

American Osteopathic Foundation's Karen J. Nichols, DO, LEAD Scholar Award

Scholarship Application

The American Osteopathic Foundation's Karen J. Nichols, DO, LEAD Scholar Award was established by Dr. Nichols to support, honor, and encourage Osteopathic medical students who show promise and exhibit the foundational leadership skills that will serve them and their communities now and in the future. Dr. Nichols was the first woman president of the AOA, an Osteopathic physician, former Dean of Midwestern University Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine, and current chair of the Board of Directors of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.

Purpose

This educational scholarship is awarded annually to recognize an Osteopathic medical student whose Leadership, Excellence, Achievement, and Dedication are proven in the classroom and community.

Award

A scholarship award of \$5,000 will be presented to one (1) individual who exemplifies the scholarship's purpose.

Eligibility

- Current OMS III or OMS IV in good standing at a College/School of Osteopathic Medicine (COM/SOM).
- Dedication to community and the Osteopathic profession
- Demonstrated leadership and its impact within the classroom and community
- Noteworthy achievements, awards, honors, special projects, and extracurricular activities
- Excellence within multiple areas: personal, academic, and professional
- Current AOA membership required to apply. (You may register for complimentary AOA student membership [here](#).)

Application Requirements

- [Completed online application](#) – students may apply directly
- A Letter of Good Standing from the Dean or their designee, confirming a strong (above average) academic standing and verification from the COM that, if received, this scholarship will not render the student ineligible for other financial aid opportunities or reduce the total aid for which they are eligible. An optional template is located [here](#).
- Two (2) letters of recommendation from the following list: academic medical instructor, Osteopathic physician, professional mentor, or similar professional within the Osteopathic profession that describe how the applicant exemplifies Leadership, Excellence, Achievement and Dedication
- A one (1) page personal statement that outlines how the student exemplifies Leadership, Excellence, Achievement and Dedication
- Current curriculum vitae or resume (include memberships, Osteopathic or other), and a current photo
- Proof of AOA student membership

Review Process

Applications close April 29, 2024. The selected student and their SOM/COM will be notified by July 31, 2024.

