



## MacKenzie Gerszewski Scholarship

The MacKenzie Gerszewski Scholarship was established by the Primary Care Initiative in 2023.

MacKenzie Lind Gerszewski was a third-year medical student attending the Idaho College of Osteopathic Medicine when she passed away on July 31, 2022 after a courageous 11-year battle with cancer. She was a member of ICOM's Class of 2023.

Student Doctor Gerszewski fit a lifetime of experiences into her 26 years. She was part of a medical mission to Haiti led by her family physician, Dr. Tonia Hoggarth. Student Doctor Gerszewski was privileged to shadow and help with research at the University of Minnesota, alongside her medical team.

In order to be eligible for this scholarship, students must meet the following criteria:

- Demonstrated commitment to the practice of pediatrics and serving rural communities;
- Enrolled full-time and in good standing (not on academic probation or leave of absence) at the College;
- Leadership and a commitment to service;
- Evidence of financial need; and
- Demonstration of academic excellence

Applicants must submit an essay in response to the supplemental questions outlined below.

### Scholarship Amount

\$15,000

### Deadline

March 31, 2024

### Supplemental Questions

Provide a written response (1,000 words or less) to the following:

- Describe your academic excellence, identify the cohort to which you belong, and provide your class ranking, with supportive documentation from the ICOM Registrar.
- Provide a short personal introduction that includes a brief description of your life experiences that led you to medical school, as well as any challenges or obstacles you've faced along the way.
- Describe your interest in pediatrics, especially as it pertains to rural communities.
- Describe your leadership experience, including a brief description of any volunteer services, activities, or support you provide to communities and individuals.
- Include a brief description of your financial need and how this scholarship supports your educational goals.

- Provide evidence of academic excellence.

*Note: Your response to all of the above should not exceed 1,000 words. Applicants for this scholarship will also be considered for PCI's Rural Health Scholarship, but can only be awarded one. Please download the application for the Rural Health Scholarship to ensure the supplemental questions are addressed.*

### **How to Submit**

Please send your essay as a single PDF via email to Tammy Perkins, Executive Director of PCI, at [tperkins@theprimarycareinitiative.org](mailto:tperkins@theprimarycareinitiative.org), using your name as the filename. You should also include your full name on the header of each page. Please follow the template available on the PCI website.

*Note: Applicants should expect to receive a response to their application indicating it has been received. If they do not receive a reply, it will be incumbent upon them to inquire about receipt of their application prior to the deadline.*

### **Disclaimer**

The number of scholarships and amount per scholarship(s) will be determined each year based on the PCI Board's policy on distribution and availability of funds. Scholarships are not automatically renewable; students must re-apply each year. Students receiving full-tuition scholarships from other sources are not eligible. If awarded the scholarship, funds will be distributed directly toward the recipient's tuition.