

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is eligible to apply?

High school students in grades 9-11 who are interested in exploring careers in cardiology, science, medicine, or health care are eligible to apply. First-generation college students and students who are the first in their family to pursue a medical profession are especially encouraged to apply.

Is there a cost to participate?

No. There is no fee to participate in the ACC Young Scholars Program.

Are travel or program expenses covered?

A limited amount of financial assistance is available to cover incidental expenses associated with travel to a Regional Camp Cardiac. Please email kroberts@acc.org with any questions.

Do I need a recommendation letter?

No. A recommendation letter is optional and is not required for your application to be considered.

What is the time commitment?

Participants take part in a year-long program that includes a virtual kickoff event, webinars, mentorship activities, and local educational experiences throughout the year. Most activities will take place virtually in the evening or during the weekend.

What will I gain from participating?

Participants receive exposure to cardiovascular medicine through:

- Mentorship from cardiovascular professionals
- Educational webinars and career exploration opportunities
- Networking with physicians, fellows, and other students
- Hands-on learning experiences through Camp Cardiac and other local events
- Exposure to potential career pathways in medicine and cardiovascular science

How do I choose a Regional Camp Cardiac Hub?

Students should apply to the Regional Camp Cardiac Hub closest to where they live.

Can I apply to a Hub if I live outside the 50-mile radius?

Yes. Students may apply to the nearest regional hub even if they live beyond 50 miles. However, priority consideration will be given to applicants who reside within a 50-mile radius of the selected hub site.

Where are the Regional Camp Cardiac Hub locations?

Current Hub locations for the 2026-2027 cohort include:

- Boston, Massachusetts
- Dallas, Texas
- Honolulu, Hawaii
- Irvine, California
- Omaha, Nebraska

There isn't a Regional Camp Cardiac Hub near me. Will there be one in the future?

Yes. As the Young Scholars Program continues to grow, the ACC plans to expand the number of Regional Camp Cardiac Hub sites across the country. The long-term goal is to establish hubs in all 50 states, increasing access to cardiovascular education, mentorship, and career exploration opportunities for students nationwide. Students who do not currently live near a hub are encouraged to check back in future years as additional locations are added.

Will I be assigned a mentor?

Yes. Young Scholars will be paired with a mentor who will provide guidance, encouragement, and insight into careers in cardiovascular medicine and related fields.

Is participation in all activities required?

Participants are expected to actively engage in program activities. Specific attendance expectations will be shared with selected students.

What are you looking for in applicants?

We are seeking students who demonstrate curiosity, enthusiasm for learning, an interest in health care or science, leadership potential, and a desire to explore careers in cardiovascular medicine.

When will applicants be notified of their selection status?

Notifications will be sent the week of September 23, 2026.

If I am not selected this year, can I apply again?

Students who remain eligible based on grade-level requirements are encouraged to apply in future application cycles.

Who can I contact with questions?

Please contact Kristin Robertson at kroberts@acc.org with any questions about the Young Scholars Program.