



## **HARRIS COUNTY ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS**

Harold T. Pruessner, M.D. Medical Student Scholarship

### **HISTORY:**

In 1995, the Harris County Academy of Family Physicians, through the TAFP Foundation, established a scholarship in honor of Harold T. Pruessner, M.D. From 2000 through 2003, a Shooting Star Gala fundraising event was held annually to support this scholarship fund. Members of the Harris County Academy of Family Physicians continue to support the scholarship fund through membership in the Century Club. Individuals and organizations committed to encouraging the practice of family medicine provide additional financial support. Since July 2001, when the first scholarships were awarded, two scholarships have been awarded annually to deserving medical students, one from Baylor College of Medicine and one from the McGovern Medical School. Beginning in 2008, the amount was increased to \$2,000 each.

### **CRITERIA:**

- \* Applicant must be a third-year medical student in good standing.
- \* Applicant must have a strong interest in practicing family medicine or have already chosen family medicine as his/her specialty.
- \* Although it is not a requirement, special consideration may be given to students considering practicing in medically underserved areas.

### **APPLICATION PROCEDURE:**

To set up an interview with a member of the Scholarship Committee, interested students should contact Norma Garcia, Assistant to Michael Altman, M.D., Scholarship Committee Chair, at 713-500-7604, **by May 8**. The student should take his or her transcript and a letter of recommendation from the Office of Student Affairs to the interview. In addition, a very brief ( $\leq 1$  page) personal statement and a note or letter of recommendation from a family physician (can be equally brief, even hand-written) will be very helpful.

### **NOTIFICATION OF RECIPIENTS AND PRESENTATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS:**

Scholarship winners will be notified by the end of July. For this purpose, applicants should provide written contact information at the time of their interviews. At the September 2020 Harris County Academy of Family Physicians meeting, scholarship recipients will be recognized.

Scholarship funds are contingent on matching into a Family Medicine residency program. A check for \$2,000 will be mailed to the scholarship recipients following the 2021 match results. If the selected recipient does not enter a Family Medicine residency program, the runner-up who matches in Family Medicine will receive the funds.