

## **Ohio Osteopathic Foundation Health Policy Fellowship Grant Program**

### **Health Policy Fellowship Program Description**

The Health Policy Fellowship Program is offered by the New York Institute of Technology/New York College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine in collaboration with colleges in the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM), the American Osteopathic Association (AOA), and the government relations offices of the AOA and AACOM.

The program is designed for practicing or teaching osteopathic physicians who are preparing for leadership roles in the profession and positions of influence in health policy. Fellows will attend an intensive five-day academic orientation at New York Institute of Technology before entering the regimen of nine three-day weekend seminars, usually beginning Friday at 8:00 a.m. and finishing Sunday at noon. Seminars are rotated among osteopathic colleges and the Washington, DC area offices of the AOA and AACOM. Between monthly seminars, Fellows are expected to devote a minimum of 20 hours to reading, research, and completing written assignments. In order to enhance the Fellows' ability to evaluate, articulate, and formulate concise and objective assessments of health policy issues, Fellows will complete two health policy issue analysis briefs. Program faculty and staff provide research, writing, and editing support. Graduation, held in conjunction with the fall meeting of the AOA Council on Federal Health Programs, provides the opportunity for the Fellows to present outstanding briefs to the conference attendees. Graduates of the program join a cadre of health policy experts from which the profession can draw to staff committees and task forces at the federal and state levels, testify on issues relevant to osteopathic medicine/education, and develop policy positions. The Institute for National Health Policy & Research has been organized by past graduates to maintain the health policy network.

### **The Ohio Osteopathic Association and Health Policy Fellows**

The Health Policy Fellowship Program plays an important role in developing osteopathic leadership. For this reason, the Ohio Osteopathic Association has a vested interest in encouraging Ohio D.O.s to apply for and successfully complete the program.

Health Policy Fellows from Ohio can assist the OOA by researching health care policy issues and by helping to prepare position statements for the OOA Board of Trustees. These graduates can also serve as expert witnesses at legislative and regulatory hearings, serve on miscellaneous state task forces, and provide visibility for the profession in Ohio by addressing health care concerns from a scholarly perspective.

### **The Ohio Osteopathic Foundation Health Policy Fellowship Grant.**

The Ohio Osteopathic Foundation may provide one \$5,000 grant annually to support an Ohio D.O. who is accepted into the Health Policy Fellowship Program.

## **The Application Process**

Once accepted into the program, the candidate shall submit a request in writing for the OOF, with a copy of his/her Fellowship Program application. If more than one application is received in a given year, the grant will be awarded on a competitive basis. The OOF Board shall evaluate the credentials of the applicants and determine the grantee by majority vote.

## **Eligibility Requirements.**

The applicant must have been a member in good standing of the OOA for at least five years and, at the time of application, be a member in good standing of the American Osteopathic Association, his/her specialty society, the OOA and his/her OOA District Academy.

## **Conditions for Acceptance**

An applicant who accepts the grant shall agree in writing to:

1. Serve as an active member of the OOA State Health Policy Committee for at least three years;
2. Assist the committee in researching and developing position statements as reasonably requested;
3. Assist the association in providing expert testimony in areas which relate to his/her final health policy paper; and
4. If he/she fails to complete the health policy fellowship program or fails to comply with provisions 1, 2 and 3 above, agree to repay the grant as a loan under the same terms as the OOF Student Tuition Loan Program (prime rate, less 2 percent.)

**Ohio Osteopathic Foundation  
Health Policy Fellowship Grant Agreement**

This agreement is made and entered into as of the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, by and between the Ohio Osteopathic Foundation (hereinafter OOF), located in Columbus Ohio and \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of Grantee). In order to receive a \$5,000 OOF Health Policy Grant, I hereby certify and/or agree that:

1. I have been accepted into the Health Policy Fellowship Program, jointly offered by the New York Institute of Technology/New York College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine.
2. I have been a member in good standing of the Ohio Osteopathic Association for at least five years and, at the time of application, belong to the OOA and my OOA District Academy, the American Osteopathic Association, and my osteopathic specialty college.
3. I will commit to serving as an active member of the OOA State Health Policy Committee (hereafter "Committee") for at least three years following the completion of my Fellowship.
4. I will assist the Committee in researching and developing position statements as reasonably requested.
5. I will assist the Committee in providing expert testimony in areas that are related to health policy briefs required by my Fellowship;
6. If I fail to complete the work required to receive my Health Policy Fellowship or I fail to comply with Items 3-5 above, the grant will revert to a loan, and I will agree to repay the Ohio Osteopathic Foundation the whole sum of the grant received under the same terms as the OOF Student Tuition Loan Program (prime rate, less 2 percent.)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cellular Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_