

Physician Assistant Program
School of Allied Health Sciences
Baylor College of Medicine

Announcement

Joan Wilson Appel PA-C, C.C.R.C
Award for Excellence in Clinical Research

Award description. The **Joan Wilson Appel Award for Excellence in Clinical Research** is established to encourage Physician Assistant (PA) students at Baylor College of Medicine to broaden their knowledge of translational medical science and to consider clinical research as part of their future careers. This competitive award aims to encourage PA students to pursue academic careers where scholarship, clinical research and discovery will be part of their ongoing medical practice. The award recognizes superior work by a graduating student as embodied by a final draft manuscript and supporting documentation.

Joan Wilson Appel, PA-C, CCRC, celebrates her distinguished career as a Certified Physician Assistant and Clinical Research Coordinator in the fields of neurology and infectious disease research. This award is given in her honor by her husband, Dr. Stanley H. Appel.

Application process. Candidates must submit a brief *letter-of-intent* and *precis'* statement by January 15th of the second year of physician assistant training and follow published application guidelines to meet final submission requirements. All completed and required materials for the manuscript must be submitted to the Dean of the School of Allied Health Sciences for competitive review by November 15 the third year of matriculation and before graduation. The final submission will include the mentor's evaluation of the candidate's progress, related achievements, a final draft manuscript suitable for submission to a peer-reviewed journal, and an abstract of research findings to be submitted to a national medical society meeting (*subject to revision by journal and/or program requirements*). The student shall be cited as the first author, and the mentor shall be named as the corresponding author.

Award conditions. Up to one award per year will be given for the best mentored project-driven manuscript and supporting documents completed during the scheduled research experience in the second and third years of PA training. The award requirements concomitantly fulfill the educational program's graded research requirement for third-year students. It is anticipated that the process will culminate with the publication of the research findings in a related peer-reviewed journal. The Wilson-Appel Award Committee appointed annually by the Dean, School of Allied Health Sciences, will review application materials to determine eligibility and select the best final manuscript and supporting documents to receive the Award.

The award provides a cash prize of \$2500 to be used at the awardee's discretion. Ms. Wilson-Appel encourages its use for travel and publication expenses related to the presentation of the resultant manuscript at a national medical science meeting. An award plaque will also be presented to the recipient.

For questions about the Joan Wilson-Appel Award for Excellence in Clinical Research, eligibility requirements and application process, students may contact Tonya Morris: tm1@bcm.edu.