



Clinical Scholars Program

2010 Application Instructions

The American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine (AAHPM) has arranged for a focused clinical training through an "Observership" with selected hospice and palliative care sites across the country. Observerships are intended for licensed physicians working in palliative care who seek to gain insight into alternative models or venues of care, delivery systems, or therapies. The **AAHPM Clinical Scholars Program (CSP)** provides for one week of attendance at a CSP Clinical Site with a clinical team; 12-15 hours of faculty mentoring as part of the training experience; one year of participation in discussion groups led by faculty from the CSP Clinical Sites; and a peer network for ongoing discussion. Upon successful completion of the AAHPM Clinical Scholars Program, participants will receive a Certificate of Completion.

The **AAHPM Clinical Scholars Program** is intended to allow observing physicians to accomplish one or more of the following goals:

- Enhance individual knowledge and practice of palliative care through observation of an expert team and the systems in place to provide care
- Enhance individual knowledge and practice of academic palliative medicine through exposure to a team engaged in training and research
- Enhance individual knowledge and practice of specific elements in palliative medicine, such as advanced symptom control and communication skills
- Enhance individual knowledge and practice of palliative care in specific clinical populations, e.g., oncology, neurology, cardiology, etc.
- Provide exposure to a clinical team serving populations with varied racial, ethnic, cultural, socioeconomic backgrounds
- Provide exposure to populations with specific demographics, e.g., rural vs. urban or academic vs. community

Eligibility

Applicants must be licensed physicians having a strong foundation in hospice and palliative medicine. Priority will be given to physicians who have demonstrated a commitment to a career in hospice and palliative care by completing palliative medicine educational activities. The clinical observership within individual CSP Clinical Sites may vary. Documentation of completion of non-AAHPM continuing medical education activities is required.

AAHPM does not discriminate against applicants on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, or a disability.

Fees

An application fee of \$500 is due along with a completed application to AAHPM. Fifty percent, or \$250, of the application fee is refundable if AAHPM does not provide an acceptable match between the applicant and a CSP Clinical Site. The fee of \$3000 for the Observership will be payable to the Academy after the applicant has received confirmation of a match with a CSP Clinical Site and agreed with the Site on a mutually convenient week of observation. Please note each observing physician is responsible for arrangement and costs of travel, meals, and lodging during the observation week. In the event a physician cancels an Observership in writing, the Observership fee will be refunded, provided, however, that a processing fee of \$500 will be deducted from the refunded amount in the event the physician cancels within forty-five (45) days of the start date for the Observership.

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Instructions

Completed applications must include the following:

- application form
- curriculum vitae (limited to 8 pages)
- photocopy of the physician's medical license
- documentation of non-AAHPM CME certificates
- payment of the \$500 application fee

Applications will not be reviewed until all items are received.

If applicants choose to pay by check, checks should be made payable to AAHPM. Checks not in US funds will be returned. A charge of \$25 will apply to checks returned for insufficient funds. These items can be faxed or mailed to AAHPM.

Mail to: AAHPM

Attn: Clinical Scholars Program
PO Box 3781
Oakbrook, IL 60522

Fax to: AAHPM

Attn: Clinical Scholars Program
(847) 375.6433

Notification

AAHPM will confirm receipt of applications, to those who have provided an email address, within 5 business days after receipt at the AAHPM offices. Within approximately three weeks of AAHPM having received a completed application, applicants should be notified as to whether they have been matched with a Clinical Site for participation in the program. Those matched will be forwarded a confirmation letter with further instructions regarding scheduling and payment of fees. Please anticipate a timeline from receipt of application to scheduled training of a minimum of three (3) months.