



Dr. Alvin Ring Empowerment Scholarship for Laboratory Professionals Frequently Asked Questions

What are the eligibility requirements for applying to the Dr. Alvin Ring Empowerment Scholarship for Laboratory Professionals?

This scholarship is looking for students from medically-underserved and/or rural areas, seeking to serve medically-underserved communities with their education. In addition, candidates must be:

- United States citizens
- Students or laboratorians that fit into one of the four following categories:
 1. Current high school students starting in a NAACLS-accredited program in Phlebotomy (PBT), Medical Laboratory Assistant (MLA), Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT), Medical Laboratory Science (MLS), or Histotechnology (HTL) by August 31 2025.
 2. Current laboratory science students in a NAACLS-accredited program in Phlebotomy (PBT), Medical Laboratory Assistant (MLA), Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT), Medical Laboratory Science (MLS), or Histotechnology (HTL).
 3. Currently an active student in a non-laboratory science field, but starting in a NAACLS-accredited program in Phlebotomy (PBT), Medical Laboratory Assistant (MLA), Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT), Medical Laboratory Science (MLS), or Histotechnology (HTL) by August 31 2025.
 4. Currently a working professional (not an active student), but starting in a NAACLS-accredited program in Phlebotomy (PBT), Medical Laboratory Assistant (MLA), Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT), Medical Laboratory Science (MLS), or Histotechnology (HTL) by August 31 2025.

What information do I need to gather before I can submit my application?

We recommend you gather the following application pieces before starting the submission process:

- Contact Information
- Candidate Information
- Education Information
- Employer Information *(if relevant)*
- Resume/CV *(limit to 5 pages max)*
- Recommendation Letter from an academic or professional supervisor. *(This letter can alternatively be emailed to ascpfoundation@ascp.org by supervisor.)*

Personal statement responses for the following prompts:

1. Describe your motivations and goals for pursuing a career in laboratory medicine. *(limit to 2000 words)*
2. What impact has your community had on your professional motivations? *(limit to 2000 words)*
3. How do you expect this scholarship to aid in your professional development? *(limit to 2000 words)*
4. Optional prompt: Please share any other information you would like us to know about your interest in this scholarship.

Can I save my application and finish it at a later time?

Unfortunately, the application must be completed in one session. Please review this [application template](#) to familiarize yourself with the required materials before beginning the process to ensure smooth completion.

How should my resume be structured?

Your resume should include your education history, employment history (highlighting relevant responsibilities), and any skills you have acquired that pertain to your field.

What information should I provide in my personal statement?

There are three required prompts and one optional prompt. Each prompt has a limit of 2000 words and is submitted directly onto the application. If you write out responses on a separate document ahead of time, you will need to copy and paste it into the application when you are ready to submit.

1. Describe your motivations and goals for pursuing a career in laboratory medicine. *(limit to 2000 words)*
2. What impact has your community had on your professional motivations? *(limit to 2000 words)*
3. How do you expect this scholarship to aid in your professional development? *(limit to 2000 words)*
4. Optional prompt: Please share any other information you would like us to know about your interest in this scholarship.

Who should I get to submit my Letter of Recommendation (LOR)?

- Students: If you are a student, a faculty member from your college should submit the LOR. For example, if you are in the College of Health Sciences, a professor from this department who has taught you in at least one course would be ideal.
- In-the-field: If you are in the medical laboratory field, a director, manager, or supervisor can provide the recommendation on your behalf.

What if I don't have my LOR when I complete the application?

Your Letter of Recommendation (LOR) can be submitted separately by your professor or supervisor. They can email it directly to ascpfoundation@ascp.org.

Do I need to be a member of ASCP to apply for this scholarship?

STUDENTS: If you are a student, you do not need to be an ASCP member, though we encourage membership to take advantage of the valuable resources available. Student membership is free. Click [here](#) for more information.

LAB PROFESSIONALS: For active laboratory professionals, membership is strongly encouraged but not mandatory for scholarship eligibility. Click [here](#) to learn about laboratory professional ASCP membership.

If accepted, will I need to meet certain requirements after the scholarship is paid out?

Yes, recipients must complete a yearly evaluation, two free courses in [CDC OneLab REACH](#), and participate in an annual check-in call to maintain eligibility through the completion of their program. For awarded histotechnology students, [CDC OneLab REACH](#) course completion is not required, but is encouraged.

Can I apply for this scholarship next year?

The scholarship is awarded as a one-time opportunity. Previous recipients may apply again; however, continued funding is not guaranteed.

When does this scholarship cycle end?

The scholarship will close on May 30, 2025 at 4pm CST.

When will funds be awarded?

Recipients will be notified via email by Friday, August 1st, 2025. All scholarships will be distributed by **Friday, August 15th, 2025**.