



U.S. AIR FORCE

# HEALTH PROFESSIONS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

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## THE SCHOLARSHIP

The Air Force Health Professions Scholarship Program helps medical student's complete medical school by providing financial support to the medical school of their choice. Scholarship participants receive financial assistance covering all tuition and required fees, including books, small equipment items, and supplies needed for study, in addition to other educational expenses normally incurred by students in the civilian school's degree program. They also receive a monthly stipend of \$2,201 to cover living expenses, and \$20,000 bonus for a four year scholarship.

You will also have the opportunity to apply for two separate residency matches, giving you a better chance to match into the specialty you prefer (Air Force and civilian). The Air Force alone has numerous residency and fellowship training program opportunities in 83 different specialties at 9 different AF training locations. If matched into an AF residency, you will also get paid more during that residency, compared to most civilian residencies.

When you become an Air Force Physician, you enter an established medical practice with the best healthcare team in the world. There's no need to worry about overhead expenses, malpractice insurance and other red tape that's common in a civilian practice. You'll have the satisfaction of knowing you can give your patients the medical care they need without worrying about their ability to pay. You'll also share a common bond with them — service to country.



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## MONEY IN YOUR POCKET

No one needs to tell you just how expensive medical school can be. Earning your Doctor of Medicine (MD) or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) takes a lot of hard work and financial sacrifice. With a scholarship through the Air Force Health Professions Scholarship Program (HPSP), you can smile while WE pay the bills. Since there are no financial worries, you'll be able to concentrate on your studies and make the most of your time in school. Allowing you to set yourself ahead of your peers, while also keeping money in your pocket.

Approximately 75 percent of all Air Force medical officers currently on active duty received a scholarship through the HPSP.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION

Your education doesn't stop once you enter the Air Force.

### **Additional Graduate Medical Education (GME):**

The Air Force offers residency and fellowship programs in a wide variety of specialties. Nearly all residencies are integrated or affiliated with civilian universities.

### **Medical Research:**

We are known for conducting cutting-edge research in a variety of fields. We offer opportunities for healthcare professionals to peruse research in conjunction with the Department of Defense, local, national and international government as well as academic institutions and industry.

### **Continuing Medical Education (CME):**

The CME program helps you meet your professional continuing education requirements. The Air Force will work with you to ensure you have the opportunity to get the CME that best benefits your job experience.



# BASIC REQUIREMENTS

## GENERAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

### AGE

Projected actual age on date of completion of medical school is less than **39**

### CITIZENSHIP

Be a U.S. citizen.

### MCAT SCORE

**494**

### GPA

**3.2**

### DEGREE

Accepted to or enrolled in a U.S. accredited medical school (M.D or D.O)

## YOUR OBLIGATION

Students are commissioned as second lieutenants (O-1) in the Medical Services Corps and placed on Inactive Ready Reserve status during the course of their studies. This arrangement takes a huge financial worry off students' minds and allows them to dedicate time for learning.

In Return, the Air Force asks for your commitment to serve on active duty as an Air Force health professional with a year-for-year payback based on the total years of scholarship for medical school. Active duty time starts after you complete residency.

- 2 yr. HPSP recipients - 2 yr. service obligation.
- 3 yr. HPSP recipients - 3 yr. service obligation.
- 4 yr. HPSP recipients - 4 yr. service obligation.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## 1. When should I apply for the HPSP scholarship?

Scholarships are awarded on a rolling board and are first come-first serve basis; so early application maximizes the opportunity for selection. The application process can take some time, and you must be accepted into the scholarship prior to the start of medical school. Meaning, you should apply immediately to ensure you secure a scholarship prior to the start of medical school. On average for the 4 year scholarships, the best time to apply is fall of the year prior to attending medical school. Students in medical school applying for a 2 or 3 year scholarship should apply immediately.

## 2. What happens if I am selected to become an Air Force Scholarship participant?

Your #1 priority while enrolled in the HPSP program is to dedicate yourself to your studies. You will attend and complete your education at the medical school you were accepted to. HPSP students also participate in specialized military training programs designed to help orient them to Air Force medicine; these are known as ADT's. Students are placed on ADT orders for 45 days each year of the HPSP participation. During that 45 day period, you may attend training programs that last from 2-5 weeks in length (e.g. Commissioned Officer Training (COT), Aerospace Medicine Primary Course, and other clinical rotations). Once you have completed medical school, you will attend either an Air Force or civilian residency that you were accepted to.

## 3. When would I attend Commissioned Officer Training (COT)?

During your time on the scholarship, you will be working with Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT). They will help coordinate with you and your school to get you scheduled for COT, so that it doesn't interfere with your education. Normally 4 year HPSP recipients attend COT in the summer prior to the beginning of medical school. 3 year recipients, usually attend COT between their 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year of medical school.

## 4. Why Should You Consider Air Force Medicine?

In addition to the financial benefits of the HPSP scholarship program, we believe there are other reasons why AF Medicine may be the right choice for you. Some of the most commonly cited advantages that AF physicians mention when discussing their jobs include:

- A.) Great patient populations! Our patients include active duty members, their families, as well as retired military members and their families. Active duty members comprise 13% of the 2.6 million beneficiaries eligible for care within the Air Force Medical Service.
- B.) The ability to provide total care. One of the fundamental advantages of the military health system is the ability to render care to a patient without worrying about whether or not they can afford to fill their prescriptions or obtain a vital lab test.
- C.) Quality colleagues. No doubt about it, physicians who choose to serve in the military are a special group of highly trained, dedicated professionals.
- D.) Travel opportunities. AF physicians can be stationed at military clinics and hospitals all over the world and deploy in support of military operations. In addition, they also participate in a variety of humanitarian missions and specialized medical training all over the globe.
- E.) Potential for zero debt and better pay! Not only does a HPSP scholarship cover all tuition, books, fees, it also provides a generous monthly stipend. Once you graduate from medical school, you will find that the salaries and benefits of being a military resident or fellow in a military training program far exceed civilian averages.
- F.) Opportunity to be a leader and make a difference- not only for individuals in your own community, but quite possibly for individuals and communities around the world.

### IF YOU'RE INTERESTED...

You know what you want out of life and you've worked hard to get to this point. So why wait? Exciting new challenges and experiences can only make you a better physician and person. Selection is very competitive, so get started on your application early.

**For more information visit: [www.airforce.com/healthcare](http://www.airforce.com/healthcare)**