

# Chronicle

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## Capital Medical Society awards 10 scholarships

Special to Tallahassee Democrat  
USA TODAY NETWORK – FLORIDA

The Capital Medical Society (CMS) Foundation awarded scholarships to 10 students in their first or second year of medical school at the Florida State University College of Medicine and third and fourth year medical students at the Tallahassee Regional Campus of FSU College of Medicine on the basis of financial need.

Dr. David Jones, who serves on the CMS Foundation Scholarship Committee, presented the scholarships to each of the recipients at the Capital Medical Society Membership Meeting at the Maguire Center for Lifelong Learning at Westminster Oaks on Sept. 17.

A committee comprised of Capital Medical Society members and Dr. Myra Hurt, FSU College of Medicine Senior Associate Dean for Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences and chaired by local pediatrician, Dr. Frank Walker, selected the scholarship recipients.

"Attending medical school is a very expensive proposition these days. My fellow physicians are pleased and proud to help support medical students, who have not only a financial need, but a desire to stay in Florida and practice medicine in Florida," said Dr. Jones.

Nearly two-thirds of actively practicing



The 2019 scholarship recipients for FSU College of Medicine are Blaire Cote, Laura Ann Marie Davis, Shelby De Cardenas, Chase Forehand, Jacqueline Hanners, Laken Johnson, Samantha Mahon, Caneisaya Matthews, Christopher Pope, and Lauryn Reid. COLIN HACKLEY

physicians still carry debt from medical school, according to a new national survey by Weatherby Healthcare. Of those doctors, 32% had more than \$250,000 in debt. The high cost of medical school loans weighs heavily on doctors for many years following graduation. One-third of respondents (34%) expected to take at least 10 years to pay off their student loans.

The Capital Medical Society Foundation Scholarship Fund has been one of the most successful and well-respected programs first established by Capital Medical Society more than 32 years ago.

Archived records since 1997 document that Capital Medical Society Foundation has provided scholarships totaling \$617,489 to students in the Program in Medical Science Program, the precursor to FSU College of Medicine, University of Florida medical students, and FSU College of Medicine students. \$590,000 of those scholarships have been awarded to FSU College of Medicine students beginning with those in its inaugural Class of 2005.

An additional \$50,000 was awarded this year. Many of those past recipients are now practicing in Tallahassee and

some serve on the Scholarship Committee.

The Capital Medical Society Foundation will host their annual fundraising event, the 2019 Capital Medical Society Foundation Holiday Auction, in December to raise funds for medical school scholarships and other programs in fulfillment of its mission.

The 2019 scholarship recipients are Blaire Cote, Laura Ann Marie Davis, Shelby De Cardenas, Chase Forehand, Jacqueline Hanners, Laken Johnson, Samantha Mahon, Caneisaya Matthews, Christopher Pope, and Lauryn Reid.