



University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
**Department of Medicine Program for Academic Clinician
Educators (PACE)**

The Program for Academic Clinician Educators

The Department of Medicine (DOM) is committed to the career development of clinician-educators. The Program for Academic Clinician Educators (PACE) will provide each PACE Scholar with up to \$35,000 during the 2026-2027 academic year, which may be used for medical education research, innovative program development in education, and/or professional development as an educator of the Scholar. The Division Head must pledge to protect at least 10% of the effort/time of the Scholar for the duration of the award.

Each Scholar will be expected to participate in a monthly education scholarship “Works in Progress” group meetings for additional project support and mentorship, and program progress will be evaluated periodically. Scholars may apply for a second year of funding in a competitive renewal process where their applications will be evaluated along with new applicants.

Participants may be dually enrolled in SOM Academy of Medical Educator programs (e.g. TSP) but are required to clarify in both applications their capacity to complete the scope and scale of work required. Also, if applying to both programs, verify applicant’s division is committed to supporting 20% FTE (10% TSP, 10% PACE).

Eligibility:

- Applicants must have a primary DOM appointment and must be working at UCH, VAMC, Denver Health, National Jewish, or as SOM faculty at the Colorado Springs or Fort Collins branch campuses.
- Applicants should be actively engaged in clinical care and teaching with plans to focus the scholarly aspect of their career on medical education.
- Applicants must identify a primary mentor and a mentorship team that includes at least one additional faculty member.
- The Division Head must pledge to protect at least 10% of the effort/time for the duration of the award.
- Applicants are required to participate in monthly “Works in Progress” education scholarship meetings and must present project updates at least once per quarter. Attendance at scheduled meetings is mandatory; however, up to two absences will be permitted during the academic year.



- Individuals from traditionally under-represented communities are strongly encouraged to apply.

Funding

PACE grant funds may be used towards educational tools and materials, data and analytic support, CU credit courses (if not already free), and with prior approval from the Department of Medicine, external courses. The funds may not be used towards protected additional time for the Scholar and personal electronics (i.e., laptop, smart phone, desktop). The awarded funds will be available for use during the designated academic year(s) of participation. Additional, support for one conference presentation and/or one manuscript related to the PACE project may be provided for up to two years following the conclusion of the program.

PACE Works In Progress Meetings Schedule:

Starting August 13, 2026, meetings will be held the second Thursday of every month from 2:00 – 3:30PM. Dates below:

- August 13, 2026
- September 10, 2026
- October 8, 2026
- November 12, 2026
- December 10, 2026
- January 14, 2027
- February 11, 2027
- March 11, 2027
- April 8, 2027
- May 13, 2027
- June 10, 2027 (Final Presentations)

Absences:

Scholars are expected to attend all scheduled meetings and may not miss more than two during the academic year. Missing more than two meetings may result in removal from the program and forfeiture of funding.

Application Details:



Interested applicants should write a two-page maximum letter of intent (1" margins, size 11 Times New Roman font) with the following three sections. Submit here [[Link Qualtrics survey](#)].

Section 1: Experience and/or Interest in a Career Focus in Medical Education Scholarship.

Please describe your existing track record in medical education scholarships and specify how the PACE grant will help you move to a national level of prominence in education scholarship. For those applicants who are new to education scholarship as a formal career choice, please share relevant professional development and/or educational roles or projects that demonstrate your early interest and understanding of this career choice. Please also be specific about why PACE is the right step for you at this point in your career, taking into consideration professional development and scholarship opportunities that PACE will enable that other CU programs and/or regional/national programs will not. For all applicants, state your ability to attend and participate in monthly Works in Progress meetings.

Section 2: Description of the Proposed Project. Provide a brief description of the education research project or education program including its anticipated impact. A formal literature review is not necessary for the LOI. However, the project description should show an understanding of the health professions education evidence base and literature that supports your project. Be specific about how this project will extend the current "state of the art" to build new theories of learning or stronger learning outcomes. Or if your project is an innovation of an existing practice, specify how the growing literature about the innovative approach provides an educational advantage, supports positive learning outcomes, decreases the cost, increases access, or reduces bias or barriers to learning. Please note that PACE is particularly focused on projects that help scholars:

1. scale learning impact to many learners or programs, even if the immediate project is focused on a limited group of learners and/or program track;
2. achieve peer-reviewed national scholarly impact through publications, conference presentations, etc.; and
3. move to a career in medical education scholarship, including grants, peer-reviewed works, etc.

Section 3: Mentorship. Please specify who your primary mentor will be, their capacity to commit to monthly meetings (at minimum), and their experience with medical education scholarship. If you have a mentorship team, please clarify the role(s) of each member, and their experience in mentoring successful education scholarship projects.

The Letter of Intent (LOI) will be reviewed, and if it aligns with the goals of this program, the applicant will be invited to submit a full proposal. If requested in the LOI, the Program Selection Committee may provide coaching to assist in developing the full proposal. Additionally, if the proposed project involves a program leader, the applicant must include a statement from that leader confirming that you have discussed participation in the program and that they support your involvement.



Anticipated Outcomes:

- Scholarly productivity:
- Publications in health professions education
- National presentations focus on understanding the best methods, or outcomes, of teaching
- Second-step funding from other sources
- Initiation of novel and/or actionable areas of education research or innovation
- Development of innovative courses, syllabi, novel lectures, problem-based learning cases, laboratory exercises or other instructional materials
- Development of innovative teaching methods, such as educational websites, simulations, videos, packaged courses or workshops
- Demonstrable development of career vision including relevant accomplishments
- Demonstrable evidence that this investment enriched the education enterprise of the SOM/DOM

Application Process

1. Letter of Interest (LOI)

Please submit your Letter of Intent (LOI) and curriculum vitae (CV) using the link provided below.

https://ucdenver.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b1IdvUGnVRDtl4

Following submission of LOI, candidates will be notified regarding an invitation to submit a full proposal.

2. Full Proposal

Those invited to submit full proposals will be asked to include the following materials:

Guidelines for full proposal:

- A title page and a 200-word abstract
- No more than four (4) pages of narrative text addressing the following:
 - Vision for career development
 - Plans to promote career development including involvement in works-in-progress sessions, regular meetings with mentor, and meetings with mentorship committee



- Description of education research project, or program development and evaluation plan
 - Background and evidence (literature or local needs assessment) supports the proposal
 - Anticipated impact of education research project or program on learners
 - Anticipated impact of education research project on the DOM and SOM
 - Dissemination plan
 - Budget and budget justification including specific requests for resources such as statistical support, qualitative instrument design, and grant writing
 - Sustainability plan
 - An NIH biosketch
- A letter of recommendation from the primary project mentor discussing the candidate, the proposed project, and their commitment to the candidate
 - A letter from the primary project mentor/leader stating awareness & support
 - A nomination letter from the candidate's Division Head describing the candidate's qualifications and the plan to reduce the clinical activities of the candidate

Please submit your full proposal to Emma Faye Sylvester (emma.faye.sylvester@ucdenver.edu)

Application Timeline

- Letter of Intent (LOI) Due: January 30, 2026 by 5:00 PM MT
- Candidates will be notified of invitation to submit full proposal by February 20, 2026
- Full Proposals Due: March 27, 2026 by 5:00 PM MT
- Award Notifications: April 10, 2026
- Program Start Date: August 13, 2026

Contact

If you have any questions, please contact **Emma Faye Sylvester** (emmafaye.sylvester@ucdenver.edu)