Physician Associate Foundation

2026 IMPACT Grant Program:
IMPACT Grants With Orthopaedic Focus
QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

Open date: July 13, 2026
Deadline: August 10, 2026

Through the IMPACT Grant program, the Physician Associate Foundation (PAF) seeks to **support patient-centered, community-based health projects within the United States and its territories** that demonstrate an impact on patient health outcomes.

2026 Cycle: Orthopaedic Focus

For the 2026 application cycle, grant funding of up to $10,000 is available for PA-led projects/programs that focus on **increasing patient access to orthopaedic care in underserved areas and improving orthopaedic-related patient outcomes**.

This opportunity is supported by the PAs in Orthopaedic Surgery Foundation (PAOSF).

General Eligibility Criteria and Considerations

- All grant applications must be submitted by one or more PAs or PA students who are members in good standing of AAPA.
- Applications must be made in conjunction with a nonprofit sponsoring organization, such as a nonprofit hospital or nonprofit community organization, an accredited PA Program, or an AAPA Constituent Organization.
- Depending upon the specific project and the potential liability it may involve, PAF reserves the right to condition approval of an application on affiliation with a sponsoring organization.
- Grant funds are disbursed to the nonprofit organization or program sponsoring the project.
- Through this program, PAF seeks to support projects conducted **within the United States and its territories.**
- In the evaluation process, preference will be given to those applicants who have not already been awarded a grant from PAF within the preceding 12 months (including both IMPACT Grants and Global Outreach Grants).
- PAF will award a maximum of one grant per institution per funding cycle.

Orthopaedic-Focused Project Requirements

- Applications must propose a project with a clear orthopaedic focus that aims to increase patient access to orthopaedic care in underserved areas and improve orthopaedic-related patient outcomes. Applicants must meet the general IMPACT Grant eligibility requirements.

Evaluation/Selection of Recipients

The following factors will be incorporated in evaluation/selection of grantees, among others:

- Alignment with IMPACT Grant Program purpose, goals, and focus areas, as outlined above
- Clear demonstration of project timeline, framework, and anticipated outcomes
- Promotion of PA profession and visibility
- Social value and impact of the project/program
- Clarity/feasibility of budget and fiscal components

Application Requirements

The application will be available online and will include the following components:

1. An online application form (submitted via Formsite).
2. A detailed budget indicating expenses for which the grant funds will be used. **Please note that grant funds may not be used to pay salaries/stipends or to reimburse organizations for salaries. Grant funding will not be provided to cover any indirect/administrative costs.**
3. A written proposal (maximum 6 pages) addressing each of the following questions:
    a. How will this project increase patient access to orthopaedic care in underserved areas and improve orthopaedic-related patient outcomes?
    b. What are the characteristics of the patient population this project will serve?
    c. What primary objectives/milestones does this project aim to achieve?
    d. Describe the evaluation strategies to be utilized in measuring the success of the program or project. What points of data do you anticipate collecting during this project to measure impact, if any?
    e. What role will PA(s) and/or PA students play in the program? Indicate how PA value and/or PA utilization is critical in attaining the project objectives.
    f. What infrastructure is in place—or will be in place—to support the project?
    g. Briefly summarize how the IMPACT Grant funding will improve or enhance population health of the community. What impact will this grant funding have on the success of this program/project?
    h. How will outcomes/results be disseminated (e.g., poster, presentation, publication, etc.)?
    i. Include a timeline for the proposed project.
    j. Is the project replicable? Is the project's impact sustainable? Please explain.
    k. Is any portion of the project being funded by another source, and/or is this project part of a larger funding proposal? Will there be other support for the project (in-kind, matching funds, etc.)? *(Note: Demonstration of available additional support will be factored into the evaluation/scoring process.)*

    Evaluation criteria should be reflected in responses to the above questions and included in your written proposal:
    a. Clarity of the goals and activities of the project
    b. Demonstration of PA leadership and involvement
    c. Impact on the health of the target population
4. A letter of support signed by an official of the sponsoring organization, which includes:
    a. A statement indicating that the nonprofit organization affiliated with the project agrees to be financially responsible for accepting the funds and allocating the funds provided in accordance with the purposes of the grant.
    b. Verification that the organization agrees to ratify that the project/program complies with the organizations internal policies and applicable regulations.
    c. Verification that the organization does not advocate, support, or engage in discrimination in the provision of health care on the basis of age, color, disability, ethnicity, gender identity or expression, national origin, union membership, political affiliation, race, size, religious affiliation, sex, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic or veteran status.
    d. Verification that professional liability insurance coverage is in place if the program/project involves direct patient care and patient information is HIPAA compliant.

Post-Project Requirements
Grant recipients must submit a final grant report within three months of completion of project activity (report template/link to be provided by PAF). The final report template requests outcomes of the project, key takeaways/lessons from the project, and other written responses, as well as high-resolution digital photos of the project activity.

Questions? Contact Liam Day at lday@aapa.org (571.319.4302) or Caroline Pierce at cpierce@aapa.org (571.319.4510).

Application deadline is August 10, 2026.