



2019 AACCP Walmart Scholars Program

Program Information and Application Instructions

Deadline: February 15, 2019 at 11:59 p.m. ET

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2019 Program Information

The Program

Description

The AACP Walmart Annual Meeting Scholarship Program (the Program) provides up to **eighty-five (85)** student-faculty pairs from AACP member institutions a **\$1,000** scholarship to support registration and other meeting expenses for the student to attend and participate in the AACP Annual Meeting and Seminars.

Goal of the Program

AACP appreciates the challenges facing the colleges and schools of pharmacy in striving to ensure there are an adequate number of well-prepared individuals who aspire to join the faculties at our expanding number of institutions across the country. The goal of the scholarship program is to strengthen the recipient's skills and commitment to a career in academic pharmacy through their participation at the AACP Annual Meeting and Seminars.

Eligibility, Requirements, and Service to AACP

Graduate students, professional (doctoral) students, residents, and fellows, along with their faculty mentors, are eligible to apply for the travel scholarships. Previous Walmart Scholars are **not** eligible to apply as an applicant, however, are eligible to serve as a mentor for future Walmart Scholars programs.

A faculty mentor may only apply with one mentee.

Qualified applicants will meet the following requirements:

- must be enrolled in a professional pharmacy degree program or graduate program at an AACP regular or associate member institution,
- must be an individual member of AACP,
- have a minimum of 3.0 GPA,
- be a United States citizen or permanent resident,
- and have a strong interest in enhancing their preparation for a career in academic pharmacy.

Note that an attempt is made to balance the number of award recipients per institution as much as possible.

An electronic evaluation form will be sent to all scholars during the Annual Meeting. Awardees must provide a final report to AACP on their experiences after the annual meeting and no later than **August 1, 2019**.

AACP leaders and staff will publicly acknowledge the pairs during the orientation and at other appropriate points in the 2019 Annual Meeting and Seminars to promote Walmart and AACP's commitment to the recruitment and development of pharmacy faculty. Further, to assist with maximizing the experience of the scholarship pair to its fullest, logistics will be provided prior to the annual meeting that lists sessions that are both required and suggested to attend.

Walmart Scholars may also be invited, but not required, to participate in other AACP surveys, forums, or discussions during the Annual Meeting and/or throughout the year with the intent of advancing the profession and student engagement in the association.

Scholarships (Requirements of How to Spend \$1,000)

The program will provide **\$1,000** annual conference scholarships to up to **eighty-five** student-faculty pairs from AACP member institutions to attend the AACP Annual Meeting and the AACP Teachers Seminar in Chicago, Illinois from July 13-17, 2019. The scholarship is to cover 100% of the student's cost to register for the 2019 AACP Annual Meeting and Teachers Seminar. Beyond registration costs, the recipient pair should apply the remainder of the scholarship to airfare, lodging, and other meeting expenses for the student, as the intent of the AACP Walmart Scholarship Program is to aid the student financially. AACP does not require a report from the student as to how they plan to spend the scholarship funds.

Based on previous Walmart Scholar comments and for economic reasons, we strongly suggest that scholars share a hotel room with other students or their faculty mentor at the annual meeting. Hotel information will be available at www.aacp.org in early April 2019.

Evaluation of Applications

Eligibility Review

AACP staff will determine that all eligibility requirements have been met, such as GPA standing, AACP membership, and institutional membership verification. Once requirements are verified, the application will move through the evaluation process.

Evaluation Scale

An evaluation scale from zero to five or zero to ten is used for scoring each of the evaluation criterion, respectively.

Evaluation Criteria

AACP leaders will use the following criteria by which all applications will be judged. The evaluation team will look for well thought out, organized, articulate, and complete applications, with evidence that both parties have a strong interest in enhancing the student's preparation for a career in academic pharmacy.

Credentials of the Student (weight factor = 6)

The Statement of Experience & Future Career Goals and Academic Pharmacy essays are used for this criterion. The degree to which the student is motivated to pursue an academic career is evaluated. Evaluation involves an assessment of how closely the personal and academic credentials of the student match with the goal of the Program. Note that AACP does not collect resumes or CVs as part of the application process. Applicants are instructed to express those relevant experiences in their essays.

- **Statement of Experience & Future Career Goals** (40 points possible)
 - Research Experience (10 points)
 - Teaching Experience (10 points)
 - Future Career Goals (15 points)
 - Spelling and grammar (5 points)
- **Academic Pharmacy** (20 points possible)
 - Pillars of Education (15 points)
 - Spelling and grammar (5 points)

Faculty Mentor's Support of Student (weight factor=4)

The faculty mentor's description of the student's qualifications and capacity to succeed in this type of Program is used for this criterion. The degree to which the faculty mentor describes a plan of mentorship and believes the student will benefit from participating in the Program is evaluated.

- Mentor Engagement
 - Degree of current mentor engagement and specific plan for ongoing mentorship (e.g., timeframe, frequency) (20 points)
- Evidence of Applicant's Attributes (10 points)
 - How well the mentor describes the applicant's attributes and goals as they relate to a potential for a successful career in academic pharmacy.
- Potential for Success in Academic Pharmacy (10 points)
 - The applicant's potential for success in an academic pharmacy career based on the mentor's letter.

Scholarship Notification

1. Scholarship recipients will be announced in **mid-April 2019**.
2. Funds will be forwarded to the student (or the student's institution) on or shortly after **May 15, 2019**.
3. AACP will announce the scholarship recipients in *Academic Pharmacy Now*, in other appropriate publications, and in a *News Release* for trade journals and newsletters.
4. AACP will arrange for publicity of the recipients at the AACP Annual Meeting and Seminars. Here is a sample listing of events from those required and suggested based on prior meetings:
 - AACP Walmart Scholars Orientation (Saturday, July 13, 2019);
 - Teachers Seminar (Saturday, July 13, 2019);
 - Graduate Student Program (Saturday, July 13, 2019);
 - Council of Faculties & Department Chairs Welcome Reception (Sunday evening, July 14, 2019);
 - Attendance at two Poster Sessions (Sunday, July 14, and Monday, July 15, 2019); and
 - Innovations in Teaching Award (Tuesday, July 16, 2019).

Application Instructions

Application Deadline

Applications are due by February 15, 2019 at 11:59 p.m. ET.

Applications Basics

Applications will be collected electronically:

<https://fs16.formsite.com/AACP/WalmartScholarApp/index.html>

Each applicant/mentor pair must share a single application login, so that both users can access and save a partially completed form before final submission. If you do not create a login account, you and your mentor must complete the entire application form in a single session.

The application is in an online survey format and will require the following information to be considered complete. In the application, * indicates a required response.

Demographic Information

Name, Address, Email, Phone, AACP Member numbers for Student and Mentor, etc.

GPA Verification

(Document to be uploaded)

To be eligible for consideration, GPA must be 3.0 or greater on a 4.0 scale. Enter your GPA for your current degree program and upload a letter in PDF format from the Dean's or Registrar's office verifying your GPA. If you are a resident or fellow and not currently enrolled in a degree program, provide the GPA for your most recently completed degree (Pharm.D. or graduate). Reviewers will use this letter in lieu of transcripts to verify that your GPA meets the eligibility requirements for the Walmart Scholars Program. See examples on page 7. (Maximum length is one page.)

Student's Statement of Experience & Future Career Goals

(Text to be uploaded in online submission platform)

Describe your reasons for wanting to participate in the Program, your career goals, and other academic and personal attributes you would like the reviewers to consider. Highlight any leadership roles or significant activities, presentations, posters, or events. Include evidence of any teaching or tutoring experience in high school, college, and/or professional/graduate school; and/or working as a teaching assistant, preceptor, teacher, or coach. Also include any evidence of research conducted jointly or individually. Research may include laboratory-based research, social and administrative research, health sciences research, practice-based research, clinical research, and/or scholarship of teaching and learning. Note that AACP does not collect resumes or CVs as part of the application process. Applicants are instructed to express those relevant experiences in their essays. Maximum word count is 750.

Student's Academic Pharmacy Essay

(Text to be uploaded in online submission platform)

Demonstrate your understanding of the three pillars of higher education (teaching, research, and service) by describing their impact on academic pharmacy in your own words. Maximum word count is 350.

Faculty Mentor's Letter of Support

(Text or PDF to be uploaded in online submission platform)

The degree to which the faculty mentor believes the applicant will benefit from participating in the Walmart Scholars Program is considered in the review process. Include how long and how well you

have known the applicant and in what capacity. Use specific examples or evidence to describe the applicant's attributes and goals, and how they will contribute to a successful career in academia. Describe your specific plans (e.g., timeframe, frequency) for mentoring the applicant in the future. Maximum word count is 750.**

Please note: The mentor's letter of support may be entered into an open text box or uploaded as a PDF in the application. Uploaded letters must comply with the following formatting requirements: PDF file, Arial font size 11, 1-inch margins, and double-spaced; **maximum of two (2) pages. Only properly formatted letters will be reviewed.

Examples of GPA Verification Letters

Below are examples of acceptable GPA verification letters, which must be submitted on institutional letterhead and uploaded into the Walmart Scholar application form. See page 6 for additional details.

Example 1 (Pharm.D. candidate)

School Letter Head

Dean X
X College of Pharmacy
Address

February 1, 2019

Dear AACP:

Student X is currently enrolled in the Pharm.D. program at X College of Pharmacy. Student X's cumulative GPA in the Pharm.D. program is 3.5.

Thank you,

Dean X
X College of Pharmacy

Example 2 (Graduate student, Resident or Fellow)

School Letter Head

Dean X
X College of Pharmacy
Address

February 1, 2019

Dear AACP:

Student X has graduated from the Pharm.D. program at X College of Pharmacy. Student X graduated with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 in the Pharm.D. program.

Thank you,

Dean X
X College of Pharmacy

Instructions for Post-Meeting Evaluation of Program

All Walmart Scholars are required to complete an online evaluation form immediately following the 2019 AACP Annual Meeting. The link to the evaluation form will be sent to Scholars via email by the end of the AACP Annual Meeting. Scholars must submit the completed form by **August 1, 2019**.

Evaluation excerpts may be used in AACP-related publications (*Academic Pharmacy Now*) and/or forwarded to AACP and Walmart leaders. We will request your feedback on the following items:

1. Personal impressions of the AACP Teachers Seminar
2. Personal impressions of the AACP Annual Meeting
3. Your reasons for pursuing a career in academic pharmacy
4. The impact of the experience on your personal, academic, and career goals
5. Other comments and impressions of the Program, including suggestions for improvement