



Now accepting applications for the

2026 ACS-COSECSEA Women Scholars Program

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

Current data indicate that there are only 1 surgeon for every 100,000 people. Although women make up more than 50 percent of the population, they represent only 10 percent of the surgical work force.

To help address this problem, the American College of Surgeons (ACS), the Association of Women Surgeons Foundation (AWSF), and the College of Surgeons of East, Central, and Southern Africa (COSECSEA) 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 trainees who are preparing to take the COSECSEA fellowship level examination in 2026.
- The award will be used towards fellowship examination fee, graduation fee, gown hire, examination travel, three-years membership dues to COSECSEA and one-year of ACS associate membership.
- All aspects of the scholarship will be administered by the COSECSEA Secretariat.

Applications accepted between 15th December 2025 to 15th January 2026

Financial Support

Ten (10) scholarships worth \$2500 each will be awarded.

Amounts already Paid to COSECSEA cannot be refunded.

Application Process

Applicants should include a 1–2 page (less than 1000 words) personal statement indicating future goals, a current curriculum vitae, and a 1–page letter of support from their surgical training program director. Preference will be given to applicants who indicate they are from surgical departments with <25% women surgeons and registrars.

Completed applications should be sent to the COSECSEA Scholarship Committee at <https://www.cosecsa.org/scholarship-application-portal/>. Scholarship Reference Number to select on the application portal is **ACS-COSECSEA/2026/T2**

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

Apply by [Clicking Here](#). Deadline; 31st January 2026

[Learn more about ACS H.O.P.E](#)



COSECSEA
College of Surgeons of
East, Central and Southern Africa



ACS H.O.P.E.
Health Outreach Program for
Equity in Global Surgery
American College of Surgeons

