

Description of GA ACP Chapter Awards for Fall 2026

The Georgia ACP Awards Committee voted in 2025 to add a net of three additional Chapter awards. This expansion will benefit our membership by allowing us to recognize more of our outstanding members and will more closely align our Chapter awards more closely align with ACP National awards program.

The new four Chapter awards are: the Jacqueline W. Fincher Advocacy Award; the Science and Research Award for Outstanding Contributions to Medical Science; the Commitment to Rural Care Award; and the Distinguished Contributions to Hospital Medicine Award. The Awards Committee endorsed consolidating the *Community-Based Teaching* award with the *Mark Silverman Award* based upon the number of applications received and similarities between the two honors. Combined, these two actions combined resulted in a total of 12 Georgia ACP chapter awards moving forward.

Additionally, the Chapter Awards Committee reorganized the awards descriptions such that the eligibility, career stage, and criteria for recognition are more explicit. Any Chapter member in good standing or members of the Chapter's Awards Committee may nominate a colleague for recognition. **Nominations and letters of support should be sent to the Georgia Chapter ACP staff.**

Structure Description

Laureate Award

- **Eligibility (Seniority/Rank):** Senior physicians, Fellows, or Masters of ACP with at least 15-20 years of experience.
- **Career Stage:** Capstone
- **Recognized Attributes:** Excellence in medical care, education, or research; service to the community, Georgia ACP Chapter, and ACP.
- **Membership Requirement:** Open only to ACP Fellows or Masters.
- **National ACP Equivalent:** ACP Laureate Award
- **Nomination must contain:**
 - Attestation to strong personal attributes and accomplishments of the nominee.
 - Additionally, they should have served their chapter with distinction or in some clearly definable manner.
 - Attestation to the long-standing and loyal support of the American College of Physicians, rendered distinguished service to the Chapter, and evidence of upholding the

high ideals and professional standards for which the American College of Physicians is known.

- **Special requirements:**
- Award will be made at the annual chapter meeting, and the recipient of this award must accept this recognition in person, unless excused by the Governor.
- Nominations for this award may come from any member of our organization and should be accompanied by at least one letter of support.
- **Named for:** Not specifically named for an individual.

Walter J. Moore Leadership Award (since 2003)

- **Eligibility (Seniority/Rank):** Open to key leaders in medicine, healthcare, State and Federal public health, public policy, journalists and authors, State and Federal Legislators, or medical education who embody the core principles of ACP to enhance the quality and effectiveness of health care, public policy, and or medical education.
- **Career Stage:** Mid to capstone
- **Recognized Attributes:** Leadership in enhancing healthcare quality, public policy, and/or medical education.
- **Membership Requirement:** Open to ACP and non-ACP members; recipient does not have to be a physician or resident of Georgia. The award recognizes those who have made an impact on healthcare locally, nationally or globally.
- **National ACP Equivalent:** ACP John Tooker Evergreen Award (Leadership in ACP Chapters)
- **Special Requirement:** The recipient will receive the award at the annual state meeting and will be invited to speak on a subject related to the line of work that led to receiving the award.
- **Named for (since 2021):** Walter J. Moore, MD, MACP—former Governor of the Georgia ACP Chapter, known for his outstanding leadership in medicine and ACP activities.

Volunteerism & Community Service Award

- **Eligibility (Seniority/Rank):** Any ACP member
- **Career Stage:** Any

- **Recognized Attributes:** Significant and sustained commitment to community service at local, state, national, or international levels that demonstrates this key attribute of the medical profession. The merits upon which a recipient is selected for this award are based not only on the significance of the contributions that the individual has made, but also on the degree to which the individual reflects and affirms the quality of selfless devotion to the welfare of others.
- **Membership Requirement:** Open only to ACP members.
- **Special considerations:** Only one winner per year.
- **National ACP Equivalent:** ACP Oscar E. Edwards Memorial Award for Volunteerism & Community Service
- **Named for:** Not applicable

J. Willis Hurst Outstanding Bedside Teacher Award (since 1991)

- **Eligibility (Seniority/Rank):** Georgia-based ACP members or Fellows involved in medical education of medical students and houseofficers.
- **Career Stage:** Mid to capstone
- **Recognized Attributes:** Outstanding bedside teaching, particularly in training medical students and house staff.
- **Membership Requirement:** Open only to ACP members.
- **National ACP Equivalent:** ACP Jane F. Desforges Distinguished Teacher Award
- **Named for:** J. Willis Hurst, MD, MACP—renowned internist and former Chair of Medicine at Emory, whose dedication to instilling principles of lifelong learning brought him worldwide recognition as a gifted and influential teacher. and internationally recognized educator.

Mark Silverman Award (since 2010)

- **Eligibility (Seniority/Rank):** Physicians who demonstrate the nurturing attitude of a physician as well as excellence in mentorship and teaching in clinical settings [replaced “bedside teaching”].
- **Career Stage:** Mid to capstone
- **Recognized Attributes:** Clinical skills [replaced bedside skills], teaching excellence, and inspiration of younger physicians, including those in community-based teaching settings. It

encompasses community-based teaching as well, highlighting physicians located throughout the medical community who volunteer their time, practice and knowledge to help prepare our medical students and residents for their future in medicine.

- **Membership Requirement:** Open to ACP members and also recognizes their involvement in the Georgia Chapter of the ACP.
- **National ACP Equivalent:** ACP Distinguished Teacher Award
- **Named for:** Mark Silverman, MD, MACP—esteemed internist and faculty member at Emory University, known for his mentorship and leadership in bedside teaching. He served as an inspiration for younger physicians to advance their knowledge and training in Medicine as well as their involvement in the Georgia Chapter of the ACP.

Early Career Physician Award (since 2017)

- **Eligibility (Seniority/Rank):** ACP physician members within 16 years of graduating medical school as of June 30 of the year nominated.
- **Career Stage:** Early
- **Recognized Attributes:** Leadership, academic excellence (publishing, teaching, mentoring), and/or volunteerism.
- **Membership Requirement:** Open only to ACP physician members (not student or resident members) as of June 30 of the year awarded.
- **National ACP Equivalent:** ACP Early Career Physician Leadership Award
- **Named for:** Not applicable

Outstanding Resident in Volunteerism and Advocacy Award (since 2008)

- **Eligibility (Seniority/Rank):** Internal Medicine residents in Georgia.
- **Career Stage:** Internal Medicine Residents in training in Georgia
- **Recognized Attributes:** Dedication to service and advocacy for the welfare of others. Accomplishment in works.
- **Membership Requirement:** Open only to ACP resident members.
- **Special considerations:** Each Internal Medicine Residency Program is asked to nominate one (1) outstanding resident for this award.

- **National ACP Equivalent:** ACP Resident/Fellow Member Leadership Award
- **Named for:** Not applicable

Outstanding Medical Student in Volunteerism and Advocacy (since 2008)

- **Eligibility (Seniority/Rank):** Medical students in Georgia, preferably with an interest in Internal Medicine.
- **Career Stage:** Medical student
- **Recognized Attributes:** Dedication to service and advocacy.
- **Membership Requirement:** Open only to ACP medical student members.
- **Special Considerations:** Each Medical School is asked to nominate one (1) outstanding medical student, preferably with an interest in Internal Medicine, for this award. The merits upon which a recipient is selected for this award are based not only on the significance of the contributions, but also on the degree to which the individual reflects and affirms the quality of selfless devotion to the welfare of others.
- **National ACP Equivalent:** ACP Medical Student Leadership Award
- **Named for:** Not applicable

Jacqueline W. Fincher Advocacy Award (since 2025)

- **Eligibility (Seniority/Rank):** ACP members involved in chapter advocacy efforts.
- **Career Stage:** Mid to capstone
- **Recognized Attributes:** Exceptional engagement in healthcare advocacy and public policy.
- **Membership Requirement:** Open only to ACP members.
- **National ACP Equivalent:** ACP Richard Neubauer Advocate for Internal Medicine Award
- **Named for:** Jacqueline W. Fincher, MD, MACP—former Georgia ACP Governor and a strong advocate for healthcare policy and ACP initiatives.

Science and Research Award

- **Eligibility (Seniority/Rank):** Physicians or researchers with significant contributions to medical science.

- **Career Stage:** Any
- **Recognized Attributes:** Prestigious and groundbreaking research and national/international recognition in medicine with exceptional achievement or innovation that significantly advancing medical knowledge and practice.
- **Membership Requirement:** Open to ACP members.
- **Special Considerations:** A primary consideration in selecting the awardee is the national or international recognition the nominee has garnered for their contributions to the field.
- **National ACP Equivalent:** ACP Award for Outstanding Contributions to Medical Science
- **Named for:** Not applicable

Jean R. Sumner Commitment to Rural Care Award

- **Eligibility (Seniority/Rank):** Physicians dedicated to improving healthcare in Georgia's rural settings.
- **Career Stage:** Any
- **Recognized Attributes:** Service and leadership in rural medicine.
- **Membership Requirement:** Open to ACP members and non-members.
- **National ACP Equivalent:** ACP William C. Menninger Memorial Award (for contributions to rural healthcare)
- **Named for:** Not applicable

Hospitalist Award

- **Eligibility (Seniority/Rank):** Physicians specializing in hospital medicine.
- **Career Stage:** Mid to capstone
- **Recognized Attributes:** Excellence in patient care, patient safety, community involvement, and quality improvement. Demonstrates significant contributions to the field of hospital medicine through innovation, leadership, and clinical expertise. The award honors an exceptional leader, teacher, innovator, mentor, researcher, and pioneer who is advancing the field of hospital medicine and making meaningful strides in improving patient outcomes and healthcare practices.
- **Membership Requirement:** Open to ACP members.

- **National ACP Equivalent:** ACP Award for Distinguished Contributions to Hospital Medicine
- **Named for:** Not applicable