

EMERGING LIVER ADVANCED PRACTICE PROVIDERS PROGRAM *for future leaders in hepatology*

Application Deadline:

April 17, 2023

The Liver Meeting® Dates/Location:

November 10-14, 2023, Boston, Massachusetts

October 25-29, 2024, San Diego, California

AASLD Foundation's Mission

To invest in innovative hepatology research and in the people who study and treat liver disease.

Program Description

The Emerging Liver APP program brings early career advanced practice providers (APPs) to the premiere scientific meeting in hepatology and advances their knowledge of liver diseases through educational programming, professional development activities led by leaders in the field, and networking with hepatology KOLs and peers from around the globe.

Participants start the program with complimentary AASLD membership, journal subscriptions, and registration and travel support to attend [The Liver Meeting](#), where they will participate in exclusive networking and educational events while also having full access to all scientific programming the meeting has to offer. Over the next year, APPs will participate in special leadership and professional development activities led by AASLD / AASLD Foundation leadership and webinars related to clinical competencies in hepatology. The program concludes with a second fully sponsored trip to The Liver Meeting, where they will connect with new program participants and continue to expand their network and knowledge in hepatology.

Individuals who practice in underserved communities or identify as part of a systemically marginalized group in medicine that has historically faced barriers due to factors such as their race, ethnicity, gender expression, sexual orientation, disability, or socioeconomic status (e.g., first generation college graduate, from low-income communities, etc.) are strongly encouraged to apply. To promote health equity, increase patient access in medically underserved communities, and support increased diversity in the hepatology workforce, each year a minimum of 30% of available awards will be reserved for applicants from federally designated health professional shortage areas and/or Minority-Serving Institutions (MSI) for groups underrepresented in medicine.

Eligibility

In order to be eligible for this program, the applicant must adhere to the following guidelines:

1. The applicant must:

- Reside in the US, Canada, or Mexico
- Be a:
 - Graduate student in an accredited degree program for Advanced Practice Providers (e.g., MSN, MPAS, MSHS, PharmD, etc.) who is scheduled to complete their program between July 2023 – June 2024; or
 - A practicing Advanced Practice Provider (e.g., Physician Assistant, Nurse Practitioner, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Clinical Pharmacist, etc.) who has less than 24 months experience in a setting **primarily** focused on hepatology and/or transplant hepatology (i.e., hepatology patients are greater than 50% of cases seen).
- Be interested in specializing in hepatology clinical care.

2. Other Requirements:

- AASLD Membership is not a requirement to apply for this program.
- Previous participants of the Emerging Liver APP program are not eligible to apply again. Previous applicants who were not selected are encouraged to re-apply if they continue to meet eligibility criteria.

- Each program participant will work with an AASLD Associate Member mentor during their award for guidance, advice, and career coaching:
 - Candidates are not required to identify an AASLD Associate Member mentor at the time of application but may do so if they have a mentorship relationship already identified/established.
 - Candidates who do not have an AASLD Associate Member mentor will be matched with one if their application is accepted.
 - **Applicants without a pre-identified mentor will not be penalized nor will having a pre-identified AASLD Associate Member mentor give an applicant an advantage during the selection process.**
- There is no limit to the number of applications that will be accepted per institution, but only one candidate may be selected per distinct department within each institution in an application cycle.

Participant Expectations

1. Participants will be expected to attend [The Liver Meeting](#) (held annually in November) in-person for two years and must:
 - Agree to meet all applicable AASLD Health and Safety Rules and Policies regarding vaccines, testing, COVID-19 or other diseases and health concerns, or if AASLD Rules and Policies allow for exemptions, agree to submit required documentation of an applicable exemption when requested.
 - Commit to attend for the duration of the meeting (Thursday – Tuesday)
 - Commit to attend all required program special events during the meeting
 - Allow your mentor to guide you throughout the program and be open to suggestions about programming and attendance at certain functions throughout The Liver Meeting
 - Check in daily with your mentor
2. Throughout the program year:
 - Provide for two-way communication and regular follow-up with your mentor
 - Complete all active units of AASLD's *Fundamentals of Liver Disease* curriculum
 - Participate in a minimum of 3 AASLD webinars over course of program commensurate with competencies of curriculum
 - Participate for one year as an ex-officio member of their assigned AASLD / AASLD Foundation Committee or Special Interest Group (SIG) Steering Committee
 - Participate as a member of the Hepatology Associates Special Interest Group
 - Regularly participate in virtual career development activities offered for program participants

Additional Program Details

1. Awards are made to the individual and not their institution/employer.
 - Awards can not be transferred to another individual at the same institution/employer.
 - Though Awards are made to the individual, Awardees who are not current graduate students are expected to remain actively employed in healthcare during the Award term.
 - AASLD Foundation will be directly responsible for registration, housing, and travel costs.
 - Allowable actual costs of up to \$75/day incurred by awardees during the meeting will be paid on a reimbursement basis to the awardee only and each cost must be supported by appropriate documentation/receipts. No reimbursement for travel funds will be paid to an institution/employer under any circumstances.
2. Awardees are expected to attend The Liver Meeting in-person.
 - Awardees unable to attend The Liver Meeting in-person due to an extenuating circumstance (e.g., illness, personal emergency, or other unforeseen or unavoidable reason outside of their control) may request deferment of travel support for one year. Requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and approval is at the discretion of AASLD Foundation. All decisions are final. **Awardee noncompliance with AASLD Meeting Attendee or Health and Safety Rules and Policies (and, if AASLD's Meeting Rules and Policies allow for exemptions, failure or inability to submit necessary documentation for an applicable exemption), negligence to plan to attend, or inability to secure leave on the meeting dates are not considered extenuating circumstances.**

- Awardees must confirm they will attend The Liver Meeting in-person by August 15 of each funding year. If an Awardee is unable to attend The Liver Meeting for a circumstance that is not extenuating, unforeseen, or avoidable, and does not take appropriate corrective action prior to August 15, AASLD Foundation reserves the right to rescind the Award and remove the Awardee from the ELAPP program.
 - In the event the in-person component of the meeting is cancelled by AASLD, Awardees will receive complimentary registration to the virtual component of the impacted meeting.
3. Awardees are expected to remain active participants in program activities throughout their award. If an awardee has not met minimum participant expectations at the end of their first year, AASLD Foundation reserves the right to rescind travel support to The Liver Meeting in the second year.

Application Deadline and Selection Criteria

The application deadline for this award is **11:59 pm Eastern time, April 17, 2023**. Applications received after the deadline will not be reviewed.

All required documents must be combined as a single PDF and submitted at www.liverresearchawards.org. Please name your PDF as follows: 2023_APP_Last Name, First Name (example: 2023_APP_Smith, Jane).

Applications will be reviewed based on the written materials submitted. **Incomplete applications and applications that fail to adhere strictly to the instructions will not be reviewed.** All decisions are final.

Candidates will be evaluated on their potential for a career hepatology including their background and professional potential, commitment to health equity, and demonstration of motivation, self-direction, and personal integrity.

Individuals who practice in underserved communities or identify as part of a systemically marginalized group in medicine that has historically faced barriers due to factors such as their race, ethnicity, gender expression, sexual orientation, disability, or socioeconomic status (e.g., first generation college graduate, from low-income communities, etc.) are strongly encouraged to apply. For more information, please see:

- Racial and ethnic groups underrepresented in medicine, individuals with disabilities, and individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds: [NOT-OD-20-031](#)
- Sexual & gender minority (SGM) populations: [NOT-OD-19-139](#)

To promote health equity, increase patient access in medically underserved communities, and support increased diversity in the hepatology workforce, each year a minimum of 30% of available awards will be prioritized for applicants from health professional shortage areas or federally designated Minority-Serving Institutions (MSI) for groups underrepresented in medicine.

2023 AASLD Foundation Emerging Liver APP Application

Applicant Name (last, first, middle initial)		Applicant Degrees(s)
Institution or Employer Name		
Applicant Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate Student <input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Nurse Specialist <input type="checkbox"/> Nurse Practitioner <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Practice Nurse <input type="checkbox"/> Physician Assistant <input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Pharmacist <input type="checkbox"/> Other:		Do you have an AASLD Associate Member mentor? <input type="checkbox"/> No (if selected, you will be matched with a mentor) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes. If yes, provide your mentor's name (last, first, middle initial):
Required Document Checklist		
Submit only the documents listed below as a single PDF and in the order listed below at www.liverresearchawards.org . Please name your PDF as follows: 2023_APP_Last Name, First Name (example: 2023_APP_Smith, John)		
Included	Document	Description
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cover Pages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use pages 4-5 of this application as your cover pages. Complete all information sign your name where indicated.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Applicant's CV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a copy of your comprehensive Curriculum Vitae (See NIH OITE Guide)
<input type="checkbox"/>	License and Certification or Degree Program Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide copies of your current license and certification or a description of your current degree program with anticipated graduation date if you are currently a graduate student. If you are a recent graduate with certification/license pending, provide a brief statement describing your timeline towards becoming fully certified and licensed.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Personal Statement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a Personal Statement addressing the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe your background and both short and long-term career goals. (500 words recommended) Describe how you were first introduced to the field of hepatology, or what about hepatology interests you the most. (250 words recommended) Describe your commitment to addressing health disparities and promoting health equity. (250 words recommended) Describe what you hope to learn or experience through participating in the Emerging Liver APP Program. (250 words recommended)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mentor, Employer, or Educator Letter of Recommendation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide one letter of recommendation from a current or previous mentor, employer, or educator who has had a supervisory or oversight role with the applicant. The letter should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirm and describe their professional relationship with the candidate. Describe the candidate's work ethic, length of employment and/or study, and interest in hepatology. Provide specific examples of why the candidate is motivated and self-directed.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Peer Letter of Recommendation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide one letter of recommendation from a peer who knows the applicant well and can evaluate their strengths.

2023 EMERGING LIVER ADVANCED PRACTICE PROVIDER ELIGIBILITY CHECKLIST

Complete the eligibility checklist below and include the completed page as page 2 of your application package.

1. The applicant (select which applies):

- ☐ Is a graduate student in an accredited degree program for Advanced Practice Providers (e.g., MSN, MPAS, MSHS, PharmD, etc.) who is scheduled to complete their program between July 2023 – June 2024;

Degree Program: _____

(e.g., MSN, MPAS, MSHS, etc.)

Anticipated Graduation Date: _____

(MM/YY format)

- ☐ Is practicing Advanced Practice Provider (e.g., Physician Assistant, Nurse Practitioner, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Clinical Pharmacist, etc.) who has less than 24 months experience in a setting primarily focused on hepatology and/or transplant hepatology (i.e., hepatology patients are greater than 50% of cases seen).

2. The applicant confirms that if selected, they understand and agree to meet all program requirements:

- Awardees who are not currently in a degree program must remain actively employed in healthcare during their Award term.
- Awardees are expected to remain active participants in program activities throughout their award, including:
 - i. In-person attendance to The Liver Meeting and participation in all program events during the meeting.
 - ii. Meet monthly with their award mentor.
 - iii. Complete all active units of AASLD's *Fundamentals of Liver Disease* curriculum
 - iv. Participate in a minimum of 3 AASLD webinars over course of program commensurate with competencies of curriculum
 - v. Participate for one year as an ex-officio member of their assigned AASLD / AASLD Foundation Committee or Special Interest Group (SIG) Steering Committee
 - vi. Participate as a member of the Hepatology Associates Special Interest Group

- ☐ I confirm that I understand and agree to meet all program requirements if selected.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

In our efforts to fund more high-impact proposals, AASLD Foundation seeks partnerships with individual or private foundation donors that have expressed interest in supporting research projects in specific diseases or areas of focus or programs that address health equity in special populations.

Please indicate below if you give AASLD Foundation permission to share your de-identified application with potential individual or private (non-industry/corporate) foundation donors in the event your application is highly meritorious and matches with one of these opportunities.

- ☐ Yes, I agree to allow AASLD Foundation to share my de-identified application with potential individual donors or private (non-industry/corporate) foundations.
- ☐ No, I do not agree to allow AASLD Foundation to share my de-identified application with any potential private donors.

Required Signature

By signing below, you are certifying that the information in this application is accurate, that you have read and understand the participant requirements and expectations for this program, and if selected, you agree to meet all program requirements.

Signature of Applicant

Name

Date