

PAUL AMBROSE

SCHOLARS

PROGRAM

2021
APPLICATION
PACKET



Empowering Tomorrow's
Healthcare Leaders Today



The Paul Ambrose Scholars Program prepares public health and clinical health professions students to promote change and be leaders in addressing population health challenges at the national and community level. Each year, the Paul Ambrose Scholars Program selects a cohort of 40 students from across the health professions to attend a Student Leadership Symposium. Students commit their time and effort to improve health within their communities through the planning and implementation of a community-based project. The Paul Ambrose Scholars Program helps students cultivate leadership and organizational skills in public health education outside of the classroom.

Program Elements

Over the course of the program year, participants will:

- Attend an introductory session at APTR’s virtual Teaching Prevention Conference in March 2021.
- Attend the Virtual Student Leadership Symposium from June 22-24, 2021.
- Plan and implement a community-based project at their home institution:
 - Due to COVID-19 restrictions, project options are expanded to include a health communications or policy initiative, or a research paper including a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA).
- Produce a final project report.

“Becoming a Paul Ambrose Scholar was life changing. The conference provided me with information that assisted me not only with organizing and planning my project, but also in other community projects related to school.”

Program Outcomes

Over the course of the program Scholars will:

- Design and implement a public health project to achieve Healthy People 2030 Objectives.
- Establish relationships with public health leaders, community members, and students from across the health disciplines.
- Assess the importance of evidence-based interventions.
- Recognize the role of policy and advocacy in improving health.
- Demonstrate an understanding of population health and health systems.
- Demonstrate an understanding of health equity and the determinants of health.

Eligibility

Applicants must be a current U.S. citizen or permanent resident and enrolled in one of the following areas of **GRADUATE LEVEL** study at an accredited institution within the United States for the duration of the scholar program year.

- Allopathic or Osteopathic Medicine
- Dentistry
- Nursing
- Physician Assistant
- Pharmacy
- Physical / Occupational Therapy
- Public Health

Public health applicants must be from an academic institution that is a current institutional member of APTR. Please email membership@aptrweb.org to determine if your public health program is eligible.

Distinction

Students are designated “Paul Ambrose Scholar” upon successful completion of the community project. The designation brings with it the connection to an exceptional network of program alumni who describe participation in the program as a quintessential experience in their training and development as a public health leader.

Student Leadership Symposium

A signature component of the Paul Ambrose Scholars Program is the Student Leadership Symposium where students learn about public health leadership, health policy and advocacy, project planning and important public health competencies in both an interactive and lecture-style forum. Students will gain a deeper understanding of the complexities and varying attitudes toward public health and learn methods to affect change in their own community. Students gain a deeper understanding of their role in our complex public health and healthcare system. Speakers have included prominent United States public health officials such as Surgeons General, Assistant Secretaries for Health and other governmental officials, industry experts, and veteran public health practitioners with expertise in a variety of areas. Students learn about the integration of prevention and population health into their career path.

Symposium Logistics

The Symposium will be virtual this year and will take place on **June 22-24, 2021**. Due to current COVID-19 restrictions and advisories, APTR meetings are being planned virtually through July 2021. The Symposium will have presentations, group discussions, and activities that allow Scholars to interact with presenters and students.

Community-Based Project

Students will implement a community-based project that addresses a health promotion or disease prevention topic relevant to their community and/or institution. After attending the Symposium, Scholars have one year to complete and report on project outcomes and impact.

The community-based project must address one of the 12 topics listed below:

- Access to Health Services
- Clinical Preventive Services
- Environmental Quality
- Injury and Violence
- Maternal, Infant, Child Health
- Mental Health
- Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity
- Oral Health
- Reproductive and Sexual Health
- Social Determinants
- Substance Abuse
- Tobacco

In the application, students will select one or two objectives from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Healthy People 2030 that apply to your chosen project. Healthy People provides science-based, 10-year national objectives for improving the health of all Americans. The objectives are listed on the Healthy People 2030 website [<https://health.gov/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives>]. The application form will require you to enter the specific codes for your chosen objectives.

Scholars will be required to submit a final report on the outcomes and impact of the project.

Mentor

Students are required to:

- Enlist the guidance of a mentor who has previous knowledge and interest in public health to facilitate the development and implementation of the project.
- Obtain commitment from their potential project mentor prior to application submission.
- Obtain a signed Letter of Commitment from the mentor.

Mentor Responsibilities

Mentor responsibilities include but are not limited to: answering questions about the Institutional Review Board (IRB) process, providing professional guidance on project design, and contributing public health and prevention knowledge to project development.

Responsibilities

The selected applicant will be responsible for:

- Attending the introductory session at APTR's virtual Teaching Prevention Conference in March 2021.
- Attending the Virtual Student Leadership Symposium from June 22-24, 2021.

Please email membership@aptrweb.org to determine if your public health program is eligible.

Application Guidelines

All applicants are required to complete the application at www.ambrosescholars.org.

Application Timeline:

January 4

- Applications Open

February 12

- Application Deadline

March 5

- Selection Notifications Sent

June 22-24

- Symposium Attendance

“The speakers were motivational, challenging, and engaging, and it was an excellent opportunity to network with students of different disciplines who share a passion for public health and preventive medicine.”

Application Components

To apply for the Paul Ambrose Scholars Program, the following materials are required.

1. Statement of Interest

This is your opportunity to explain your specific strengths as a candidate to reviewers.

Format Requirements:

- Maximum 3 pages, 1.5 spaced
- 12-point font, 1-inch margins
- Adobe pdf or Word document (to be uploaded)

Statement of Interest should address the following:

1. The impact your participation would have on your professional development, academic institution and/or community, and career.
2. The reason(s) you want to learn more about prevention and public health.
3. Ways that prevention and public health have played a role in your life.
4. Current or future collaborations you have had with health professions students from other disciplines.
5. Strengths and attributes you possess that would make you a successful Paul Ambrose Scholar.
6. How you would share what you have learned with your fellow students and others.

2. Project Proposal

Your project proposal will describe the community-based project you will implement over the course of your Scholar year and must address one of the 12 topics listed above and one or two of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Healthy People 2030 Objectives.

Format Requirements:

- Maximum, 3 pages, 1.5 spaced
- 12-point font, 1-inch margins
- Adobe pdf or Word document (to be uploaded)

Your project proposal should address the following:

1. Project description
2. How your project will address the list of topics above and Healthy People 2030 Objectives
3. Explain why this is a public health issue within your community
4. Resources at your institution or among community-based partners you might use to develop and implement your project
5. Impact of your final project (if any) on your selected community

Project options are expanded to include a health communications or policy initiative, or a research paper including a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA).

3. Letter of Recommendation

You are required to submit one letter of recommendation from faculty or a project supervisor within your academic program.

Format Requirements:

- Letter must be on the official letterhead of the academic institution
- Letter must be signed by the faculty or project supervisor
- Adobe pdf or Word document (to be uploaded)

Letters of Recommendation must be submitted by the application deadline and should address the following:

- Personal qualifications and qualities
- Ability to work with students and faculty from a variety of disciplines
- Applicant's commitment and ability to meet all requirements of the Paul Ambrose Scholars Program

4. Letter of Commitment

A letter from the faculty project mentor must include:

- Commitment of the faculty mentor in supporting and guiding the student in developing and implementing the community project
- Support of the student in participating in the Paul Ambrose Scholars Program
- Mentor profile or bio

NOTE: If you are unable to obtain the letter of recommendation or commitment to upload with your application submission, then your selected academic faculty member MUST email the letter to pasp@aptrweb.org following the requirements listed above. The letter MUST be received on or before the deadline date and must include the last name of the applicant in the file name.

5. Applicant Curriculum Vitae or Resume

6. Transcript (unofficial accepted)

Review and Selection Process

All applications will be initially reviewed for completeness and eligibility. An Objective Review Panel comprised of faculty, health professionals, and past Paul Ambrose Scholars will evaluate complete and eligible applications in accordance with the criteria below.

Quality of Personal Statement Essay | 25 points

- Clearly explains interest in prevention and public health.
- Describes how prevention and public health have played a role in applicant’s life.
- Indicates applicant’s contributions to their academic program.
- Indicates expected personal and professional growth from this experience.
- Describes strengths and attributes that will make applicant a successful Paul Ambrose Scholar.

Strength of Proposed Project Essay | 35 points

- Proposed project is clearly focused on a specific Healthy People 2030 Objectives.
- Clearly explains why these objectives are of interest and their impact on the applicant’s community.
- Indicates how the applicant will address the public health issue within the community.
- Lists institutional or community-based resources available to develop and implement the project.

Experience and Volunteerism | 20 points

- Evidence of applicant’s commitment to public service and community.
- Evidence of experience (internships, jobs, research, etc.) or extracurricular activities related to prevention or public health.

Quality of Writing | 10 points

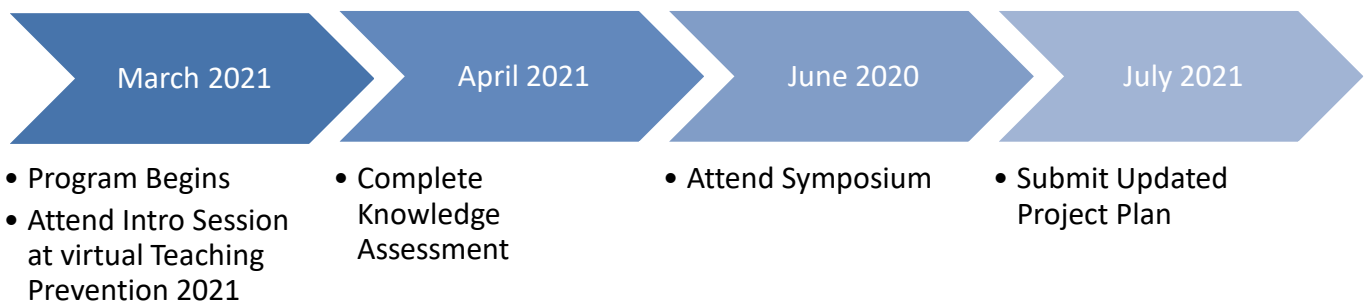
- Proper use of grammar, punctuation and syntax. Writing is clear, concise, and coherent.

Recommendation & Mentor Letter of Commitment | 10 points

- Letter of recommendations illustrate the applicant’s commitment, motivation, and leadership capacity.
- Letter of recommendations illustrate strong academic institutional support of the applicant’s participation.
- Demonstrated enthusiasm from a faculty mentor to support the student’s project efforts.

Program Elements

Once selected, the following is an introductory timeline of activities involved with the Paul Ambrose Scholars Program. A more detailed timeline will be available in March 2021.



Program Background

This program is named in honor of Paul W. Ambrose, MD, MPH, a rising star in the field of prevention and public health who died in the attacks of September 11, 2001. Since 2002, more than 743 students from over 220 academic institutions have become Paul Ambrose Scholars, equipped with leadership and organizational skills in population health that can only be found outside of the classroom.

At the time of his death, Dr. Ambrose worked for APTR and the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (ODPHP) serving as the 7th Luther L. Terry Senior Fellow. Dr. Ambrose worked closely with the Office of the Surgeon General and was the point person for multi-agency collaborations addressing public health issues such as obesity, healthy lifestyles, medical school curricula, and health disparities. Dr. Ambrose was committed to caring for the underserved and promoting public health, and he pursued these goals with extraordinary talent, resourcefulness, and energy. His vision laid the original groundwork to create a comprehensive student leadership symposium for preparing health professions students to address impending public health challenges.

About APTR

The Paul Ambrose Scholars Program is planned and implemented by the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research (APTR). APTR is the national professional membership organization for individuals and institutions advancing the education of physicians and other health professionals in prevention and population health. Founded in 1942, members include faculty from preventive medicine and public health departments within medical schools and health professions institutions, and graduate programs in public health.

www.aptrweb.org

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