



2026-27 ASCO Leadership Development Program: Education Scholars Request For Applications (RFA)

Thank you for your interest in the [ASCO Leadership Development Program: Education Scholars](#). ASCO is seeking members with a commitment to education who want the expertise and leadership skills needed to enhance the ASCO learning portfolio as well as medical education overall.

Before initiating an application to be considered for the 2026-27 program term, you are expected to thoroughly review this application guide to ensure awareness of all requirements. Please direct any questions regarding the contents of this RFA to professionaldevelopment@asco.org.

Program Objectives

ASCO Leadership Development Program: Education Scholars participants will:

- Undergo leadership skills and learning science training to enhance the effectiveness of ASCO's education.
- Develop expertise in evidence-based education and the design of educational activities.
- Apply effective teaching strategies to optimize learning.
- Serve as a leader and change agent in the field of medical education.
- Become part of a community of ASCO education scholars.

The curriculum includes information related to the following:

- Design Thinking
- Mechanisms of Learning
- Instructional Methods
- Leadership Skills

Program Details

Positions Available

Each year, ASCO accepts 12 program participants.

ASCO strongly encourages application submissions from all practice settings and oncology subspecialties.

Program Format

This program requires time commitment for travel and in-person training. Participants will be required to attend and actively participate in 5 sessions that follow this schedule:

- **Orientation:** 2026 ASCO Annual Meeting in Chicago IL
- **Session 1:** 3-day session in July 2026 at ASCO HQ

- **Session 2:** 3-day session in October 2026 at ASCO HQ
- **Session 3:** 3-day session in March 2027 at ASCO HQ
- **Graduation:** Virtual Session, Summer 2027

Participants are also required to participate in bi-weekly conference calls and complete course evaluations and alumni surveys.

Application Guidelines

All application materials must be submitted in English through the online application system at <https://asco.smapply.io> and in accordance with the requirements and instructions in this Request for Applications **by November 17, 2025, at 11:59 PM EST**. Application materials submitted via email will not be accepted.

ASCO members can access the application portal using their existing membership credentials. Please note that applicants are not required to complete the entire application in a single session. Applicants can save and return to complete their submission at any point during the application period of September 1, 2025 through November 17, 2025.

Eligibility Criteria

For the 2026-2027 Leadership Development Program: Education Scholars, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be an active ASCO member
 - Non-members **must** submit a [membership application](#) **before** initiating an application. Applicants listed as a non-member during the review stage will not be considered for the program.
- Be a physician (MD, DO, or international equivalent)
- Have completed their final subspecialty training prior to the start of the program

Compliance with Applicable Legal Requirements (Applies to Non-U.S. Institutions and Entities)

The ASCO Leadership Development Program: Education Scholars is subject to applicable financial and legal requirements, including but not limited to United States laws addressing foreign corrupt practices and economic and trade sanctions and embargoes (including but not limited to those administered by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the U.S. Department of the Treasury). Notwithstanding any other provision in this Request for Applications, any acceptance to the program is contingent on ASCO's ability to transfer funds or provide reimbursement to the sponsoring institution and/or individual applicant(s) in compliance with all applicable legal requirements. ASCO will not accept applications from, and/or permit program participation by, certain foreign sponsoring institutions or individuals if ASCO is prohibited from doing so under U.S. sanctions laws, or if ASCO would be required to obtain a license from the Office of Foreign Assets Control or Department of Commerce for such program participation. If it is impossible or inadvisable for ASCO, in its sole and absolute discretion, to transfer funds or provide reimbursement to the sponsoring institution and/or individual(s) pursuant to applicable legal requirements, that individual will not be permitted to participate in the program. If, after acceptance in the program or payment or coverage of the first expense, it becomes impossible or inadvisable for

ASCO, in its sole and absolute discretion, to transfer funds to the sponsoring institution and/or individual(s) pursuant to applicable legal requirements, then ASCO shall have no obligation to pay additional expenses or permit continued participation in the program. It is the responsibility of the sponsoring institution and the applicant to provide ASCO with the information or lawful means that permit ASCO to transfer the funds in compliance with all legal requirements.

Among the resources available to evaluate compliance with requirements administered by the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) are:

- OFAC Homepage: <http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/Pages/default.aspx>
- OFAC Sanctions Programs and Country Information: <http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/Programs/Pages/Programs.aspx>
- OFAC Specially Designated Nationals And Blocked Persons List (SDN) Human Readable Lists: <http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/SDN-List/Pages/default.aspx>

Application Components

- Contact Information
- Uploads
 - NIH Biosketch
 - 2-page Statement of Interest
 - Letter of Support from a supervisor/senior member at your institution
 - Additional Letter of Support from a current ASCO member
- Short-Answer Questions

Contact Information

- Name
- Institution
- Department
- Degree(s)
- Final Subspecialty Training Completion Date
- Faculty Appointment Start Date
- ASCO Member ID
- Address (at least one, checked as primary)
- Phone (at least one, checked as primary)
- Email (at least one, checked as primary)

The information above will be pulled directly from your ASCO profile. If you need to make any changes to your information, please visit profile.asco.org. Changes made to your profile do not save in the application platform in real-time but will be reflected before submission of your full application.

Note: If at any time during the application or review process, you have a career change or leave your current position, please email professionaldevelopment@asco.org.

Uploads

Important Instructions about Uploads: Applicants will upload documents in the "Uploads" portion of the online application. Uploads can be in PDF or MS Word formats, although PDF format is preferred to ensure proper conversion. Uploaded documents should not be password protected.

NIH Biosketch: Click [HERE](#) for formatting guidance.

Statement of Interest: Limit to two (2) single-spaced pages, 10-12 pt. font. Submissions over the page limit will be rejected.

Applicants must address the following in the statement of interest:

- Demonstrated commitment to education based on current and prior experiences, including examples of education advocacy.
- Evidence of behaviors and experiences that demonstrate potential as a leader.
- How participation in this program will benefit the applicant, the applicant's community, and institution and how the applicant plans to implement and advocate for education at his/her home institution and ASCO.

Letters of Support (2): Applicants must upload two letters of support endorsing candidate's participation in the program.

1. Letter of support from a supervisor/senior member at your institution/practice endorsing your participation in the program by commenting on your potential strengths as a leader and educator. This letter should include reasons why your participation in program would benefit you, your institution, and the medical education community.
2. Additional letter of support from a current ASCO member endorsing your participation in the program based on your character, leadership potential, and ability to advance medical education.

Short-Answer Questions

List your activities and information for each of the following items:

- *Oncology Leadership Activities:* To include past and current involvement in institutional activities, professional society activities, as well as honors and recognitions.
- *Education Activities:* To include past and current education responsibilities and activities.
- *Civic and Volunteer Activities:* To include involvement in local community activities (civic involvement, non-professional society volunteer or leadership activities, etc.)
- *Current Practice Setting*

Notification Process

Applicants will be notified of their status in April 2026. Status updates will not be shared prior to final selection.

All application communications will be sent to the primary email address on your ASCO profile. Please confirm that this email address is current and correct prior to initiating your application.

All questions regarding the application requirements/process can be directed to professionaldevelopment@asco.org.