

**EJI Excellence in Medicine Foundation
Guidelines for Excellence in Medicine Scholarship Nominations 2022**

Overview

The mission of the EJI Excellence in Medicine Foundation is to recognize and encourage excellence in medical care and healthcare for the citizens of New Jersey, including patient care, teaching and education, research, management, leadership and civic engagement.

The *EJI Excellence in Medicine Awards*™ are awarded annually to honor those extraordinary physicians and leaders whose dedication to medical care, education, research and public service has significantly impacted the delivery of healthcare in New Jersey and around the nation. This event began in 1939 and has been sponsored by MDAdvantage Insurance Company since 2003. MDAdvantage enhanced and enlarged the program and subsequently added the scholarship program.

Scholarship Awards

The Foundation promotes excellence by providing scholarships to New Jersey residents who are medical, dental, pharmacy and physician assistant students at New Jersey schools. The students selected will have demonstrated excellence in scholarship, research, leadership and civic engagement and stated their intent to practice in New Jersey.

The Excellence in Medicine Scholarship Fund brings the mission of the event full circle, in that by acknowledging the accomplishments of physicians and scientists in the prime of their careers, we are also inspiring students to strive to make their own unique contributions.

Nomination Package

The Scholarship Committee will select scholarship recipients based upon their unique attributes, areas of excellence and potential as a healthcare provider, scientist, educator or leader. Among the factors considered are academic performance (an equal but not primary criterion); basic and clinical research; publication, especially in a peer-reviewed journal; presentations at professional conferences, seminars, and meetings; significant participation and leadership in programs and activities within their institution and in the community at large; and civic engagement, especially in healthcare related programs.

The nomination must include all of the following materials in order for the nominee to be considered for an award:

1. Completion of the online application.
2. A comprehensive description of the student's leadership, civic engagement, extracurricular activities, awards and honors, and research publications and presentations during the medical, dental, pharmacy or physician assistant



program. These details should present a picture of the student's interests and strengths, rather than submitting a list of activities.

3. A personal statement that serves as an introduction to the Scholarship Committee and reflects the student's unique traits, personality and goals. This personal statement may (but need not necessarily) include the reasons that the student decided to enter their chosen profession.
4. A nomination letter prepared by a full-time faculty member. The faculty recommendation letter is the single most important element of the nomination package and should make clear why this is an exceptional and extraordinary student. It should provide personal and professional insights into the student with specific examples and details. The letter should be submitted on official letterhead, must include the title and signature of the faculty, and should not exceed two typewritten pages in length.

Eligibility Requirements

Nominees should be residents of New Jersey who are currently pursuing a medical, dental, pharmacy or physician assistant degree at an accredited New Jersey school.

Each school **must** submit three nominations for consideration. The students **must** either be in their final or penultimate year of school. If the school has not been established long enough to have students in their final two years, three students from the class closest to graduation may be nominated.

Students must be nominated by a full-time faculty member at the New Jersey school they are currently attending. A faculty member can only recommend one applicant per year.

Prior recipients are not eligible to receive scholarships in subsequent years.

Previously nominated students who were not selected in a prior year may be renominated with an updated application package.

The following individuals are not eligible to receive a scholarship or to submit nominations, during the time of their relationship with the Company, or for two years afterward: members of the Awards Committee or Scholarship Committee; and employees and members of the Board of Directors, of MDAdvantage Insurance Company. The same restrictions will apply to the members of the immediate families of the above, including spouses, siblings, parents, children, grandparents, grandchildren or other family extension; and persons residing at the same household, whether or not related.

Submission of Nominations

All nomination materials should be submitted through the online application system found at EJIFoundation.org.

Faculty recommendation letters can either be uploaded by the student as part of the electronic application or can be emailed directly from the faculty member to jpuro@EJIfoundation.org.

Faculty recommendation letters should be addressed to the Chairman of the Foundation at the following address:

Paul J. Hirsch, MD
EJI Excellence in Medicine Foundation
c/o MDAAdvantage Insurance Company
100 Franklin Corner Road
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648-2104

Nominations will be accepted through **November 19, 2021**.

Incomplete nomination submissions or submissions after the deadline may be disqualified.

Selection Criteria

The Scholarship Committee is comprised of an independent group of school administrators, physicians and healthcare leaders who review each scholarship application thoroughly. The Scholarship Committee will select students and make a recommendation to the EJI Excellence in Medicine Foundation Board of Trustees. The number of students selected is at the discretion of the Scholarship Committee. The Board of Trustees will have the final approval on the slate of students.

Selected students and their nominators will be notified of the selection results in January 2022.

For more information on the history of the *EJI Excellence in Medicine Awards*[®] and the Excellence in Medicine Scholarship Fund, log on to EJIFoundation.org or contact Janet Puro at 609-896-2404 or jpuro@EJIfoundation.org.

Requirements of Selected Scholarship Recipients

The scholarship recipients will be recognized on **May 4, 2022**. Further details on the format of the 2022 event will be forthcoming. The selected students **must** agree to

participate in the event. The recipients may also be asked to participate in a Zoom interview and/or attend a pre-event meeting or photo session.

Selected students will also be asked to submit a 500-650 word student column that may be published in a future issue of *MDAdvisor* journal. The column will be due prior to the event on May 4, 2022, however the authors must continue to be available through the editorial process, which may extend beyond the event date. Students who submit their column by February 25, 2022, will be considered for publication in the *MDAdvisor* journal that is distributed in coordination with the May 4, 2022, event.

The scholarship recipients may be invited to participate in an advisory role capacity in activities associated with the EJI Excellence in Medicine Foundation and/or MDAdvantage Insurance Company. Participation in these activities have no impact on whether a student is selected to receive a scholarship.

Payment of Scholarship Funds

The scholarship funds will be distributed directly to the schools in May 2022, following the awards event. The funds will not be distributed directly to the students. Prior arrangements will need to be made by the school in instances where the scholarship students will be graduating before the scholarship funds are distributed from the Foundation.