There is a severe shortage of surgeons in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Current data indicate that there are only 0.5 surgeons for every 100,000 people. Although women make up more than 50 percent of the population, they represent only 7 percent of the surgical workforce.

To help address this problem, the American College of Surgeons (ACS) and the College of Surgeons of East, Central, and Southern Africa (COSECSA) have developed a scholarship program to support women in surgical residency, help them complete their training, and encourage other women in medicine to consider surgery as a profession.

About This Scholarship

• The program is open to senior female surgical residents who are preparing to take this fellowship level examination in 2020

• The award should be used for fellowship examination expenses, including fellowship examination, examination travel and accommodation, graduation, and five-year membership dues to COSECSA and ACS

• The scholarship will be administered by the COSECSA secretariat

Financial Support

Each scholarship is worth $2,500. The number of awards will depend on quality of applications and available funds.

Application Process

Applicants should include a personal statement indicating future goals, a current curriculum vitae, and a letter of support from their surgical training program director.

Completed applications should be sent to the COSECSA Scholarship Committee at scholarships@cosecsa.org and will be reviewed in conjunction with the Operation Giving Back Committee.

Applications are due no later than February 28, 2020.

This scholarship is supported by a generous donation from Pon Satitpunwaycha, MD, FACS, and the American College of Surgeons Foundation.

E-mail your application to scholarships@cosecsa.org by February 28, 2020