



# 2020 Carolyn L. Kuckein Student Research Fellowship

**Purpose:** To foster the development of the next generation of medical researchers.

**The Opportunity:** Financial support for research to be conducted either during a continual period of a minimum of 8 to 10 weeks, 30 hours or more per week; or an average of 4 hours per week for 12 months over a period of 1 to 2 years, for clinical investigation, basic laboratory research, epidemiology, social science/health services research, leadership, or professionalism.

Funds from the fellowship are expected to be the major source of support for the student.

Only one candidate from each school may be nominated.

A student may only receive one fellowship during medical school.

**The Award:** \$6,000, of which \$2,500 will be paid on announcement of the award, and \$2,500 will be paid after receipt and approval of the final research report.

In addition, each student will be reimbursed a maximum of \$1,000 to cover travel expenses related to the presentation of his/her Fellowship research results at a national meeting or conference that takes place within one year of distribution of the final check. Within 60 days following the travel, students will need to complete and submit the reimbursement form found on AΩA's website along with a copy of the conference registration form or agenda and all related receipts.

**Eligibility:** First-, second-, and third-year medical students from schools with active AΩA Chapters, or Associations, are eligible. M1, M2, and M3 students must be actively enrolled in medical school classes. Students taking a year off for research or to gain a PhD are not eligible. MD/PhD holders are not eligible, but are encouraged to apply for the Post Graduate Fellowship.

**Application Deadlines:** Proposals first must be submitted to the student's Chapter Councilor for review and consideration. Each Chapter Councilor may set his/her deadline for submission. The final application must be submitted online through the AΩA website at [http://alphaomegaalpha.org/student\\_research.html](http://alphaomegaalpha.org/student_research.html) by **January 31, 2020**. No email submissions will be accepted.

**Proposal to Councilors:** Councilors and their selection committees will select one proposal for submission. The proposal must include:

1. The completed checklist. Checklist may be more than one page;
2. A summary (four or fewer pages) of the research project written by the applicant, single-spaced, in 12-point type with 1- inch margins, as follows: title, hypothesis, rationale, background information, methods and sample size, plan for data analysis, potential significance, role of the student in preparation and execution of the project, an estimate of the number of weeks that the student will devote to the project, and an acronym definition list;
3. The project bibliography;
4. Proof of IRB or IACUC approval;
5. The student's CV (no more than 3-4 pages);
6. A letter of support from the faculty mentor/research supervisor indicating his/her commitment of time and interest to the project and student, and
7. The faculty mentor/research supervisor's biographical sketch (3-4 pages – see NIH format for an example). *Do not send the mentor's complete CV.*

**Application:** Applications must be submitted online through the AΩA website at [http://alphaomegaalpha.org/student\\_research.html](http://alphaomegaalpha.org/student_research.html) and must include, all above mentioned items, and:

1. A letter of endorsement from the AΩA Councilor; and
2. A Dean's endorsement letter that should include comments on the student's achievements and potential, and the suitability of the faculty mentor/research supervisor.

**The Review Process:** An AΩA committee will evaluate each proposal, and may request additional information. All members of the application packet who are AΩA members, must have active status.

**Date of Award Announcement:** Winning awards will be announced **April 20, 2020**.

**Other Important Information:**

1. Approval of clinical or animal research projects by the local medical center IRB or IACUC must be received before awarded applications can be funded.
2. No later than **June 30, 2021**, all recipients must submit a detailed final research report (minimum of four pages) to AΩA. The report must include the title, original hypothesis, and a description of the methods, discussions, results, and conclusions. Completion of the project is not required.
3. Any publication of the AΩA-supported research project must contain the following acknowledgment: "Supported in part by an Alpha Omega Alpha Carolyn L. Kuckein Student Research Fellowship."

4. AΩA is committed to upholding a high standard of professionalism, compassion and humanism in medicine. Patients should be treated with dignity and their privacy respected. We will not accept submissions that conflict with these values, or contain bigotry, or highly politicized content.

#### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

##### *How do I find out who my school's AΩA Councilor is?*

Visit the AΩA website at <http://alphaomegaalpha.org>, then to Chapters or Associations

##### *What is the deadline for submitting my proposal to my school's AΩA Councilor?*

This date is set by each school's Councilor. Contact your school's AΩA Councilor for her/his submission deadline.

##### *How many Fellowships are awarded each year?*

AΩA allocates funds for 50-70 awards each year.

##### *Are there restrictions as to how the award money should be used?*

No. How the money is used is at the recipient's discretion.

##### *Is a student restricted to doing the research project in the summer months?*

No. It is up to the student's and the school's scheduling. However, the student is required to complete the project and submit a final report to AΩA by June 30 of the year following receipt of the Fellowship.

##### *Does the student applying for the research fellowship have to complete the research at the same institution?*

No. The research can be completed at any institution as long as the student has a specific mentor who is willing to support his/her research project. If the mentor and student are at different institutions a detailed accounting of how, where, and when the two will work together must be included in the submission. If this is not included the submission will be rejected.

##### *If a school has two outstanding proposals, can the Councilor submit both?*

No. Only one proposal from each school may be submitted.

##### *Can a student accept additional funding from another organization on the same project?*

Yes, as long as the AΩA funds are the major source of support for the student's research.

**Questions should be directed to** Libby Appel at [studentresearch@alphaomegaalpha.org](mailto:studentresearch@alphaomegaalpha.org), or 720-859-4149

Beginning August 1, 2019 all AΩA awards, fellowships, grants, and program submissions must be electronically submitted through the appropriate page on the AΩA website.

## Checklist: AQA Carolyn L. Kuckein Student Research Fellowship

|                                    |  |             |  |                     |  |
|------------------------------------|--|-------------|--|---------------------|--|
| Mr/Ms/Mrs:                         |  | First name: |  | Last name:          |  |
| Address:                           |  |             |  | Cell phone:         |  |
| E-mail:                            |  |             |  | Year of graduation: |  |
| Title of proposal:                 |  |             |  |                     |  |
| School:                            |  |             |  |                     |  |
| Councilor name(s) & address:       |  |             |  | E-mail:             |  |
| AQA chapter admin name (optional): |  |             |  | E-mail:             |  |
| Mentor name(s):                    |  |             |  | E-mail:             |  |
| Mentor address:                    |  |             |  |                     |  |
| Dean's name:                       |  |             |  | E-mail:             |  |
| Dean address:                      |  |             |  |                     |  |

### Checklist for submission to AQA Councilor:

|  | Item  |  |                        |  | File Name                           |
|--|---|--|------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
|  | Completed checklist   |  |                        |  | 1-Checklist.pdf                     |
|  | Four-page summary (single-spaced, 12 point type, 1-inch margins)                        |  |                        |  | 2-Summary.pdf                       |
|  | Title   |  | Background information |  | Potential significance              |
|  | Hypothesis  |  | Method and sample size |  | Student's role and estimate of time |
|  | Rationale   |  | Plan for data analysis |  | Acronym definition list             |
|  | Bibliography of the project   |  |                        |  | 3-Biblio.pdf                        |
|  | IRB or IACUC required? (Y or N)   |  |                        |  |                                     |
|  | IRB or IACUC approval, or proof of application (do not include the complete submission) |  |                        |  | 4-Approval.pdf                      |
|  | Student's curriculum vitae  |  |                        |  | 5-StudentCV.pdf                     |
|  | Letter of support from faculty mentor/research supervisor                               |  |                        |  | 6-MentorLtr.pdf                     |
|  | Faculty/mentor research supervisor's biographical sketch (do not send the complete CV)  |  |                        |  | 7-MentorBio.pdf                     |

### Checklist for submission to National Office (by January 31<sup>st</sup>):

|  |  |                    |
|--|--|--------------------|
|  | Letter of endorsement from AQA councilor   | 8-CouncilorLtr.pdf |
|  | Letter of endorsement from the dean, including comments about suitability of faculty advisor | 9-DeanLtr.pdf      |

**Questions:** Contact Libby Appel at 720-859-4149 or visit: [alphaomegaalpha.org/student\\_research.html](http://alphaomegaalpha.org/student_research.html).