

If you grew up in a rural area or small town, and if you plan to practice in a rural area or small town, please consider:

## **The Rural Physician Shortage Area Program (PSAP) at Sidney Kimmel Medical College**

PSAP is an admissions and educational program designed to increase the supply and retention of physicians in rural areas and small towns, with a focus on Pennsylvania and Delaware. The Program recruits and supports medical students who have grown up or spent a substantial part of their lives in a rural area or small town in the United States and intend to practice in a similar area after residency training. Family Medicine is the specialty of greatest need.

Those interested in other needed specialties or who are unsure of their future specialty are also welcome to apply.

Selective consideration for admission and preferential treatment for financial aid\* are given to students who certify their commitment to the following plan of training and practice: the PSAP curriculum during undergraduate medical education, a residency training program of their choice, followed by practice in a rural area or small town. Applicants to PSAP attest that they have grown up or lived a substantial portion of their lives in a rural or small town area. A list of designated rural shortage counties in Pennsylvania and Delaware can be found below.

### Pennsylvania

Armstrong	Clinton	Indiana	Montour	Tioga
Beaver	Columbia	Jefferson	Northumberland	Union
Bedford	Crawford	Juniata	Perry	Venango
Bradford	Cumberland	Lawrence	Pike	Warren
Butler	Elk	Lebanon	Potter	Washington
Cambria	Fayette	Lycoming	Schuylkill	Wayne
Cameron	Forest	McKean	Snyder	Westmoreland
Carbon	Franklin	Huntingdon	Monroe	Wyoming
Centre	Fulton	Mercer	Somerset	
Clarion	Greene	Mifflin	Sullivan	
Clearfield	Huntingdon	Monroe	Susquehanna	

### Delaware

Kent  
Sussex

Consideration will also be given to applicants from rural areas in other non-metropolitan counties in Pennsylvania, Delaware and other states within the United States.

This program provides for up to 24 places in Sidney Kimmel Medical College's (SKMC) first-year class. Priority is given to applicants enrolled in one of the seven colleges & universities that are members of the PSAP Cooperative: Allegheny College, Bucknell University, Franklin & Marshall College, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania State University, the University of Scranton, and the University of Delaware. Students from other schools are also welcome to apply.

In addition to the required letters of recommendation submitted with the primary medical school application, PSAP applicants must furnish three (3) letters from community leaders who live in the county or rural area in which the applicant grew up. Each letter should attest to the applicant's background, personal qualities, and to his/her commitment to practice in a rural physician shortage area. Further details are provided with the secondary application to Sidney Kimmel Medical College sent from the Admissions Office.

It is anticipated that: (1) Priority will be given to Pennsylvania and Delaware residents; (2) The credentials of successful PSAP applicants will be equivalent to other successful applicants to Sidney Kimmel Medical College; (3) Highest priority will be given to those who grew up in a rural shortage area.

Although the deadline for receiving applications is November 15, applicants are encouraged to apply as early as possible.

## **Educational Program for Students Enrolled in the PSAP Program of Sidney Kimmel Medical College (SKMC)**

Faculty members in the Department of Family and Community Medicine are assigned as advisors to Physician Shortage Area Program (PSAP) students, beginning in the first year and continuing throughout their four years at SKMC. These faculty may also serve as clinical preceptors for PSAP students during their first year. Second year PSAP students serve as "Big Sibs" for entering PSAP students.

PSAP students are required to take at least one of their required Phase 2 core clinical clerkships at an affiliated hospital located in a smaller community outside of the Philadelphia metropolitan area. Current sites include Excelsior Hospital (for Family Medicine) and Wellspan York Hospital (for Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, General Surgery or Obstetrics/Gynecology). PSAP is also piloting a longitudinal curriculum for the six Phase 2 clinical rotations in affiliation with Atlantic Health System. This option features sites in rural and suburban communities in New Jersey. Students in the PSAP are given scheduling priority for their required rotations.

PSAP students are also strongly encouraged to take at least one of their Phase 3 (4th year) rotations or electives in a rural/small town area, and are encouraged to select (and are given priority for) a rural family medicine residency program site for their sub-internship rotation. Students can also work closely with a community-based primary care physician in the United States through the outpatient community experience elective. Several graduates of SKMC and its residency programs participate in our network of community preceptors and enjoy hosting students in their practices. Please note that future improvements in the curriculum at SKMC may result in minor changes to the timing of experiences within the PSAP.

## Financial Aid

All institutional financial aid awarded is based on demonstrated financial need. This need is calculated from the information submitted on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) that is submitted to the federal central processing service. This service determines the resources available to the student from (a) parents' income and assets, (b) student's income and assets, and (c) where applicable, the income and assets of a spouse. These resources are then subtracted from the student Cost of Attendance "expense budget" to determine financial need. The Cost of Attendance includes tuition, fees, room and board, books and supplies, medical/dental costs, health insurance, transportation and miscellaneous expenses.

Students in the Physician Shortage Area Program are considered for financial aid\* up to 60-70% of their financial need. All other students are considered for aid\* up to a range of 50-60% of their financial need. This additional level of financial aid, while important, is limited.

The financial aid package for students in the Physician Shortage Area Program includes: (a) expected family contribution, (b) a minimum of \$10,000 in Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan\*, (c) University administered loans and scholarships, (d) primary consideration for federal primary care service commitment grant and loan programs, as well as lower interest loan funds offered through the Pennsylvania Medical Society.

For students wishing to participate in the Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program, (or the National Health Service Corps/Indian Health Service Scholarship Program) and the Physician Shortage Area Program, there is no conflict between the programs, as long as the student intends to complete his or her obligation to the Physician Shortage Area Program upon completion of the obligation to the military, NHSC or IHS.

\* Due to Federal Budget Control Act of 2011, graduate students are no longer eligible to borrow funding through the Federal Direct Subsidized Stafford Loan program. All Federal Direct Stafford Loans are unsubsidized. For more information about this and other important financial aid information, please see the University Office of Student Financial Aid website at [Jefferson.edu/financialaid](http://Jefferson.edu/financialaid).

# Sidney Kimmel Medical College

## Supplementary Application for the Physician Shortage Area Program

Name Last: \_\_\_\_\_ First: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

The rural county for which application is made and from which letters of recommendation referred to in paragraph 4 below will come from: County: \_\_\_\_\_

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1. I hereby make application for acceptance into the Physician Shortage Area Program (PSAP)
  2. I certify that if I am accepted for this program and attend Sidney Kimmel Medical College, I shall adhere to the following plan of training and practice: The PSAP curriculum during undergraduate medical education; and after residency training of my choice, practice in a rural area or small town.
  3. I understand that my application will receive special consideration as an applicant to the program, that my agreement to abide by this program's requirements permits me to receive such consideration, and that, if I am accepted to Sidney Kimmel Medical College as part of the PSAP program, this acceptance is contingent upon my agreement to abide by the program's requirements. I further understand that if I am accepted into this program and matriculate at Sidney Kimmel Medical College, that if I do not comply with the requirements of the program, I shall be subject to academic dismissal from Sidney Kimmel Medical College.
  4. In addition to the required premedical letters of recommendation submitted with a regular application, as a student applying for this program, **I shall furnish three additional letters.** These letters should be from prominent members of the community, such as clergymen, members of professions, educators, business leaders, civic leaders, etc., who live or work in the single rural underserved county from which I am applying and who can attest to my background, **personal qualities**, and to my commitment to practice in a rural physician shortage area. I will list the names and addresses of those individuals who will be sending such letters of recommendation on my application to the PSAP. Letters of Recommendation should be emailed to: Rita.Rossano@jefferson.edu. The telephone number for the Admissions Office is 215-955-6983.

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

How long known: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

How long known: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

How long known: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

## Supplementary Application for Physician Shortage Area Program

1) Do you currently reside in the rural Physician Shortage Area for which you have applied?

Yes (If yes, skip to item #5)

No (If no, please answer all items)

2) What is your connection or relationship to your rural shortage area? Why did you choose this area?

3) What is the distance (in miles) from your hometown to the rural shortage area for which you have applied?

4) Have you ever lived in an area similar to your rural shortage area? If so, where and when?

5) What are your future career goals?

6) (This question is optional) Additional information that supports whether the specific area where you live (e.g. borough, town, etc.) is a rural physician shortage area can be included below.