



AACPDM

AACPDM International Travel Scholarship Information

555 East Wells Street
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www.aacpdm.org

The American Academy for Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine scholarship program supports the mission of the AACPDM to improve the health and general status of children and adults with cerebral palsy, developmental disorders and childhood acquired disabilities through:

- Increasing awareness, understanding, respect for, and communication between the multiple disciplines dedicated to improving the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of those with cerebral palsy and other childhood onset disabilities.
- Providing and supporting educational programs, supporting medical research, and promoting the exchange of information across all country, social and economic barriers.
- Supporting development of expert clinicians and researchers in the fields of cerebral palsy and other childhood onset disabilities
- Impacting all areas of the world through sharing of information and the “teaching of teachers” concept.
- Promoting evidence based medical decision making.

Candidates should consider these objectives carefully before applying and be prepared to explain in an essay how attending the next AACPDM meeting will support the program objectives.

The International Affairs Committee seeks out applicants who are highly motivated, currently in clinical practice, and who are in a position that will enable them to disseminate knowledge acquired at the meeting to others in their home country once they return. Scholarship applicants must be current AACPDM members or applicants. Particular emphasis is placed on assisting those from areas with under supported medical systems and limited financial resources. If you receive an International Travel Scholarship to attend the upcoming meeting you will be expected to do or participate in the following:

- Attend programs organized by the International Affairs Committee on your behalf; failure to attend the International Affairs reception or International Luncheon may result in forfeiture of the award.
- Attend all general sessions and instructional courses.
- Respond to all Academy and International Affairs Committee communications as requested, in a timely manner.
- Be prepared to discuss health care provision within your own country and facility, so we may also learn from you.
- Maintain communication with your International Affairs host before and during the meeting.
- Complete a survey questionnaire, within two months of returning home, as well as follow-up survey one (1) year after, including a report regarding the outcome of goal/s set after attending the meeting.



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Eligibility Requirements

- Be able to speak and understand English to such a degree as to participate easily in clinical discussions.
 - Currently resides outside of the United States and Canada.
 - Not have applied in three years or been awarded a scholarship and attended the conference in the last five years*
 - Be directly involved in research or care of individuals with cerebral palsy, developmental disorders, or other childhood acquired disability.
 - Have a substantial need for financial assistance to make attendance possible.
 - Have a university-level degree (or country equivalent for their profession) which qualifies them for their specialty, or be in a pre or post-doctoral program, residency or fellowship.
 - Be a current AACPDm member, or have [applied for membership](#) in AACPDm.
- *excluding any application/scholarship award for 2023 and 2024

Scholarship Content

- Complimentary registration to the annual meeting
- International Affairs Committee general assistance in navigating the meeting location, getting registered, and meeting other members of the Academy
- Reimbursement of transportation, lodging and meal expenses with awards starting at \$2,000.

Application Submission Process

Before completing the application, please read the instructions carefully. Do not modify, skip, or delete any questions. Inquiries about this application may be addressed to the Academy office at info@aacpdm.org. AACPDm must receive the completed application **on or before April 1, 2026**. Applications may be submitted [ONLINE ONLY](#).

This application includes five parts. Any application that does not include all five sections will not be considered. They are:

1. **Personal Information**
2. **Essay 1** (Brief autobiography)
Please write a brief autobiography that includes the following:
 - Academic interests, strengths and challenges
 - Clinical interests, strengths and challenges
 - Career objectives
 - Teaching experiences
 - Maximum of 2 pages
3. **Essay 2** (Reasons for this application)
Please write a detailed statement of your intent, describing:
 - Your reason for applying for the scholarship
 - How you propose to implement any new knowledge obtained into your current practice and share the information with others
 - Any barriers to the implementation this new knowledge.
 - Any assistance that might alleviate these barriers.
 - Maximum of 2 pages
4. **Curriculum Vitae** (*No more than 5 pages*)



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CONDITIONAL: If applicable, you are asked to include a copy of the abstract(s) that you submitted to the annual meeting with your scholarship application.

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Selection Criteria

- Applications received by **April 1, 2026**, will be checked for completeness. All complete applications will be forwarded to the International Affairs Committee for review.
- Applications will be reviewed, discussed and scored by all International Affairs Committee members, with a final decision made in May/June.
- Letters notifying applicants of the Committee's final decisions will be sent directly from the Academy office*.

*Please be aware that Visa appointment and processing times may vary by country. AACPDM highly encourages scholarship applicants who do not have a current Visa to schedule their appointment at the time of submission to help ensure their Visa is secured in time to attend the Annual Meeting. AACPDM cannot help expedite appointments and scholarship funds do not transfer to future years if a Visa is not received in time.

Criteria used in selection of applicants include, but are not limited to the following:

- Academic and clinical strengths and interests
- Ability to implement knowledge obtained into current practice and disseminate it across a wide spectrum of individuals
- Financial need
- Geographic distribution
- Acceptance of abstract
- References and other information submitted within the application
- Past meeting attendance

Please note the above items are NOT listed in order of importance.