



Medical School Scholarships, Grants & Awards: Insider Advice on How to Win Scholarships

By Samir P. Desai, Anand D. Trivedi, Hirsh D. Trivedi, Ram Jagannathan, Samish A. Patel, Ava Ghalili



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Residency match expert Dr. Samir Desai has helped students win medical school scholarships, grants, and awards, and now shares his perspectives in this new resource. Winning awards and scholarships can:

- Significantly reduce your debt. AAMC research indicates that the median education debt for the class of 2013 was \$175,000.
- Provide a major boost to your residency application, and set you apart from your peers. Awards can be placed in the application, MSPE (Dean's Letter), letters of recommendation, and CV. We have found that interviewers often ask about awards during residency interviews. "The [American Society of Clinical Pathology Academic Excellence Award] was a common topic during my residency interviews," says Alexander Gallan, a medical student at the Boston University School of Medicine. "I believed it helped my residency application immeasurably by providing justification for all the hard work I have done."
- Elevate your profile with competitive specialties and residency programs. After Brian Caldwell, a medical student at the University of Arkansas, won the Dr. Constantin Cope Medical Student Research Award from the Society of Interventional Radiology, Dr. William Cup, his mentor, had this to say. "I am so pleased that he won the national SIR award, because his participation in the conference introduced him to national leaders in interventional radiology, and will help jumpstart his career."
- Raise your stature in your medical school.
- Make you more attractive for other awards and scholarships.
- Further your professional reputation and enhance your credibility in the areas that form the basis for the award.
- Solidify the support of faculty who become reference letter writers. Strengthening these relationships over time allows faculty members to write strong letters of recommendation for residency.

More than just an extensive list of awards and scholarships, this resource delves deep into the strategies for success. Inside:

- Some awards are only open to medical students who are nominated by their

medical school. How can you work with the school administration to increase your chances of being nominated? Our book includes Sample Letter of Request for Consideration of Nomination.

- Learn the reasons why most scholarship applications are "screened out," and avoid these pitfalls.
- Faculty letters of recommendation are a critical component of most scholarship applications. Unfortunately, many letters are suboptimal. What can you do to help faculty write glowing letters? Our book also includes Sample Cover Letter for Recommendation Letter Writers.
- Errors in the scholarship essay are common. How can you avoid these mistakes? Our book includes the Scholarship Essay Review Form designed to help you improve the quality of your essay.
- The Curriculum Vitae will be integral to your success, and our detailed chapter on CV preparation will help you develop a compelling document.
- Profiles of winners allow you to understand the qualifications and credentials desired by different scholarship programs. This knowledge will help you build your credentials over time, and increase your chances of winning awards.
- Awards of smaller monetary value are often less competitive, and renewable. Over time, the award amount may equal the more competitive, higher-value scholarship that is given just once. Learn how to identify these awards which are not often found on the Internet.

Utilizing an insider's perspective based on years of working with scholarship and award recipients, this book will help you achieve your goal:

Winning Scholarships and Maximizing Your Chances of a Successful Residency Match

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Dr. Samir Desai has served on the medical school admissions and residency selection committees at the Baylor College of Medicine for about ten years. He is the author of 16 books, including the best-selling Medical School Interview: Winning Strategies from Admissions Faculty and Success in Medical School: Insider Advice for the Preclinical Years. He writes about medical school scholarships and awards at MedSchoolAwards.com and provides residency match consulting services to applicants at TheSuccessfulMatch.com.

Dr. Anand Trivedi is currently an internal medicine resident at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

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Dr. Ava Ghalili is an emergency medicine registrar at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in Sydney, Australia.

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Sheila Nathan:

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Tara Scribner:

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Richard Zhang:

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