if you do not have a mentor, the Committee may be able to assist you in identifying one in your area of interest, however it will be up to the awardee to facilitate communication with the mentor.

7. Can you describe what is meant by institutional support, besides the monetary donation of \$5000?

Institutional support can constitute protected time for completing the project, or monetary support for professional development activities. The expected type of institutional support should be included in the budget and approved within a letter of support by the Chair or appropriate leader.

8. When should I reach out to my institutional grant/development office?

We recommend connecting with them as early in the grant application process as possible. Each institution differs in their requirements and getting a head start in understanding what they are and planning for them is beneficial. In many cases, the grants office - or 'sponsored programs office' - will want to approve the budget and application.

9. Can I apply for this grant with a collaborator?

No, this grant is intended to be awarded to an individual, rather than a team; however collaborative teams might be interested in applying for [MESRE Collaborative Research Grant](#).

10. Who are previous grant recipients?

2018 Scholar

C. Jessica Dine, MD MSHP (Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania)
“Development of an Interprofessional Workplace-based Assessment Tool for Learners in the Health Professions”

2019 Scholars

Sarah Perez McAdoo, MD, MPH (Univ of Massachusetts Medical School- Baystate)
“The Development of the PURCH Health Equity Incubator”

Miya Bernson-Leung, MD, EdM (Boston Children’s Hospital and Harvard Medical School)
“Improving Pediatric Stroke Recognition and Management through Innovative Continuing Medical Education”

11. What if I still have questions?

For additional questions, please email us directly at: NEGEAScholars@gmail.com