



2012 Paul Ambrose Scholars Program

Program Information and Application Instructions

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A Collaborative Initiative Sponsored by

Association for Prevention Teaching and Research and the
Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion



What is the Paul Ambrose Scholars Program (PASP)?

The Paul Ambrose Scholars Program exposes health professions students to influential public health professionals and prepares them to be leaders in addressing population health challenges at the national and community level. Scholarships are awarded to students to attend a leadership symposium in Washington, DC and conduct a community-based health education project at their institution. Since 2002, more than 400 students from 160 academic institutions have become Paul Ambrose Scholars, equipped with leadership and organizational skills in public health education that can only be found outside of the classroom.

Program History

PASP is posthumously named for Paul W. Ambrose, MD, MPH, a rising star in the field of prevention and public health who tragically lost his life on September 11, 2001. At the time of his death, Dr. Ambrose worked for APTR and ODPHP serving as the 7th Luther Terry Fellow. During his fellowship, Dr. Ambrose worked closely with the Office of the Surgeon General and was the point person for multi-agency collaborations addressing public health issues such as obesity, healthy lifestyles, medical school curricula and health disparities. Dr. Ambrose was committed to caring for the underserved and promoting public health, and he pursued these goals with extraordinary talent, resourcefulness and energy. His vision laid the original groundwork to create a comprehensive student leadership symposium to prepare health professions students to address impending public health challenges. Although Dr. Ambrose never had the opportunity to realize this dream during his lifetime, PASP embodies his ideas and the path he chose guides future health professionals to careers in prevention and public health.

The Paul Ambrose Scholars Program (PASP) is planned and implemented by the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research (APTR). APTR is the professional organization representing accredited and emerging graduate public health programs, medical and health professions faculty, and students dedicated to interprofessional prevention education and research. APTR advances population-based and public health education, research and service by linking and supporting members from across the academic prevention community.

“Becoming a Paul Ambrose Scholar was life changing. The conference provided me with information that assisted me not only with organizing and planning my health promotion project, but also in other community projects related to school.”

~ PASP Alumnus

Program Focus Areas

Training opportunities in disease prevention and health promotion are critical for emerging healthcare leaders as our nation struggles with reform of our healthcare system, increasing health care costs, escalating numbers of uninsured and rising disease and morbidity rates. Now more than ever it is apparent that healthcare professionals must be well versed in public health competencies. However, few opportunities currently exist for health professions students to learn these timely leadership and organizational skills in their own institutions.

PASP seeks to abate this gap and meet the current and future health needs of the public by affording student leaders the opportunity to:

- Attend a four-day symposium in Washington, DC.
- Implement a funded and mentored health promotion or disease prevention project within the scholar's community or at their institution.

Symposium

The symposium is a non-traditional and interactive forum held in Washington, DC from June 21-24, 2012 at the DoubleTree Hotel. The symposium empowers health professions students by enhancing their leadership skills and teaching them important public health competencies in a non-traditional and interactive forum. Scholars will gain a deeper understanding of the complexities and varying attitudes toward public health and learn methods to affect change in their own community. Students leave with a deeper understanding of their role in our complex public health system.

Speakers include prominent United States public health officials such as Surgeons General, Assistant Secretaries for Health and other governmental officials, industry experts and veteran public health practitioners with expertise in areas including:

- **Community-based Health Care:**
The essential elements of community health practice, including logic modeling on how to succeed in meeting the basic healthcare needs of diverse populations.
- **Evidence-based Public Health Decision-Making:**
Steps for initiating change in a health care education or delivery system by using the best available evidence to make informed decisions.
- **Health Care Finance and Delivery:**
Learn about the revolution in funding and delivery.
- **Negotiating for Healthcare Leaders:**
Practical approaches to negotiation, types and sources of conflict and the importance of leadership, power and influence.
- **Community Organizing and Coalition Building:**
How to establish alliances between groups within a community in order to mobilize the diverse needs and interests around common concerns.
- **Public Speaking and Media Relations:**
Public speaking 101; how to generate support through public presentations and influence mass media.

- **Policy Advocacy:**
Effective tools employed by some advocacy organizations to influence healthcare policy.
- **Project Planning:**
Basic guidelines for your project planning and management.
- **Cultural Competency and Health Literacy:**
A conceptual framework to outline the relationship between communication, health care quality and patient outcomes.
- **Working in Interprofessional Teams:**
Gain an understanding of the core principles and concepts of each contributing discipline in the health professions.

Participating Surgeons General have included:

David Satcher, MD
16th U.S. Surgeon General

Richard H. Carmona, MD, MPH, FACS
17th U.S. Surgeon General

Regina Benjamin, MD
18th U.S. Surgeon General

Round table discussions allow for mentorship on training and career opportunities in each of the represented health professions. Students can learn about career paths and the integration of prevention and population health into one's career focus.

"This has been an amazing opportunity. I have learned so much information that I know will be invaluable to my career and ability to truly make a difference."

~ PASP Alumnus

Community-Based Project

Following the symposium, scholars develop and implement a health promotion or disease prevention project at their institutions or in their communities. Students enlist a mentor from their institution who has previous knowledge and interest in prevention and health promotion to guide them in executing the project. With support from APTR, scholars have one year to complete this unique project and receive a micro-grant of up to \$200 to assist with project-related costs upon completion.

A variety of potential projects are acceptable micro-grant activities. Some examples include implementing a field project on improving health promotion and disease prevention in their community, brown-bag seminars for the student community, developing an elective rotation in community-based public health, forming an active prevention and public health interest group or working with the school's curriculum committee to incorporate prevention content into an existing course. More examples of past projects can be found on the APTR website (www.aptrweb.org).

Mentor

Your project mentor is critical to the success of your project. Please choose someone from your institution with experience in public health and prevention, as he/she will serve as a reference for you throughout the course of your project. If selected as a Paul Ambrose Scholar, your project mentor will be contacted, notifying them that you have been accepted into the program and that they have been designated as your project mentor. Your mentor will then need to sign a project mentor agreement upon your acceptance.

“My project launched me into a research assignment that resulted in a publication in a major journal.”

~ PASP Alumnus

Eligibility

Scholars are selected through a through a competitive application process. **Applicants must be students** in one of the following areas of graduate study at an accredited institution within the United States:

- Allopathic Medicine
- Dentistry
- Graduate Nursing
- Graduate Physician Assistant
- Osteopathic Medicine
- Pharmacy
- Physical Therapy (D.P.T.)

*Please Note: The symposium presents introductory information for clinical students without prior advanced public health training. Students enrolled in public health programs or students with graduate degrees in public health are NOT eligible. Applicants graduating in 2012 are NOT eligible.

“A life-changing and wonderful experience. Inspiring, touching, motivating, and I can’t express how honored I feel to be a scholar.”

~ PASP Alumnus

Symposium Logistics

APTR directly pays for hotel accommodations on Thursday, June 21; Friday, June 22; and Saturday, June 23. Scholars share double-occupancy rooms with a same-sex peer. Scholars may book their own rooms separately at the hotel at the group-discounted rate if they wish for a single room. Please note that all scholars must stay at the symposium hotel.

Light hors d’oeuvres will be provided at the Meet ‘N Greet Thursday evening. Breakfast and lunch will be provided on Friday and Saturday, as well as breakfast on Sunday. A \$250 travel stipend is available to help cover costs of air or ground transportation and meals not otherwise included on a reimbursement basis after the symposium. Participants are required to submit itemized receipts for reimbursable expenses. The stipend will not cover alcoholic beverages, long-distance phone calls or internet, souvenirs, toiletries, or other incidentals. Students residing in the metropolitan DC area will be reimbursed for local transportation or parking and mileage for a personal vehicle (\$0.51/mile).

Full attendance throughout the duration of the Symposium is required. Failure to participate in each component will result in partial or no travel stipend reimbursement. Prior to the start of the symposium, there will be a few short activities to complete and submit to APTR via email, including a pre-symposium project plan.

Application Instructions

All applicants are required to complete the PASP online application at <http://aptrweb.org/pasp>.

You must complete all of the required fields and submit the application in a single session. Incomplete applications will not be saved for later use. If you close the application window before submission, you will need to start the application in a new window.

Please be sure that you have all of the required application materials and information **prior** to beginning the online application.

The application requires general applicant information as well as three attached documents. These documents must be attached to the online application in the specified places as word documents or .pdf files. Include your name and contact information in all documents.

- **Applicant curriculum vitae or resume**
- **One letter of recommendation from a faculty member at your institution**
The recommendation letter may be written by your proposed project mentor
- **Applicant statement of interest**
In 500 words or less please briefly address the following:
 - What strengths and attributes will make you a successful Paul Ambrose Scholar
 - What skills you would like to acquire as a Paul Ambrose Scholar that will help you advance prevention education at your school or in your community
 - How you expect to grow professionally or personally as a result of this experience
 - The prevention education or health promotion project you plan to implement at your institution or in your community

In addition applicants are required to provide:

- **Faculty Recommender:** name, address, email and phone number
- **Project Mentor:** name, address, email and phone number
- **Academic institution:** name and address

The online application must be electronically submitted with all required attachments no later than midnight on Monday, February 6, 2012 EST.

Review Process

- APTR will examine all applications for completeness.
- APTR will notify applicants via email of application receipt within a week of the application deadline.
- Each application will be objectively reviewed by a committee comprised of faculty, health professionals and past Paul Ambrose Scholars. The review is based on the applicant's statement of interest, credentials and experience, project proposal and recommendation letter.
- Applicants will receive notification about participant selections at the end of March/beginning of April.

Please contact APTR for additional information.

Phone: (202) 463-0550, ext 137

E-mail: pasp@aptrweb.org

Web: www.aptrweb.org

**All applicants receive equal consideration without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, political affiliation, age, sexual orientation or any other non-merit factor.*