



# 2018 Carolyn L. Kuckein Student Research Fellowship

**Purpose:** To foster the development of the next generation of medical researchers.

**The Opportunity:** Financial support for research to be conducted either during a continual period of a minimum of 8 to 10 weeks, 30 hours or more per week; or an average of 4 hours per week for 12 months over a period of 1 to 2 years, for clinical investigation, basic laboratory research, epidemiology, social science/health services research, leadership, or professionalism. Funds from the fellowship are expected to be the major source of support for the student. Only one candidate from each school may be nominated. A student may only receive one fellowship during medical school. This fellowship program honors Carolyn L. Kuckein, long-time administrator of ΑΩΑ and an honorary member of the society who died in 2004.

**The Award:** \$5,000, of which one-half will be paid on announcement of the award, and one-half will be paid out after receipt and approval by ΑΩΑ of the final research report. In addition, each student will be reimbursed a maximum of \$1,000 to cover travel expenses related to the presentation of his/her Fellowship research results at a national meeting or conference that takes place within one year of distribution of the final check. Within 60 days following the travel, students will need to complete and submit the reimbursement form found on ΑΩΑ's website along with a copy of the conference registration form or agenda.

**Eligibility:** First-, second-, and third-year medical students from schools with active ΑΩΑ chapters, or associations, are eligible. MD/PhD holders are not eligible for this fellowship, but are encouraged to apply for the Post Graduate Award.

**Application Deadlines:** Proposals first must be submitted to the student's Chapter Councilor for review and consideration. Each Chapter Councilor may set his/her deadline for submission. The final application must be received by the ΑΩΑ National Office no later than **January 31, 2018**.

**Proposal to Councilors:** Councilors and their selection committees will select one proposal for submission to the National Office. The proposal must include:

1. The completed checklist ([download the checklist](#)). Checklist may be more than one page.
2. A summary (four or fewer pages) of the research project written by the applicant, single-spaced, in 12-point type with 1-inch margins, as follows: title, hypothesis, rationale, background information, methods and sample size, plan for data analysis, potential significance, role of the student in preparation and execution of the project, an estimate of the number of weeks that the student will devote to the project, and an acronym definition list.
3. The project bibliography.

4. If required for the project, proof of IRB or IACUC approval or submission for approval.
5. The student's CV (no more than 3-4 pages).
6. A letter of support from the faculty mentor/research supervisor indicating his or her commitment of time and interest to the project and student.
7. The faculty mentor/research supervisor's biographical sketch (3-4 pages – see NIH format for an example). *Do not send the mentor's complete CV.*
8. All members of the application packet who are AΩA members, must have active status.

**Application to the AΩA National Office:** Applications must be sent to the AΩA National Office by e-mail as PDF(s), and must include, in addition to the items included in the submission to the Councilor:

1. A letter of endorsement from the AΩA Councilor.
2. A Dean's endorsement should include comments on the student's achievements and potential, and the suitability of the faculty mentor/research supervisor.
3. Applications should be e-mailed to Jean Holzwart at [studentresearch@alphaomegaalpha.org](mailto:studentresearch@alphaomegaalpha.org).
4. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

**The Review Process:** An AΩA committee will evaluate each proposal, and may request additional information.

**Date of Award Announcement:** Winning awards will be announced **April 16, 2018**.

**Other Important Information:**

1. Approval of clinical or animal research projects by the local medical center IRB or IACUC must be received before awarded applications can be funded.
2. No later than **June 30, 2019**, all students must submit a detailed final research report (minimum of four pages) to the AΩA National Office. The report must include the title, original hypothesis and a description of the methods, discussions, results, and conclusions. In addition, each student must also submit a separate abstract of fewer than 300 words that may be published on the AΩA website. Completion of the project is not required.
3. Any publication of the AΩA-supported research project must contain the following acknowledgment: Supported in part by an Alpha Omega Alpha Carolyn L. Kuckein Student Research Fellowship.

4. Alpha Omega Alpha is committed to upholding a high standard of professionalism, compassion and humanism in medicine. Patients should be treated with dignity and their privacy respected. We will not accept submissions to any of our programs that conflict with these values, or contain bigotry, or highly politicized content.

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

#### ***How do I find out who my school's AΩA Councilor is?***

Go to [Chapters](#) or [Associations](#)

#### ***What is the deadline for submitting my proposal to my school's AΩA Councilor?***

Contact your Councilor to find out.

#### ***How many fellowships are awarded each year?***

AΩA allocates funds for approximately 50 awards each year.

#### ***Are there restrictions as to how the award money should be used?***

No. How the money is used is entirely at the recipient's discretion.

#### ***Is a student restricted to doing the research project in the summer months?***

No. It is up to the student and the school's scheduling. Originally this was intended as a summer program; however, a student may do the project whenever convenient. In many cases, it is part of an on-going project. However, the student is required to complete the project and submit a final report to the National Office by June 30 of the following year.

#### ***Does the student applying for the research fellowship have to complete the research at the same institution?***

No. The research can be completed at any institution as long as the student has a specific mentor there who is willing to support him/her.

#### ***If a school has two outstanding proposals, can the Councilor submit both?***

No. Only one proposal from each school may be submitted to the National Office.

#### ***If a student has completed his/her third year, but plans to take a year off to do research, is the student eligible for an award?***

Yes, if the student does not anticipate graduating in the same year that the fellowship is awarded and is enrolled at the medical school.

#### ***Can a student accept additional funding from another organization on the same project?***

Yes, as long as AΩA funds are the major source of support for the student's research.

**More Information:** Contact Jean Holzwart at [studentresearch@alphaomegalpha.org](mailto:studentresearch@alphaomegalpha.org). Last updated 9-15-17

# Checklist: AΩA Carolyn L. Kuckein Student Research Fellowship

Mr/Ms/Mrs:		First name:		Last name:	
Address:				Telephone:	
E-mail:				Year of graduation:	
Title of proposal:					
School:					
Councilor name(s):				E-mail:	
AΩA chapter admin name (optional):				E-mail:	
Mentor name(s):				E-mail:	
Mentor address					
Dean's name:				E-mail:	
Dean address					

## Checklist for submission to AΩA Councilor:

	Item				File Name
	Completed checklist				1-Checklist.pdf
	Four-page summary (single-spaced, 12 point type, 1-inch margins)				2-Summary.pdf
	Title		Background information		Potential significance
	Hypothesis		Method and sample size		Student's role and estimate of time
	Rationale		Plan for data analysis		Acronym definition list
	Bibliography of the project				3-Biblio.pdf
	IRB or IACUC required? (Y or N)				
	IRB or IACUC approval, or proof of application (do not include the complete submission)				4-Approval.pdf
	Student's curriculum vitae				5-StudentCV.pdf
	Letter of support from faculty mentor/research supervisor				6-MentorLtr.pdf
	Faculty/mentor research supervisor's biographical sketch (do not send the complete CV)				7-MentorBio.pdf

## Checklist for submission to National Office (by January 31<sup>st</sup>):

	Letter of endorsement from AΩA councilor	8-CouncilorLtr.pdf
	Letter of endorsement from the dean, including comments about suitability of faculty advisor	9-DeanLtr.pdf

**E-mail as PDF(s) to:** Jean Holzwart at: [jean@alphaomegaalpha.org](mailto:jean@alphaomegaalpha.org)

Subject line: 2018 Student Research Fellowship Application

Contact Jean Holzwart at 720-859-4149 or visit: [alphaomegaalpha.org/student\\_research.html](http://alphaomegaalpha.org/student_research.html).