Founded in 1902 by William Root, and a group of medical students at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Chicago, Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society (AΩA) preserves the highest ideals in the profession of medicine through a commitment to achievement, leadership, professionalism, teaching, service, and scholarship.

Members epitomize the characteristics of honesty, leadership, morality, virtue, altruism, ethics, and dedication to serving others. They are passionate in their commitment to the advancement of the medical profession and the care of patients.

All medical students on entry to medical school, residents, fellows, and all physicians throughout their career are eligible for AΩA.

Membership in AΩA may be attained as a medical student, resident, fellow, faculty member, alumni, clinician, or distinguished leader in medicine. The criteria for nomination includes, but is not limited to, scholastic achievement, demonstrated professionalism, leadership, adherence to ethical standards, fairness in dealing with colleagues, achievement in medicine and/or research, and a record of service to school and community.

AΩA represents physicians who have excelled in the criteria for nomination to AΩA membership. They exemplify the qualities of an excellent doctor—trustworthiness, character, caring, knowledge, skills, demeanor, proficiency of the doctor-patient relationship, compassion, empathy, values of the profession, teamwork, life-long learning, and servant leadership.

AΩA advocates for diversity in all its forms when identifying candidates for nomination—identity, cultural, geographic, experiential, race, ethnicity, gender, age, economic and social status, physical abilities, aptitude, religious beliefs, political beliefs, and other ideologies. No candidate shall be denied election because of age, race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex, pregnancy status, gender, identity or expression, sexual orientation, language, physical or mental disability, marital, civil union or domestic partnership status, veteran status, socioeconomic status, religious or political beliefs, or any other characteristic protected by the Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action laws of a state, province, territory, or nation.

AΩA is committed to working with its members, Chapters, medical schools, residency programs, and health organizations to improve diversity within the organization and throughout the medical profession.

**Thirteen National Programs**

Medical students, faculty, and active AΩA members are eligible to participate in the 13 fellowships, grants, and awards that are funded from member annual and lifetime dues.

**Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society Award for Excellence in Inclusion, Diversity and Equity in Medical Education and Patient Care**

Up to three $1,000 awards presented annually in recognition of medical schools (and their associated AΩA Chapter) that demonstrate exemplary leadership, innovation, and engagement in fostering an inclusive culture that transforms the ideals of inclusion, diversity, and equity into successful programs that support medical student, house staff, and faculty diversity in service to the community.

**Carolyn L. Kuckein Student Research Fellowship**

More than 50 Fellowships of $6,000 each awarded each year.

**Medical Student Service Leadership Project Grant**

$9,000 over three years to support service leadership projects that benefit the medical school and/or its local community.

**Visiting Professorship**

Each of the 132 Chapters may host one visiting professor each year with an honorarium and all travel expenses paid by AΩA.

**Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society Professionalism Award**

Up to three $10,000 awards for institutional programs that represent best practices in medical professionalism.

**Fellow in Leadership**

Three $25,000 awards annually to mid-career physicians to support leadership development.
Robert J. Glaser Distinguished Teacher Award
Annually, four Distinguished Teachers receive $10,000, their medical school receives $2,500, and their Chapter receives $1,000. Awards are presented at the national meeting of the Association of American Medical Colleges.

Postdoctoral Fellowship
Up to 10 awards of $2,000 to support residents and fellows with a research project.

Helen H. Glaser Student Essay Award
Monetary prizes awarded annually and publication in The Pharos for three medical student essays about medicine or health.

The Pharos Poetry Award
Monetary prizes awarded annually and publication in The Pharos for three medical student poems about medicine or health.

Robert H. Moser Essay Award
A $4,500 writing prize awarded annually for an essay, written by a physician, that celebrates the life of a physician.

Volunteer Clinical Faculty Award
Recognition of clinical faculty in community practices who teach medical students and residents.

Administrative Recognition Award
Recognition of Chapter administrative assistants’ invaluable work with a $500 cash award.

It’s All About the Facts
Ω 132 Chapters in medical schools across the country
Ω More than 120,000 living members
Ω Nearly 200,000 physicians elected to membership since 1902
Ω More than 4,000 new members in 2018/2019
  • 85% elected as students (22% elected as juniors)
  • 7% elected as residents
  • 6% elected as faculty
  • 2% elected as alumni
Ω 57 AΩA members are Nobel prize winners
Ω 12 United States Surgeons AΩA members
Ω 75% of U.S. Medical School Deans are AΩA members
Ω Nearly $2 million to medical students, residents, faculty, and mid-career physicians for fellowships, grants, and awards