

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MEDICAL SCHOOL APPLICANTS

The Air Force offers individuals the opportunity to attend medical school under two medical school scholarship programs, the Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program (AFHPSP) and the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS). Eligibility requirements can be found in AFI 41-110, *MEDICAL HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS*.

UNIFORMED SERVICES UNIVERSITY OF THE HEALTH SCIENCES (USUHS)

The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) is located in Bethesda, Maryland. USUHS is a Department of Defense medical school where members of the Air Force, Army and Navy attend medical school together. The Air Force sponsors approximately 50 students to attend USUHS each year. It is highly competitive receiving over 1700 applications for the 164 available scholarships that are divided between services. Individuals selected to participate as an Air Force member of the program are commissioned in the rank of Second Lieutenant in the Medical Service Corps (MSC) and are considered to be on active duty while attending USUHS. These individuals are given all pay and benefits commensurate with their rank.

USUHS accepts applications from civilian, AFROTC cadets, Service Academy cadets, active duty and Reserve personnel. For further information, you should call USUHS at (800) 381-0660.

ARMED FORCES HEALTH PROFESSIONS SCHOLARSHIP

The Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program (AFHPSP) allows individuals to attend a civilian medical school of their choice with Air Force sponsorship. To be eligible to apply for the program, all applicants for the program must have an unconditional acceptance letter from an accredited medical school inside the United States or Puerto Rico. All applicants must be at least 18 years of age but less than 35 years of age at the time of commissioning. Three and four year scholarships are available.

AFHPSP participants are commissioned as Second Lieutenants, Medical Service Corps, Inactive Obligated Air Force Reserves. Students enrolled in the AFHPSP will attend an accredited civilian medical school inside the United States or Puerto Rico. The Air Force pays all tuition, required books and fees and gives participants a monthly stipend.

Civilians, members of other services and Air Force Reservists interested in applying for the AFHPSP should contact their local Air Force Health Profession recruiter. If unsure of how to reach the local recruiter, call Headquarters Air Force Recruiting Service at (800) 443-4690.

**ACTIVE DUTY LETTER OF APPROVAL (LOA)
and
VIRTUAL MILITARY PERSONNEL FLIGHT (vMPF)**

Active duty LOA to apply to HPSP or USUHS must be endorsed with approval from the active duty member's unit and wing commanders. *(See template below)*

Upon approval of the LOA, the active duty member will request a voluntary separation through the vMPF and attach the LOA to the request in the vMPF. See your local Commander Support Staff (CSS) or Military Personnel Flight (MPF) if you are having difficulties attaching the LOA and completing the voluntary separation application in the vMPF. *(Note: Select Separation Provisions "Miscellaneous Reasons" and include which program you are applying for in the justification text box.)*

The vMPF will not accept your voluntary separation request/LOA until you are within one year from your projected medical school start date.

All LOAs are valid for one year from the date of AFPC/DP2STM (Separations) approval. If you don't get accepted to an accredited medical school in the year you are applying to start medical school, then you must submit a new LOA through the vMPF to reapply. Remember... you must submit the LOA within one year from your projected medical school start date.

After you submit your separation application with the attached LOA from your unit and wing commander, AFPC will forward your package to SAF for approval.

(NOTE: You must have an SAF approved LOA NLT the 1st week of January of the application year. Final approval will be given by the SAF.)

**SAMPLE REQUEST TO APPLY TO AN AIR FORCE SPONSORED
MEDICAL SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

MEMORANDUM FOR (Your Commander)

FROM: (Your military address)

SUBJECT: Request for Approval to Apply for Sponsorship to the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) or through the Health Professions Scholarship Program (HPSP)

1. I, (Full Name, Grade and SSAN), request approval to apply for an Air Force sponsored medical school scholarship program (either USUHS or HPSP).
2. The following information is provided:
 - a. I am a citizen of the United States.
 - b. I will not be more than 35 years of age as of 30 June in the year of admission. (Applicants who have served on active duty in a commissioned status may exceed the age limitation by a period equal to the time served on active duty, provided that individuals are not 35 years old before 30 June in the year of admission (may not be waived).
 - c. I will not be under 18 years of age at time of beginning first-year classes.
 - d. I meet the academic, intellectual, and personal qualifications specified in AFI 41-110.
 - e. I am motivated to pursue a medical career in the uniformed services.
 - f. (I do not have an active duty service commitment) or (My active duty service commitment resulting from (state reason) will be completed on (date)).

(Signature Block)

SAMPLE ENDORSEMENT

1st Ind

TO: Commander (Office symbol and address)

I (do recommend/do not recommend) (Full name, Grade, and SSAN) be given approval to apply to an Air Force Sponsored Medical School Scholarship Program (USUHS or HPSP). I certify no administrative or disciplinary actions are pending on this applicant. (If you do not recommend approval, state reasons.)

(Commander's Signature Block)

2nd Ind

TO: Wing Commander

I (do recommend/do not recommend) (Full name, Grade, and SSAN) be given approval to apply to an Air Force Sponsored Medical School Scholarship Program (USUHS or HPSP). I certify no administrative or disciplinary actions are pending on this applicant. (If you do not recommend approval, state reasons.)

(Commander's Signature Block)