

Expectations and Benefits of an APSA Local Chapter

Although APSA National would ideally like to help fund each local chapter and offer unique benefits, this is not currently feasible given our limited resources. Therefore, this document was created to help aspiring physician-scientists at each respective institution come together under a formalized structure such that funding for activities intended to supplement degree-specific training can be secured more effectively. The recommended centralized structure has been shown to facilitate mentorship opportunities as well as achievement of both short and long-term goals. To reiterate, however, the following document is solely intended to serve as a series of recommendations through which newly created local chapters will be able to establish a foundation for long-term, future successes. Furthermore, APSA National has no intention of enforcing the recommendations outlined below.

Expectations for APSA Local Chapters (LC)

- 1) Gain recognition as a student interest group within the respective institution's school of medicine.
 - a) Seek appropriate counsel to complete university-specific requirements
- 2) As a student group, LCs are encouraged to apply for funding. Recommendations for funding sources include:
 - a) Complete and submit a student group budget proposal to receive funds from the school of medicine or university (or other governing body)
 - b) Partnering with:
 - i) Local professional societies
 - ii) Companies
 - iii) Healthcare organizations and/or institutes
- 3) Increase membership by 20% within 12 months of LC charter.
 - a) An LC should promote itself at relevant events (e.g. orientations; as able) with intent of recruiting research-minded students training in various programs including MD/PhD, MD, DO, dental, pharmacy, etc.
- 4) LCs should plan to host a minimum of 1 event per semester
 - a) As membership increases the number of events should increase accordingly

Benefits

Outside of MD/PhD programs, many academic centers do not offer a specific training path for aspiring physician-scientists. Hence, creation of an LC will provide a formalized framework, otherwise unavailable, in which these students can pursue a physician-scientist education. Moreover, LCs seek to strengthen the physician-scientist community, student to tenured faculty, at each institution.

- 1) Financial
 - a) Institutional memberships
 - i) Allow LC members to participate in all APSA National events
 - (1) Annual meeting
 - (2) Regional meetings
 - (3) Webinars and interactive sessions

- (4) Mentorship opportunities
 - b) New LCs are provided \$100 to hold their first meeting/event
 - c) Eligibility for competitive grants offered by APSA National such as:
 - i) \$100 speaker grants
 - ii) \$500 travel grants to attend the national meeting (3 per year)
- 2) Professional
- a) The national meeting provides a stage for attendees to expand professional skillsets
 - i) Speaking opportunities
 - ii) Poster presentations
 - iii) Networking with students and prominent faculty
 - b) Establishment of an LC creates a formalized and unified voice for students that:
 - i) Eases the process of recruiting speakers for internal meetings
 - ii) Facilitates creation of mentorships
 - (1) For LC as a whole
 - (2) Individual members
 - c) LCs, by their nature, encourage members to individually and meaningfully direct their own education in order to pursue a physician-scientist career
 - i) The LC provides an organized platform that will allow students to do so within a formalized and effective framework
 - d) Extensive leadership opportunities
 - i) Officers of LC
 - ii) Members of LC heading up specific projects/events
 - iii) National committees