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.

**New Scholarship Track Offered in 2019!**

**Scholarship Track 1: MCS to FCS**
- This program is open to female surgical trainees currently enrolled in COSECSA’s MCS training track, hoping to enter the FCS track.
- The award will cover the FCS Programme entry fee.
- This scholarship will be administered by COSECSA.

**Scholarship Track 2: FCS Completion**
- This program is open to female surgical trainees who are completing their training and preparing to sit for their final FCS examination.
- The award will cover the FCS examination fee, and membership fees to the ACS and COSECSA for five years.
- This scholarship will be administered by COSECSA.

**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 and will be reviewed in conjunction with Operation Giving Back Education Subcommittee.

**Track 1 Application Deadline:** February 28, 2019
**Track 2 Application Deadline:** April 30, 2019

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