



2026 PA Mental Health Scholarship Application

Deadline for Application Submissions: February 27, 2026

The Physician Associate (PA) Mental Health Service Scholarship is established to support PA students who demonstrate a commitment to improving access to mental health in rural and underserved communities in California. The scholarship provides financial assistance to eligible students in exchange for a one-year service obligation in a designated rural or underserved area upon graduation and licensure.

Eligibility Requirements Applicants of the PA Mental Health Service Scholarship must:

- Be a current CAPA Member
- Be in clinical rotations at the time of submission or a recent graduate (within nine (9) months of the submission deadline).
- Be currently enrolled in a California ARC-PA or successor agency-approved PA program.
- Be in good academic standing (maintaining a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale).
- Be a United States citizen or permanent resident.
- Past recipients of CAPA or CAPA Foundation scholarships are ineligible to apply.

Commitment to Service

- Must sign or have intent to sign a formal Service Agreement committing one (1) year of full-time employment in a rural or underserved community providing mental health services in a psychiatry setting. Primary care will be considered but a dedicated mental health setting will be weighted more heavily.

Personal Statement

- Must provide evidence of prior engagement, coursework, or volunteer activity related to mental health or rural health with a personal statement (maximum 750 words) describing their interest in rural mental health, career goals, and intended impact.

Letter of Recommendation

- Must submit one (1) professional letter of recommendation from a faculty member, preceptor, or healthcare professional familiar with the applicant’s abilities and commitment to underserved populations.

First name:	Last name:		
Home Address:	City:	State:	Zip:
Phone Number:	Email Address:		
PA Program:	Graduation Date:		

Please state your ethnic background

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Native American | <input type="checkbox"/> Alaskan Native | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian / Pacific Islander |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Latina/o/x | <input type="checkbox"/> African American | <input type="checkbox"/> Caucasian |



Statement of Intent:

I intend to practice as a licensed PA in California upon graduation and successful completion of the NCCPA Board examination (within 60 days of graduation). If selected as an award recipient, I further agree to sign an agreement committing one (1) year of full-time employment in a rural or underserved community providing mental health services in a psychiatry setting. Primary care will be considered but a dedicated mental health setting will be weighted more heavily.

Award Stipulation: Awarding of scholarship funds is contingent upon the student providing verified proof of employment in an eligible practice site, including employer contact information and a signed employment contract. Failure to provide the required documentation may result in forfeiture of the scholarship award.

Signature _____

Date _____

Application Enclosures

- **Complete PA Mental Health Service Scholarship Application**
- **Personal Statement** (maximum 750 words).
- **Letter of Recommendation** as described above.
- **Current Academic Transcript** (official or unofficial)

While applicants may apply for multiple CAPA and CAPA Foundation scholarships, they will be awarded only one. Past recipients of CAPA or CAPA Foundation scholarships are ineligible to apply.

Scholarship submissions and enclosures must be emailed to luz@capanet.org with the subject line: PA Mental Health Service Scholarship Applicant. Applicants must be CAPA members. The deadline for submissions is 11:59 pm on Friday, February 27, 2026. Incomplete applications or late submissions will not be accepted.