



APPLICATION FOR NAAOP FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The National Association for the Advancement of Orthotics and Prosthetics (NAAOP) (www.naaop.org) is soliciting applications for its inaugural health policy/advocacy fellowship. NAAOP is a national nonprofit association advocating for consumers/patients requiring orthotic and prosthetic care, as well as the providers who serve them. The NAAOP Fellowship is a paid, 10-week summer program based in Washington, D.C. The fellow will learn about orthotic and prosthetic (O&P) policy, advocacy, and how NAAOP and other O&P organizations function on behalf of the O&P community and within the broader rehabilitation and disability policy and advocacy community at the federal level. The fellowship also includes exposure to (1) O&P clinical and business settings, and (2) state-based public policy and advocacy at no cost to the fellow.

One fellow will be selected for 2018 through a competitive process using this application and related documents electronically submitted by applicants by the deadline, March 31, 2018 by 12:00 Midnight. Three finalists will be interviewed via videoconference and one will be selected. If the finalist selected cannot accept the fellowship for any reason, the next highest ranked fellow will be offered the position.

Candidate Selection Criteria

Required Elements: All applicants must:

- Personally use a custom fabricated orthosis or prosthesis (orthotic brace or prosthetic limb);
- Have an interest in public/health policy and advocacy;
- Demonstrate an interest in advancing O&P care;
- Excellent writing, speaking, and analytical skills;
- Be able to spend approximately ten weeks in the summer of 2018 in Washington, D.C. working full-time in this Fellowship; and,
- All applicants must be willing and able to travel (with or without reasonable accommodations) for periods of short duration.

Preferred Elements: Ideal candidates will possess the following traits:

- A college degree (associate or bachelor's degree) and/or a post-graduate degree (or enrollment in a program to receive such a degree) preferably in an area reflective of an interest in policy, advocacy, law, government, healthcare, or orthotics and prosthetics;
- Significant knowledge of the health care system
- An interest in or understanding of the U.S. federal and state political systems
- A longer-term goal of developing a career in public policy, advocacy, law, government, health care or orthotics and prosthetics.



NAAOP Fellowship Details

The NAAOP Fellow will receive a stipend of \$500 per week. NAAOP will provide the fellow with an office, phone, and computer in its offices at NAAOP's counsel, the Powers Law Firm, 1501 M Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005. NAAOP will assist the fellow in exploring inexpensive summer housing options with area colleges for those with no other housing options. The NAAOP Fellow will be responsible for his/her housing costs.

The NAAOP Fellow will shadow NAAOP's General Counsel, Peter Thomas, who will assign and oversee the fellow's health policy and advocacy work. That work will focus on orthotics and prosthetics but will also include exposure to the broader rehabilitation and disability policy environment. Other O&P organizations will host the fellow for a day of activities to familiarize the fellow with the role played by these groups. NAAOP counsel will seek to expose the fellow to events such as policy and advocacy speakers, attendance at Congressional hearings and other important meetings, participation in coalition and "think tank" meetings/presentations throughout Washington, and meetings with other rehabilitation organizations to gain an appreciation of the broader rehabilitation and disability field.

To familiarize the NAAOP fellow with the current O&P clinical and business environment, the fellow will travel to certain O&P clinical practices and businesses to spend time in those settings. In addition to learning about clinical orthotic and prosthetic patient care, the fellow will be exposed to a clinical O&P laboratory and other O&P business operations. Finally, the fellow will be introduced to state-based policy and advocacy while on these excursions. Travel and lodging expenses will be provided by the hosting O&P clinic or business at no cost to the fellow.

Timing

Application Deadline: 12:00 Midnight, Saturday, March 31, 2018

- Applications and any additional documentation must be submitted electronically to Fellowship@naaop.org.

Fellowship Selection Announcement:

- By the end of April, 2018

Fellowship Term:

- 10-week period beginning in late May or early June through early to mid-August, depending on availability of the fellow.



NAAOP Fellowship Applicant's Information

1. Full Name: _____ Gender: _____

2. Address: _____

3. Phone: Mobile: _____
Business: _____
Home: _____

4. Email Address: _____

5. Date of Birth: _____

6. Academic History (including degree(s), schools, training programs, certifications, and grade point average(s), etc.): _____

7. Work History (significant employment, whether or not it relates to this fellowship): _____

8. Experience with the Use of an Orthosis or Prosthesis: _____

9. Describe Your Experience with Health Policy and Advocacy (if any): _____



10. What do you Hope to Achieve Through this Fellowship? (What is your motivation for applying for this fellowship?):_____

11. What is your Longer-Term Goal Involving Public Policy and Advocacy?_____

12. Is there anything you would like to express to the Selection Committee not already described above? (You may submit a separate document if you wish):_____

13. Supporting Documentation: Please submit the following (only “a.” is required):
- a. Writing Sample (required), preferably related to public policy or advocacy
 - b. Academic Transcripts (optional)
 - c. Letter(s) of Recommendation (optional)

QUESTIONS? For questions, please contact Emily Whiteman at (800) 622-6740 or email Emily at Emily.Whiteman@powerslaw.com.