

About WDS

The Women's Dermatologic Society (WDS) is an organization that supports the careers and professional development of women dermatologists by creating a place for women dermatologists to find the support of others who do what they do. Women in this profession have the need to learn from one another about topics such as balancing family and career. Due to raising families, women are more likely to move in and out of the workforce, thus the need for a strong support network is critical to their ability to advance their career at many different stages. The WDS supports the unique needs of women in this profession and propels them into leadership roles that might not otherwise open up to them.

WDS also provides funding to bring younger dermatologists together with leaders in the field who are willing to mentor them. It is also an organization that reaches out to the community to raise awareness of the needs for diagnosis and treatment of skin disorders.

The mission of the Women's Dermatologic Society is to help women in dermatology realize and fulfill their greatest potential by striving to:

- Foster, promote, and support women's issues in dermatology;
- Identify, train, and recognize women leaders in dermatology;
- Provide a forum for developing relationships through mentoring and building of coalitions;
- Provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and research relevant to women's issues;
- Promote the highest possible standards of ethics, support of research, patient care, patient education, and public education.

About the Program

The Medical Student Awareness Program offers grants of up to \$2000 to qualifying medical students interested in learning more about dermatology by working with a leading dermatologist in private practice or at the university level. Applicants must provide a detailed budget request upon submission of the application. *(International medical students from foreign countries other than Canada, Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands may also apply for this grant and will be offered up to \$3,000.)*

Program Mission and Goals

Increase awareness of dermatology as a profession among medical students.

Target medical students in schools that lack a division or department of dermatology.

Enhance mentorship of medical students by dermatologists who are members of the WDS.

Annual application deadline:

December 31st

Candidates selected to be funded will be notified by March 1st



Program Requirements

- Medical students in good standing at an accredited U.S. Medical School (includes Canada, Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands).
- Must be in first, second or third year of medical school. Preference will be given to first and second year students.
- Targeted towards students without Dermatology Departments or Divisions in their current medical school.
- Preference will be given to students who partner with a WDS member.
- Medical student and Dermatologist may not be from the same institution.
- Either the medical student or Dermatologist must be a woman.
- The desired program must be in general Dermatology. The setting may be private practice or academic. *(Preference will be given to applicants who have not done any prior clinical rotation in Dermatology.)*
- A written summary of the experience is mandatory for possible publication in the WDS Newsletter.
- This program must be completed within one year of announcement of the grants.
- Grants are to be used for transportation, lodging, and/or food only.
- Transportation funds will only be provided if distance from your current institution to your proposed institution of study has a radius of 30 miles or greater *(Preference will be given to those who are proposing to study in a location other than their home town/city.)*