



The University of Texas Medical Branch

Department of Physician Assistant Studies

March 19, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: UTMB P.A. Students

FROM: Richard R. Rahr, Ed.D., PA-C.  
Professor and Chair

RE: Competitive Scholarships

DEADLINE: **FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2009**  
(Return to Angela Donnella, by mail or bring to SAHS/Room 3.641)

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The Department of Physician Assistant Studies is seeking applications from departmental students (new and returning) and prospective students (alternates) for scholarships for the 2009/10 academic year.

The department offers the following scholarships: (1) Competitive Academic Scholarship and (2) the Edgar and Grace Gritzinger Endowed Scholarship. Applications for the competitive academic scholarship and essays for the Gritzinger scholarship should be received by Angela Donnella no later than Friday, May 1, 2009. Criteria for these scholarships are noted in the attachment. A copy of the scholarship application is located through the department website. No email copies please; we require a signed original. You may submit your application by mail or bring it our office.

If you are interested in applying for a scholarship, please submit the necessary documents (application or essay) by May 1, 2009. We are including wait list candidates in this "call for scholarship applications" since they would not otherwise have an opportunity to apply after the May 1 deadline. Before submitting the application, please understand that if you are awarded a scholarship you are required to attend the award ceremony in the fall unless travel from a clinical site greater than 100 miles prohibits it. If you have questions about these scholarships or the application process, please feel free to email Ms. Debra Munsell ([dsmunsel@utmb.edu](mailto:dsmunsel@utmb.edu)).

RRR:sm

## **COMPETITIVE ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP**

Applications for these awards are based on the following criteria. Application is attached.

1. Resident or non-resident (including foreign) student accepted for enrollment into SAHS program.
2. Cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or greater on a 4.0 scale (pre-professional studies); strong academic standing (professional studies)
3. Evidence of one of the following:
  - a. Membership in an academic honor society
  - b. Election to the Dean's List
  - c. Previous receipt of a competitive academic scholarship
  - d. Nominations as a National Merit Scholar
  - e. Indication of other awards/honors
  - f. Meets or exceeds departmental scholarship criteriaCriteria might include, but no necessarily limited to, the following:
  - (1) Evidence of health care related work experience
  - (2) Evidence of employment commitments while attending school (e.g., maintaining a respectable GPA while working full-time)
  - (3) Dedication to community involvement/betterment (e.g., Red Cross volunteer, hospital volunteer, especially in "people oriented fashion")
  - (4) Creative and innovative approaches to life in general and to a health career in particular
  - (5) Competitive standing in comparison to peers during admission process (e.g., cumulative order standing/standard admission test scores/personal interview scores)

## **GNITZINGER SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY**

Several Gnitzyger scholarships are available for physician assistant students. Interested students should submit a 1-1/2 to 2 page essay (single spaced) that best describes their involvement in geriatric medicine. Specific criteria for the Gnitzyger Award are:

1. The student must a full-time student in academic good standing.
2. The student must submit an essay addressing the following topics:
  - How have your personal experiences shaped your attitude toward geriatric medicine as it relates to your profession?
  - How can your discipline enhance the quality of life and health care for older people and improve potential outcomes within this patient population
  - What activities in the past or present have you been involved with that demonstrate your commitment to serving the geriatric population? (Briefly describe these activities)
  - What are your long term goals and how do they relate to geriatric health care?
3. The faculty within each department will evaluate the essay on content, quality and how it responds to the above questions.

## **SCHOLARSHIPS**

Dr. Daniel Allensworth Scholarship Endowment

Dr. Harry K. Davis Physician Assistant Student Scholarship

Edith & Emanuel Cohen/Evelyn A. Gerstein Memorial Scholarship

Departmental Competitive Academic Scholarship

Edgar & Grace Gnitzinger Scholarship

Thomas & Gleaves James Scholarship Endowment

Dr. Eugene Kindley Memorial Scholarship

Dr. Diane Lisa Sunshine Leonard Scholarship

Minnie & Ward Savage Presidential Endowment

Peyton & Lydia Schapper Endowed Scholarship Fund

Arthur V. Simmang Endowment

SAHS Silver Anniversary Scholarship Endowment

Texas Society of Allied Health Professions

University Federal Credit Union

Brigadier General & Mrs. Donald B. Wagner Endowed Scholarship

UTMB Retirees Association Scholarship

The scholarships listed above are available to physician assistant students, and applications for scholarships are accepted annually. New students are eligible to apply for scholarships after acceptance into the program. Non-resident students may qualify for exemption from paying out-of-state tuition rates if awarded a competitive scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 or more for the academic year, by an official scholarship committee or committees of the public institution of higher education attending. If non-resident or foreign students in competition with other students, including Texas residents, obtain these competitive scholarships, the students may pay the same tuition as a resident of Texas during the registration period in which the competitive scholarship is in effect. A competitive scholarship that qualifies the holder for waiver of the difference between the tuition charged to resident and non-resident students shall be awarded for the purpose of encouraging excellence in the academic program in which the student is enrolled. An institution shall not waive non-resident tuition on the basis of competitive scholarships for more than five percent of its total enrollment in the corresponding previous academic year.