

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

VascuPITCH

Empowering Future Leaders in Vascular Surgery Education



Overview

Are you a medical student, resident, or fellow with a bold idea to transform vascular surgery education?

VASCU-PITCH is a Shark Tank-style competition hosted by the Association of Program Directors in Vascular Surgery (APDVS), designed to empower the next generation of leaders in surgical education. We're looking for innovative, impactful, and collaborative proposals that advance how we teach, train, and support future vascular surgeons.

What We're Looking For

Submit a proposal that addresses one or more of the following areas:

- Innovations in Surgical Education (this can encompass AI, simulation, curriculum, evaluation tools)
- Clinical Learning Environment
- Professional Development
- Workforce and Recruitment Initiatives

Award

- \$10,000 to implement your project
- Opportunity to present results at the following year's VASCU-PITCH
- Support for manuscript or publication development

Proposal Requirements

- Must be submitted using the official [VASCU-PITCH Submission Form](#)
- Must include a vascular mentor or sponsor
- Should align with educational goals and demonstrate potential impact

Proposal Requirements (cont.)

- Vascular Mentor or sponsor should be APDVS member or associate member.

Expectations for Finalists and Winners

- Live Proposal Pitch: Finalists will present their proposals live at the APDVS Meeting.
- Mid-Year Progress Update: Submit a report at the six-month mark detailing project status, milestones achieved, and any challenges encountered. 800 words
- Abstract Submission: Prepare and submit an abstract for presentation purposes. A full manuscript is encouraged but not required by the time of presentations. Full manuscript submission is expected within 6 months of the year presentation update. Submission should be to JVS VSI. Winner will have submission fees waived.
- Final Report (Due at One Year): One Year Update to be presented at the APDVS Annual Meeting, including:
 - Summary of project and updated outcomes
 - Detailed description of how awarded funds were used
 - Any dissemination efforts (e.g., presentations, abstracts, publications in progress)
 - Lessons learned and Next Steps

HOW TO APPLY

1. Download and complete the [submission form](#). 

2. Submit proposals to APDVS@vascularsociety.org 

DEADLINE TO APPLY

January 15, 2027

The APDVS Research Committee would like to review any manuscripts generated and be acknowledged as a funding source.

March 5-6, 2027 | 8-9 a.m. | Loews Chicago O'Hare, Rosemont, IL

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VascuPITCH is an innovative Shark Tank-style pitch competition aimed at fostering creativity, collaboration, and leadership among medical students, residents and fellows in vascular surgery education. This event provides a platform for participants to showcase their educational projects, with active partnerships from industry to support and advance their initiatives.

Call for Submissions: We invite medical students and/or residents to submit proposals to enhance vascular surgery education. Topics can include:



- Networking Opportunities
- Coaching and Grant Development



- Peer Support
- Professional Development



- App Development
- Artificial Intelligence



- Simulation
- Innovation

Expectations:

Each proposal must include a vascular mentor/sponsor to align with education goals and assess impact.

A panel of experts will select three or four finalists from the submissions. Finalists will present an 8-minute pitch to a panel of "sharks" – APDVS members and industry partners – who will challenge ideas and provide feedback. Audience members, including industry stakeholders, can vote live for their favorite proposal using a QR code. The winning project will receive funding, guidance and mentorship.

The winning team will be required to publish a manuscript or paper and present their results at the next VascuPITCH event.

Submit proposals to APDVS@vascularsociety.org



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