



ABMS VISITING SCHOLARS



American Board
of Medical Specialties
Higher standards. Better care.®

OUR PROGRAM

The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) Visiting Scholars Program is a one-year, part-time program that provides early career physicians and others with relevant advanced degrees with exposure to the fields of:

- Physician assessment and continuing professional development
- Quality improvement (QI)
- Regulatory policy, assessment, and the performance improvement work of ABMS and Member Boards
- Health services research and scholarship in areas that improve patient care, quality, and physician performance

Visiting Scholars conduct research that is relevant to Board Certification and Continuing Certification, in collaboration with mentors from their institution and liaisons from ABMS and its Member Boards. Through their research and program engagement, scholars help inform the fields of professional development, physician self-regulation, and quality improvement. Scholars participate in the program remotely, remaining at their home institutions and organizations and attending three in-person meetings during the year.

VISITING SCHOLAR BENEFITS

- Scholars pursue professional goals through relationships with the ABMS Member Boards Community and other leading professional organizations
- Scholars become familiar with the policy and the health care delivery environment in which continuing certification occurs
- Scholars participate in interactive monthly videoconferences with national health care leaders, ABMS leadership committee meetings, conferences, and forums
- Scholars enjoy ongoing engagement with each other, program alumni, and the ABMS Member Boards community
- Scholars conduct projects of value to their programs and organizations
- Scholars build networks that inform their research and support their professional development
- Scholars' work is nationally recognized and disseminated

CURRICULUM

EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL NETWORKING

During the year, scholars participate in three 3-day, in-person programs — primarily in Chicago — which include:

- ABMS conferences
- Meetings with leaders from ABMS Associate Members, such as the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education, Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, American Hospital Association, American Medical Association, and Council of Medical Specialty Societies

Scholars join a growing network of program alumni committed to quality improvement, patient safety, and health care system improvement.

LEADERSHIP SEMINARS

Scholars participate in monthly leadership development webinars led by national experts related to:

- **Professional Development** focusing on key issues, innovations, and best practices in the continuing professional development of physicians and other health care professionals
- **Health Policy and the External Environment** focusing on issues and influences in the health policy environment, how different health care organizations play a role in continuing certification, how the interests of the federal and state governments influence quality and patient care, and how health policy impacts quality, safety, and the health care workforce
- **Quality Improvement** focusing on quality improvement methods and tools and the role of QI in the clinical environment
- **Health Services Research** focusing on research and evaluations underway in health care delivery, QI, and financing

RESEARCH SUPPORT

Scholars are linked to contacts within ABMS, the Member Boards Community, and others who assist, support, and inform the Scholars' projects and with the scope and scale of the scholars' research.

Scholars receive a grant to support research and travel expenses associated with program participation.

WHO SHOULD APPLY

The Visiting Scholars Program is open to early career physicians, junior faculty, fellows, residents, and individuals holding Master's or Doctorate degrees in public health, health services research, and public health policy and administration, or other related disciplines.

Applicants should have a project that is ongoing or ready to begin and a designated institutional mentor to help guide their work. The project may build on existing research at the applicant's institution.

Potential areas of research include: QI in patient care; organizational or systems improvement; continuing professional development; assessment of knowledge, judgment and skills; professionalism; systems-based practice; patient safety/harm reduction; milestones, and physician-patient communication.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Scholars are selected based on the quality of their proposed research project, the relevance of their research to the ABMS mission, the likelihood of making substantial progress on the project during the scholar year, and their potential contributions to the program and certification community. Applications that address areas of priority concern to the certification community or are developed in collaboration with one or more ABMS Member Boards may receive priority. In addition, directed, specialty specific opportunities may be available.

Applications must include:

- A description of the applicant's research project including research questions, research plan, budget, expected outcomes, and timeline
- A personal statement describing the applicant's interests and goals
- Current CV
- Letters of support from: (1) the faculty member or other institutional leader who will serve as the scholar's research mentor, and (2) the applicant's department chair, associate dean/assistant dean, residency program director, or other supervisor

RESEARCH PROJECT

Under the guidance of their institutional mentor and ABMS liaisons, scholars will further develop, refine, and conduct their research. At the end of the year-long program, scholars are expected to disseminate their work at an ABMS conference and by submitting a paper for publication to a peer-reviewed journal within 12 months of completion of the scholar year.

QUESTIONS & APPLICATION PROCESS

For more information about the program, participating scholars, and this year's application process, go to: visiting scholars.abms.org



WE VALUE YOUR SUPPORT

ABMS Research and Education Foundation thanks the Member Boards Community and the many individuals and organizations that make the ABMS Visiting Scholars Program a dynamic and rewarding scholarship opportunity. We gratefully acknowledge the contributions of ABMS Associate Member leaders, national health policy experts and others who have shared their knowledge and insight with scholars.

Join ABMS in the development of future clinician leaders, health care policy-makers, quality improvement experts, and research scientists. Consider:

- **Sponsorship:** Support a scholar's research in an area of interest to your specialty, organization or institution
- **Partnership:** Provide scholars with on-site or remote learning opportunities that complement the core curriculum and enhance program experience
- **Mentorship:** Help qualified candidates develop and submit strong project proposals, and guide and inform their research if selected

Your support is critical to inform the scholars' research, engage them in quality improvement and community leadership, and expand their professional horizons.

To learn more about ways your organization can contribute to the development of next generation leaders, contact:

ABMSVisitingScholars@abms.org

“The Visiting Scholars Program is an exciting and productive way to engage with young leaders in our field and involve them in quality improvement, lifelong learning, and health policy. It’s also a great way to create ambassadors to help build critical connections to the next generation of physicians and deepen their appreciation of professionalism and physician self-regulation.”

David F. Martin, MD, Executive Medical Director, American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery

ABMS VISITING SCHOLARS



“The Visiting Scholars Program was an outstanding experience that fostered my career development. One of the lasting benefits has been the national network of fellow scholars (now alumni) who are actively engaged in innovative research and quality improvement efforts.”

Michelle Lin, MD, Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai Beth Israel Hospital. Dr. Lin was a fellow in Health Policy Research at Brigham and Women’s Hospital and an attending emergency physician and instructor at Harvard Medical School during her Scholar year (2014-2015).



“The Visiting Scholars Program was one of the most formative experiences in my early career development. My experience pursuing scholarly work while engaging with seminal quality improvement and health policy leaders helped me secure leadership opportunities ordinarily not open to someone right out of residency; others saw my program participation as developmental and skill-building, and confirmation of my abilities. ”

Iahn Gonsenhaus MD, MBA, serves as Interim Chief Quality & Patient Safety Officer, and Assistant Professor, Clinical, Division of Hospital Medicine, Ohio State University (OSU), Wexner Medical Center. Dr. Gonsenhaus was among the Visiting Scholar Program’s inaugural class as an internal medicine resident at OSU (2014-2015).



“As a Visiting Scholar, I have found new colleagues, made lifelong friends, and grown personally and professionally. I would recommend the program to anyone interested in health care policy, education, and patient care quality improvement.”

Sandeep Mannava, MD, PhD is a practicing orthopaedic surgeon and sports medicine doctor, and an assistant professor at the University of Rochester, School of Medicine. During his Scholar year, Dr. Mannava served as a Sports Medicine Fellow at the Steadman-Phillippon Research Institute. Dr. Mannava’s participation in the 2016-2017 Visiting Scholar Program was co-sponsored by the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery.



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