



Program Purpose

The APTA Centennial Scholars Program is designed to build future association leaders at both the chapter/section/academy and national levels. Demonstrating APTA's investment in the sustainability of the association as it begins its next 100 years, the program will support our collective quest for a diverse and prepared leadership pool.

The 12-month program will run throughout 2021 with a goal of engaging 100 scholars. **Oregon will sponsor one member to join the APTA Centennial Scholars Program.** The curriculum will cover association leadership and management topics and be delivered through three face-to-face meetings and regularly scheduled virtual learning experiences. Additionally, scholars will work directly with the Oregon chapter to design and complete a capstone project that addresses an existing need as determined by the chapter. Scholars will also benefit from the guidance of Centennial Scholar mentors who will work directly with the scholars in small groups to support the completion of their projects.

Application Deadline

August 17, 2020 at 11:59 p.m.

Expected Selection Notification Date

August 31, 2020

Eligibility and Application Requirements

1. Be a current PT, PTA, or student member of the APTA at the time of application and throughout the 2021 Centennial year.
2. Attend three mandatory in-person events [expenses paid by the sponsoring chapter/section/academy] and regularly scheduled virtual meetings. The in-person events are currently scheduled for:
 - a. January 16, 2021, New York, NY
 - b. April 2021 [exact date TBD] in Alexandria, VA
 - c. September 12, 2021 in Washington, D.C.
3. Commit to developing and completing a capstone project in collaboration with the sponsoring chapter/section/academy, which may extend beyond 2021.
4. Submit a completed application by the application deadline.

Eligibility Preferences

1. Identifies as a member of an underrepresented minority community.

Required Application Materials

1. Completed online application: <https://opta.memberclicks.net/centennial-scholar-application-form#/>
2. Resume or Curriculum Vita (CV) detailing educational, professional, and volunteer service experience.

Desired Application Materials

1. Two letters of recommendation from people familiar with your potential for future professional leadership and your ability to successfully complete a capstone project for your component.
2. For students: at least one letter of recommendation should be from your physical therapy program's academic and/or clinical faculty



APTA-OR Centennial Scholar Application

1. Your name
2. Your title (PT, PTA, SPT, SPTA)
3. Additional titles and credentials, including APTA membership number

For the following questions, you are encouraged to write responses that are brief and provide sufficient detail to reflect your thinking and ideas. Please refer to the *APTA-Oregon Centennial Scholar Application Guidance* document for general suggestions.

4. Why are you applying to the Centennial Scholars Program?
 - a. For Sections and Academies: Why are you applying through this section/academy?
5. What are your personal leadership goals and how would this program support them?
6. What unique contributions do you think you would make to APTA's and the Oregon chapter's leadership pool?
7. In what ways might you and your experiences contribute to a more diverse and prepared leadership pool to lead the profession during the next 100 years?
8. What specific skills and strengths do you bring to the program that will serve your sponsoring component and the profession?
9. Describe a key past experience that contributed to your interest in leadership development, including how it contributed. The experience does not necessarily have to be physical therapy-related.
10. Why do you think the APTA is valuable to the PT profession?
11. What are your values as a PT/PTA professional or student?
12. The APTA defined underrepresented minorities (URM) as, "the racial and ethnic populations that are underrepresented in physical therapy education relative to their numbers in the general population, as well as individuals from geographically underrepresented areas, lower economic strata, and educationally disadvantaged backgrounds" [[HOD P06-14-13-08 Position](#)]. In your own words, which of these URM identities do you relate to, or have you experienced? If any of these designations apply to you, or if you represent a different underrepresented group that is not presented here, please describe how you self identity, in your own words.

[FOR PRACTICING PTS AND PTAS]

13. Describe a clinical experience that you feel had a significant and valuable effect on your personal and professional growth?
14. What do you anticipate will be the most rewarding outcome for prospective Centennial Scholars?

[FOR STUDENTS]

15. Describe how you feel the Centennial Scholar experience will affect your relationship with your sponsoring chapter/section/academy?



APTA-Oregon Centennial Scholar Application Guidance

Application Questions

The APTA-OR Centennial Scholar Selection Committee is interested in hearing your unique voice and ideas come through in your responses to the application questions. Suggestions for sharing your responses to our questions include:

- Succinctly and specifically communicate the main idea(s) and support your response with a personal example
- Responses that communicate your main idea may range from two to three sentences to no more than 250 words.
- Avoid slang words, idioms, sayings, or quotes from others. If a particular quote or saying is very personally meaningful to you, be sure to attribute the speaker correctly.

Letters of Recommendation

Applicants are encouraged to share their application information, including the application questions, with a prospective letter writer. It is recommended that the person you invite to write a letter can provide one or more specific examples from their professional or academic relationship with you that supports your readiness to represent APTA-OR as a Centennial Scholar.

Application Evaluation

Applications that meet minimum qualifications will move forward for evaluation. Minimum qualifications are defined in the “**Eligibility and Application Requirements**” section. Application materials are de-identified by removing applicant name and race and/or ethnicity data. Deidentified applications are independently assessed by a minimum of two reviewers. Reviewers assess application strength based on applicants’ responses to required questions and letters of recommendation. Application questions are graded and weighted by importance as follows:

Very Important	Important	Required, but not weighted
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Question 6• Question 7• Question 9• Question 13, 14, and 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Question 4• Question 5• Question 8• Question 10• Question 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Question 1• Question 2• Question 3• Question 12

The top three applications will be reviewed and discussed by the committee for decision-making. The final review and decision-making process includes considering underrepresented minority identity or experience information provided in the application (see Question 12). The applications are assigned a status (i.e., accepted, alternate, second-alternate) and notified of the decision by the notification date. Alternates may be eligible for acceptance in the event the accepted candidate withdraws before the start of the Centennial Scholar program.