



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 an exciting, unique, one-year, part-time program that is intended to provide early career physicians and scientists exposure to the fields of:

- Professional assessment and education
- Quality improvement
- Regulatory policy

while promoting research and scholarship in areas related to Board Certification and Maintenance of Certification (MOC)/Continuing Certification (CC) that improve patient care and/or physician performance, and that are important to the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) Member Boards Community.

PROGRAM GOALS

Scholars will refine their research in collaboration with mentors from their institution, ABMS, and their member boards by engaging in a project that is relevant to Board Certification and MOC/CC;

- Scholars will help inform the fields of continuing professional development (CPD), assessment, physician self-regulation and/or quality improvement (QI);
- Scholars will become familiar with health policy and the external environment in which continuous certification occurs;
- Scholars will have an opportunity to pursue professional goals through relationships with the ABMS Member Boards Community and other leading professional organizations.

SCHOLAR BENEFITS

- Scholars receive support from ABMS leadership to enhance their research projects related to Board Certification and MOC/CC;
- Scholars receive a unique education about current issues and initiatives related to Board Certification through interactive monthly videoconferences and in-person meetings with health care and Member Board Community leaders;
- Scholars receive an introduction to the ABMS Member Boards Community through in-person participation in committee meetings, conferences and forums, and discussions with leadership;
- Scholars are linked to contacts within ABMS and the Member Boards Community who will assist with the spread and scale of the scholars' research projects;
- Scholars will have ongoing engagement with the ABMS Member Boards Community through an alumni network.



“I feel my experiences in the Visiting Scholars program have been phenomenal. I came to the program with high expectations, and my expectations have been exceeded by a considerable measure.”

Daniel Schumacher, MD, MEd, Visiting Scholar



CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

EDUCATIONAL NETWORKING PROGRAMS

Scholars participate in three 3-day, in-person programs during the year—primarily in Chicago—which may include:

- Conferences, such as The ABMS Forum on Organizational Quality Improvement and ABMS National Conference;
- Committee and/or Board of Director meetings such as the ABMS Committee on Continuous Certification, Health and Public Policy Committee, Ethics and Professionalism Committee, and the Board of Directors of the Research and Education Foundation;
- Meetings with ABMS Associate Members, such as the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), American Hospital Association (AHA), American Medical Association (AMA), and Council of Medical Specialty Societies (CMSS).

RESEARCH PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Meet with mentors to further develop research projects, understand research design, methodology, data analysis, and identify data sets needed to complete research projects.

ALUMNI PROGRAM

Join a select cohort of physicians and researchers committed to quality improvement and patient safety. Network with other emerging leaders, like yourself, who are working on projects to positively impact health care systems.

INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Scholars participate in monthly videoconferences with healthcare leaders related to the following topics:

- **Continuing Professional Development** Learn about key issues in continuing professional development and physician self-regulation, explore its future, and discuss innovations and best practices.
- **Health Policy and the External Environment** Learn about issues and influences in the health policy environment, understand how various health care organizations play a role in continuous certification, understand the interests of the federal and state governments in the discussion about quality and patient care, understand how health policy impacts quality, safety, and the health care workforce.
- **Quality Improvement** Learn about quality improvement methods and tools, understand the role of QI in the clinical environment.

PREVIOUS PRESENTATION TOPICS HAVE INCLUDED:

- Dr. Paul Miles from the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) speaking about “Quality and Professional Development: A Second Revolution in Health Care.”
- Dr. David Price from the ABMS Research and Education Foundation speaking about “Integrating Quality and Performance Improvement with CME/CPD.”
- Dr. Eric Holmboe from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) speaking about “The Milestone Project and Board Certification/ MOC.”
- Dr. Norman Kahn from the Council of Medical Specialty Societies (CMSS) speaking about “Specialty Society and Board Collaboration to Improve Outcomes.”
- Dr. Darren DeWalt from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) speaking about “The Role of CMMI in US Health Care.”

“The Visiting Scholars Programs is an outstanding educational experience—we learn from leading educators, engage in thought-provoking discussions with fellow Scholars, and lead a research project to advance the field. I would absolutely do it again.”

Maya Babu, MD, MBA, Visiting Scholar



WHO SHOULD APPLY

The program is open to assistant professors and instructors, fellows, residents, medical students, public health students, graduate students and PhDs in health services research and other relevant disciplines.

ACCEPTANCE TO THE PROGRAM

- Scholars will be selected and notified in July 2016.
- The program will begin in August 2016.
- Scholars will be awarded \$12,500 to support their research and travel for this program.
- Funds may only be used for direct costs of the program; no funds can be allocated for Facilities and Administrative Costs.
- Scholars will be selected based on the quality of their proposed research project, and the relevance to the ABMS mission as related to Board Certification and MOC/CC.
- Some specialty-specific Visiting Scholars opportunities may be available.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- A structured description of your Research Project including: research questions, research plan, expected outcomes, and resources needed;
- Personal statement of 500 words or less describing your interests and goals for the program;
- Current CV;
- Two to three letters of support including a letter of support from a faculty member or other institutional leader who will serve as a research mentor. A letter of support from your chair, associate dean/assistant dean, residency program director, or other supervisor is also required.

RESEARCH PROJECT

Under the guidance of a mentor at the scholars' current institution and ABMS leadership, scholars will further develop, refine, and conduct research relevant to and aligned with interests of the ABMS Member Boards Community. At the end of the year-long program, scholars are expected to disseminate their work, either at an ABMS conference or other national meeting, and/or by submitting a paper for publication to a peer-reviewed journal within 12 months of completion of the Scholar year*.

Potential areas of research include QI in patient care; organizational or systems improvement; CPD; assessment of knowledge, judgment and skills; professionalism; systems-based practice; patient safety/error reduction; communication; or health policy (including quality policy and medical workforce policy).

** Preference will be given to applicants who submit a research plan and timeline that is likely, in the judgment of the selection committee, to be ready for manuscript submission within this time frame.*

RESEARCH PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should have a "shovel-ready" project, meaning their project is ongoing or will be ready to begin by September 2016 with an institutional mentor selected. The project may build on existing research at the scholars' institutions.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

- Application Opens: **March 9, 2016**
- Application Closes: **May 31, 2016**

READY TO APPLY ONLINE

Visit visiting scholars.abms.org

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Please contact Marty Daiga, Manager, Foundation Relations, ABMS Research and Education Foundation, at ABMSVisitingScholars@abms.org for more information.

“The Visiting Scholars program is a fantastic and unparalleled opportunity for both the scholar and sponsoring institution. This program is developing the leaders of the future and providing institutions the opportunity to sit at the table in shaping the future of healthcare.”

Dr. Susan Moffatt-Bruce, MD, PhD, Visiting Scholar mentor



VISITING SCHOLARS



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