



PISACANO

LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION

PISACANO SCHOLARS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

APPLICATION



Background and Purpose

The American Board of Family Medicine* (ABFM) established the Pisacano Leadership Foundation (PLF, formerly the Nicholas J. Pisacano, M.D. Memorial Foundation) in 1991 in tribute to our founder and first Executive Director. Dr. Pisacano is recognized as one of the leaders in the effort to have Family Practice accepted as a major specialty. Dr. Pisacano believed that the welfare of the patient was utmost, and that physicians should be broadly educated. With these ideals in mind, the Pisacano Leadership Foundation seeks to promote a level of excellence and dedication in students committed to a career in family medicine by providing scholarships and leadership training.

Description of Scholarship

Scholarship funding is offered to honor the achievements of student and resident scholars, with hopes of slightly lowering the growing burden of educational debt as scholars embark on a career in Family Medicine. Upon selection, each Pisacano scholar will receive an annual scholarship of \$5000 during their final year of medical school and their first three years of family medicine training (four years total, regardless of residency length).

Scholars are expected to attend annual leadership skills development symposia organized by PLF each year. Hotel and meals are covered by the Pisacano Leadership Foundation. An additional \$2000/year will be provided for travel expenses to attend the leadership symposia. Any remaining funds will be available to reimburse scholars for other leadership development activities that they wish to pursue, once approved by the Pisacano Leadership Foundation. A reimbursement voucher and receipts for these leadership development activities must be submitted directly to the Pisacano Leadership Foundation.

Qualifications/Criteria

Applicants **entering their fourth year** (full-time) in a U.S. medical school in the fall of 2025 will be considered. Applicants must have declared family medicine as their specialty. Applicants will be judged on commitment to family medicine, leadership qualities, academic performance, including evidence of clinical excellence and application of knowledge to clinical care, and communication skills and service. The Pisacano Leadership Foundation Board requires each applicant to complete an interview with a family physician, which will be arranged by the Board.

Terms

The maximum scholarship award over four years sums to \$28,000. Scholars will be required to submit brief (one page) annual reports for evaluation by the Pisacano Leadership Foundation's Board of Directors to assure eligibility for continuation in the leadership program. There is no service commitment for the scholars upon completion of their family medicine residency.

Deadline

All parts of the application (completed application, transcripts, scores, CV, recommendations/statements) must be received in the Pisacano Leadership Foundation office by:



Notification of Awards

All applicants will be notified of award decisions in September 2025.

Acknowledgment

By submitting this scholarship application, I certify that the information contained in this application is accurate to the best of my knowledge, and I am prepared to supply documentation attesting to its accuracy. I have read and understand the requirements that must be met for my application to be considered, and I understand that it is my responsibility to ensure that all materials for my application are received by the Foundation by May 1, 2025.

I understand and agree that if, after having been awarded a Pisacano Scholarship, I shall voluntarily refuse to enter a residency in the specialty of family medicine or, having entered a family medicine residency, I shall voluntarily withdraw from it in order to enter a residency of another medical specialty, I may be required to repay all or such part of any monies granted to me by the Foundation as the Foundation may determine in its absolute discretion.

Instructions

Please complete all sections. All information will be kept confidential.

GENERAL INFORMATION

FIRST, MIDDLE & LAST NAME

MAIDEN NAME

TELEPHONE

ALTERNATE TELEPHONE

EMAIL ADDRESS

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

Have you applied to the Pisacano Scholars Leadership Program previously?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
YES	NO

EDUCATION

Undergraduate institution

NAME	<input type="text"/>
ADDRESS	<input type="text"/>
DEGREE	<input type="text"/>
MAJOR(S)	<input type="text"/>
MINOR	<input type="text"/>
GPA	<input type="text"/>
DATE BEGAN STUDY	<input type="text"/>
DATE FINISHED DEGREE	<input type="text"/>

Medical School

NAME	<input type="text"/>
ADDRESS	<input type="text"/>
DATE BEGAN STUDY	<input type="text"/>
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE	<input type="text"/>

Other Graduate institution (IF APPLICABLE):

NAME	<input type="text"/>
ADDRESS	<input type="text"/>
ANTICIPATED/EARNED DEGREE	<input type="text"/>
FIELD OF STUDY	<input type="text"/>
DATE BEGAN STUDY	<input type="text"/>
DATE FINISHED DEGREE	<input type="text"/>

USMLE or COMLEX

SCORE	<input type="text"/>
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ESSAYS

You've provided your CV to help us understand the details of your education, work and volunteer experience, honors and awards, and scholarly work. Through the short essays that follow, we'd like to get to know you better as a candidate.

Commitment (LIMIT TO 300 WORDS)

The Pisacano Leadership Foundation identifies, develops, and provides ongoing support for outstanding leaders with a commitment to advancing family medicine and improving the health of the public. Tell us a story that demonstrates your commitment to the ideals of family medicine as you define them.

Leadership (LIMIT TO 300 WORDS)

The PLF values innovation and impact in leadership. Please provide 3-5 examples of your leadership activities and describe their impact on you and others.

Empty text area for writing the essay.

Scholarly Activity (LIMIT TO 300 WORDS)

The Pisacano Leadership Foundation values academic and clinical excellence and scholarship, which comes in many forms (outstanding clinical care, quality improvement, research, writing, presentation among them). Please provide 1 or 2 examples of your academic/clinical excellence and scholarship.

Personal Interests (LIMIT TO 300 WORDS)

Tell us something about yourself or your personal interests that we might not appreciate from your CV (e.g., a story about your activities, goals, hobbies, family, travel, favorite books, your personality, etc.).

Empty text area for writing the essay.

TOPICAL ESSAY (LIMIT TO 500 WORDS)

Choose one of the following three topics for your topical essay.

1

We select outstanding scholars for our leadership program based on their vision. How do you foresee yourself in family medicine fitting into the future of healthcare?

2

How would being selected as a Pisacano Scholar help you grow as an individual, a leader and a scholar? And what do you see yourself contributing to this remarkable cohort?

3

Describe a problem within the healthcare system and how you would approach solving this problem.

OTHER SUBMISSIONS

A. LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Please list the three different names, addresses, and phone numbers for each required letter of recommendation. Letters of recommendation must be emailed by the letter writer (preferred) or submitted by mail in a sealed envelope. All letters must be **RECEIVED** by **MAY 1, 2025**, regardless of mail service of any kind, weather, administrative errors, or any other extenuating circumstances. It is the applicant's responsibility to inform those writing the recommendations/statements of all the above conditions. Instructions for letter writers are at the end of this document.



Faculty Member

Name, address, phone number, and title of faculty member in your primary care department (preferably department of family medicine) who will write a letter supporting you to receive this scholarship.

NAME	<input type="text"/>
TITLE	<input type="text"/>
PHONE NUMBER	<input type="text"/>
MAILING ADDRESS	<input type="text"/>
CITY	<input type="text"/>
STATE	<input type="text"/>
ZIP	<input type="text"/>

Instructions PDF

The PDF below is provided for your convenience. This pdf provides the appropriate instructions to the faculty member who will be writing a letter of support for you. Simply open the pdf, add your name and email address, and send the pdf to the Faculty member. Do not submit these to the Pisacano Leadership Foundation as part of your application.

[DOWNLOAD THE PDF](#)

OTHER SUBMISSIONS

A. LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

(CONTINUED)



Dean or Dean's representative

Name, address, and phone number of the Dean or Dean's representative of your medical school who will supply a statement indicating that you are in good academic standing and are not involved in any disciplinary actions. Letter should also provide available clerkship grades compared to other medical students and explicit attention to clinical skills, including competency in application of knowledge, communication, and problem-based learning. This letter should be similar to Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE), with qualitative comments from clinical clerkship evaluations.

NAME	<input type="text"/>
PHONE NUMBER	<input type="text"/>
MAILING ADDRESS	<input type="text"/>
CITY	<input type="text"/>
STATE	<input type="text"/>
ZIP	<input type="text"/>

Instructions PDF

The PDF below is provided for your convenience. This pdf provides the appropriate instructions to the Dean or Dean's representative who will be writing a letter of support for you. Simply open the pdf, add your name and email address, and send the pdf to the Dean or Dean's representative. Do not submit these to the Pisacano Leadership Foundation as part of your application.

[DOWNLOAD THE PDF](#)

OTHER SUBMISSIONS

A. LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

(CONTINUED)



Clinician

Name, address, phone number, and title of clinician (ideally a family physician) who will write a letter of recommendation for you to receive this scholarship. This letter should be written by a clinician who has directly observed your clinical skills and should include a statement of your commitment to family medicine and observed clinical skills, and if possible, information about your character, academic, and leadership abilities.

NAME	<input type="text"/>
PHONE NUMBER	<input type="text"/>
MAILING ADDRESS	<input type="text"/>
CITY	<input type="text"/>
STATE	<input type="text"/>
ZIP	<input type="text"/>

Instructions PDF

The PDF below is provided for your convenience. This pdf provides the appropriate instructions to the clinician who will be writing a letter of support for you. Simply open the pdf, add your name and email address, and send the pdf to the clinician. Do not submit these to the Pisacano Leadership Foundation as part of your application.

[DOWNLOAD THE PDF](#)

OTHER SUBMISSIONS

B. TRANSCRIPTS

Transcripts may be sent by mail (no faxes) if the school is not able to email an official copy.

1. Please submit an **official** undergraduate school transcript (and graduate school transcript if applicable). **Note:** *If you attended more than one school, submit the transcript from the degree-granting institution.*
2. Please submit one **official** copy of your medical school transcript.

C. USMLE SCORE or COMLEX SCORE

Please submit a copy of your USMLE scores or COMLEX scores. (A photocopy is acceptable).

D. CURRICULUM VITA

Please submit one copy of your current CV.

Submission

The completed application and all submissions may be emailed to jireland@theabfm.org.
If necessary, materials can be submitted by mail to the following address:

Pisacano Scholars Committee
Pisacano Leadership Foundation, Inc.
1648 McGrathiana Pkwy, Ste 550
Lexington, KY 40511

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Before sending in your application, please ensure that the following items have been submitted or will be submitted by the May 1, 2025 deadline:

- ✓ Completed application
- ✓ Official copy of undergraduate school transcript (and graduate transcript if applicable) (must be sent directly from your school or submitted in a sealed envelope with your application packet)
- ✓ Official copy of medical school transcript (must be sent directly from your school or submitted in a sealed envelope with your application packet).
- ✓ USMLE score or COMLEX score
- ✓ Current CV

It is your responsibility to ensure that the following recommendations/statements are received by May 1, 2025 (must be emailed or mailed directly from the person writing the recommendation/statement or submitted in a sealed envelope with the application):

- ✓ Recommendation from a faculty member in the primary care department at your medical school
- ✓ Statement from the Dean (or Dean's representative) of your medical school
- ✓ Recommendation from a clinician who has observed your clinical skills.

**ALL ITEMS ON THE ABOVE APPLICATION CHECKLIST MUST BE RECEIVED
(NOT POSTMARKED) IN THE PISACANO LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION OFFICE BY
MAY 1, 2025.**

All parts of the application can be emailed to jireland@theabfm.org. Recommendations/statements that are emailed must be emailed by the letter writer. Any parts of the application sent by mail may take longer to process. Mailed applications should be sent to:

Pisacano Scholars Committee
Pisacano Leadership Foundation, Inc.
1648 McGrathiana Pkwy, Ste 550
Lexington, KY 40511

Applicants will be notified by email when all parts of their application have been received. Interview assignments will be communicated with applicants after all application materials are received and reviewed.