2024-2025 SGIM Leadership in Health Policy (LEAHP) Program

The LEAHP Program supports the career development of selected SGIM members with goals:

- To develop SGIM members who are effective and active health policy advocates and local health policy experts, leaders, and teachers; and
- To develop an expanding national cadre of SGIM members contributing to the Society’s health policy efforts.

https://www.sgim.org/communities/advocacy/leadership-in-health-policy

The targeted learners (scholars) for this program are members of SGIM at an associate (senior residents or fellows) or junior faculty level, with no prior health policy experience necessary. Entrance into the program will be through a competitive application process with an acceptance of up to 20 participants per program year. Non-members, mid-career, and senior members are also welcome to apply; however, all LEAHP scholars must be SGIM members at the time of program acceptance.

The LEAHP program runs from one SGIM Annual Meeting through the next and combines in-person and virtual learning activities. LEAHP Scholars will be expected to participate in a half-day (Wednesday) of workshops and at least three health policy related sessions during the SGIM24 Annual Meeting (May 15-18, 2024 in Boston, MA). They will also participate in related sessions at the SGIM25 Annual Meeting (May 14-17, 2025 in Hollywood, FL). Scholars will participate in at least 3 monthly virtual meetings during the program: LEAHP webinars (workshops and journal clubs), meetings with an assigned LEAHP mentor, and active participation with a selected health policy subcommittee (research, education, or clinical practice).

LEAHP mentors work with scholars to guide their independent learning and career development, and mentor their work on at least two Capstone projects during the year (e.g., Forum or journal articles, policy white papers, policy curriculum development, SGIM meeting workshops, op-eds, advocacy projects, etc.), often in collaboration with other LEAHP scholars. Scholars participate in at least one advocacy experience (local or federal, organized by the Scholars), and participate in independent, group and online study during the year between meetings.

We encourage applicants to meet with leadership at their institution (e.g., Division Head, Department Chair or Dean) to advise and review their professional goals and to discuss how the LEAHP Program can benefit the applicant and their institution.
Apply for the John Goodson Leadership in Health Policy Scholarship

SGIM and the LEAHP program are pleased to announce the inaugural offering of the John Goodson Leadership in Health Policy Scholarship. This scholarship is available for one incoming LEAHP Scholar who is working in the field of clinical practice/payment reform. It honors John D. Goodson, MD, and his decades-long contributions to SGIM advocacy for the clinical practice of general internal medicine. Dr. Goodson has been an inspirational teacher and mentor to LEAHP scholars and health policy advocates since the LEAHP Program’s inception in 2017 and for decades before this. We are delighted to name this scholarship in his honor.

The purpose of this scholarship is to enhance the ability of the LEAHP Scholar to perform a meaningful capstone project related to clinical practice and/or payment reform while developing the expertise to be an effective and active health policy advocate and a leader/teacher of clinical practice.

An award of up to $5000 is available for the inaugural Goodson LEAHP Scholar. Each award will cover materials related to the LEAHP program at the recipient’s discretion, which may include expenses related to completing a capstone project or other program expenses. Preference will be given to applicants who can use the money to strengthen a capstone project.

Interested applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. Be a current member of the Society of General Internal Medicine;
2. Have an active interest and/or experience in clinical practice and/or payment reform advocacy and
3. Commit to completion of at least one capstone project in the field of clinical practice and/or payment reform advocacy.

If you are interested in applying for this award, please complete the additional textbox in the application labeled “John Goodson Scholarship Letter of Intent.” Please use this space to describe, in 500 words or less, your interest in the field, your proposed capstone project, how you would use the funds if selected, and whether your institution would provide matching funds during your LEAHP Program year.
Program Application

SGIM continues its journey to becoming an anti-racist society that is committed to promoting and championing diversity, equity, and inclusion as a strategic priority. For all awards, we seek to ensure a diverse applicant pool that reflects our membership, and all applicants will be given equal consideration by a diverse panel of reviewers.

Program Fees:

- LEAHP Program Fee ($1100 – payable by February 28, 2024);
- SGIM membership for 2024 and 2025 (Full members $495/year, Associate members $120/year in 2024); and
- SGIM annual meeting registration (payable in advance of the 2024 and 2025 annual meetings – $790 full members/$340 associate members per meeting registration in 2024).

To complete your application, please submit the following materials as PDF files by 11:59pm ET, December 15, 2023. [https://sgim.secure-platform.com/site/organizations/main/home](https://sgim.secure-platform.com/site/organizations/main/home)

1. A brief statement of interest in the LEAHP program (limit: one page). In your statement, please address your area of health policy and advocacy interest, your health policy or advocacy experience to date (if any), your personal goals for the program, and your plans regarding how the program will benefit you and your institution;
2. Your current CV; and
3. A letter of support from a leader at your institution (e.g. Division Head, Department Chair or Dean). This letter should address:
   a. The rationale for the applicant’s participation in the LEAHP program;
   b. A statement indicating sufficient funding is available to cover the applicant’s cost for application in the program;
      i. LEAHP program fee;
      ii. Travel and registration expenses for two SGIM annual meetings; and
      iii. SGIM membership for the 2023 and 2024 calendar years.
   c. An agreement to provide protected time for program activity which will include attendance at:
      i. Two consecutive SGIM annual meetings;
      ii. Monthly phone calls with a LEAHP program mentor;
      iii. Monthly phone calls with a Health Policy Committee subcommittee (either research, clinical practice, or education);
      iv. Monthly webinars or journal clubs with the LEAHP cadre (usually scheduled the second or third Friday afternoon from 2:00-3:00pm ET); and
      v. Occasional evening Happy Hour sessions on specific topics (3-4 per year),

The application deadline is **11:59pm ET, December 15, 2023**. Notification of acceptance into the program will occur no later than January 31, 2024.
Please login at https://sgim.secure-platform.com/site/organizations/main/home to submit your application for the LEAHP program.