

# Ambassadors Program Guidelines





The re-imagined Ambassador Program is designed to achieve connectivity with future generations of pathologists. Engagement of pathologists-in-training as *members for life* in USCAP is critical to their career development and to becoming better pathologists.

The Academy is the premier source of continuing pathology education and the global stage for delivering translational research. USCAP assures the convergence of these professional drivers, guides trainees through their "life cycle", and offers practical solutions for enhanced competency and performance. Mentoring is a core value that cultivates residents and fellows in their transformation to practitioners, instilling intangible qualities like empathy and team spirit, responsibility, and patient-centered attitudes. USCAP influences academic and community practice environments, commercial laboratories, and research. It takes responsibility for trainees in under-resourced settings and embraces the concept of pathology for one world.

Ambassadors function to communicate to pathologists-in-training the value of membership in USCAP, engaging their interest, participation, and loyalty. The educators, committee members/chairs, and governance of USCAP derive from committed pathologists-in-training whose evolving maturity leads to the experience and confidence to assume these active roles.

The contemporary approach to this re-imagined ambassadorial endeavor depends on the active participation of residents, fellows, and practicing pathologists in their first three years of post-training service. This guarantees that ambassadors are in touch, intellectually and emotionally, with trainees whose issues and needs are familiar to them, because they are immersed in them together, can relate to them, and share similar challenges and goals. The perspective, experience and maturity for the program will be provided by the Presidents' Helix, Past-Presidents whose hearts and minds are bound with the Academy. This advisory group may be supplemented at the discretion of the EVP by selected members of the Education Committee who are completing their tenures but have the historical perspective of USCAP's educational products.

The reactivation of the Ambassador Program supports the strategic goal of resident engagement and is in direct alignment with the Academy's Strategic Plan.

USCAP intends to support career development of pathologists at this time of tremendous change in healthcare, and in pathology specifically, (restricted reimbursement, brutal competition for extramural funding, outsourcing pieces of pathology operations).

## Eligibility

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Pathology trainees (residents and fellows).

Pathologists in their first three years of practice.

Individuals selected by the EVP based on unique attributes and needs.

Selected members of the Education Committee/Resident Advisory Committee who have completed their terms.

Ph.D. affiliate members, especially those who have just completed their degrees and are beginning practice.

Global Partner Scholarship Recipients who wish to be International Ambassadors

## Term Limits

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Two years, with possibility of third, based on performance.

## Obligations/Commitments of the Ambassador

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Provide interpersonal orientation of trainees to USCAP (welcome package).

Encourage trainees and pathologists to submit abstracts for the Annual Meeting.

Serve as liaison between USCAP and pathology departments that have trainees or pathologists in the early phase of their careers.

Orient trainees to the USCAP Annual Meeting.

Volunteer at the Annual Meeting (e.g, Residents' booth, Foundation, promotion of Interactive Center).

Share experiences from different practice environments and network with mentors.

Contribute to a column in USCAP's quarterly newsletter.

Represent USCAP at other society meetings when appropriate.

Take annual survey, by Survey Monkey, to ensure productivity and achievement.

## Rewards

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Reduced membership fees.

Complimentary course at the USCAP Annual Meeting.

Lapel pin.

Publicity in journal advertisements as Ambassador Group Shots.

Ambassador of the month video interview on new website.

Ambassador reception at the USCAP Annual Meeting.

Personal fulfillment by helping to sustain USCAP as the gold standard organization for pathologists.

## Support by USCAP

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The Resident Advisory Subcommittee, EVP, and Director of Communications will provide content for ambassadorial communications.

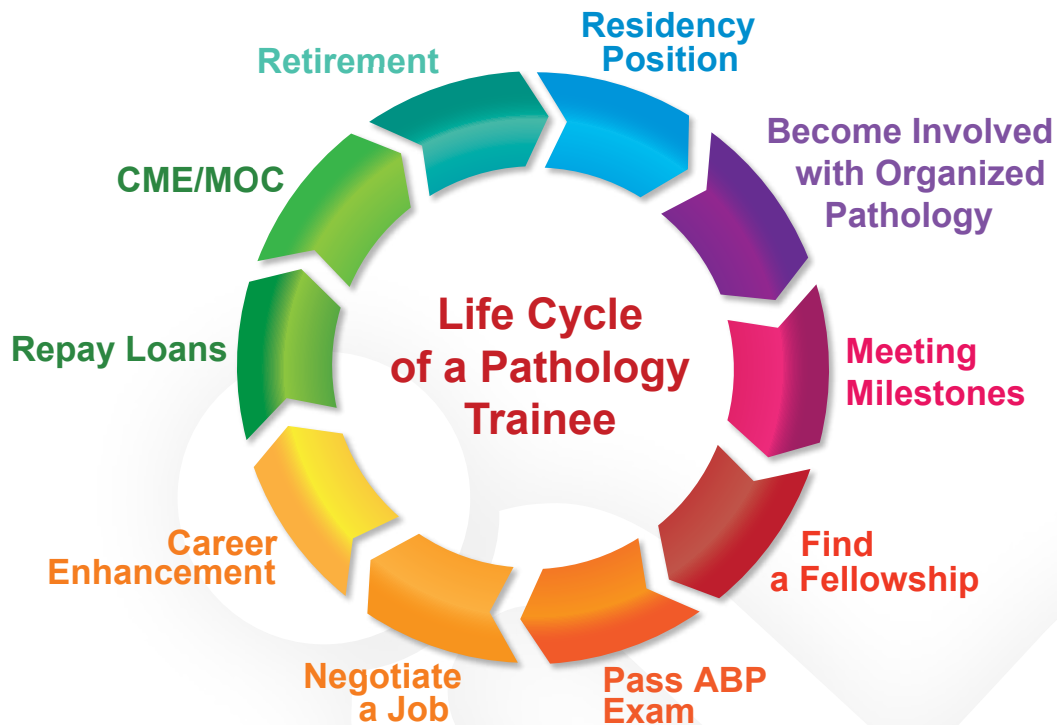
Content will be converted to professionally designed graphics, video, animation by Kaminsky Productions for distribution by Dropbox or USB drives.

A training day will be scheduled by USCAP, virtual or live.

A network map of Ambassador distribution in the U.S. and Canada will be developed to facilitate connectivity.

The Presidents' Helix will be the advisory group. As Past-Presidents of the Academy, they offer historical perspective and experiential wisdom.

USCAP has a staff member devoted to coordination of this program, Deborah Waterhouse, at USCAP West - [Deborah@uscap.org](mailto:Deborah@uscap.org), 760 327 6777



### Application

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An application for becoming an Ambassador is available on the USCAP website. [CLICK HERE](#) to download the PDF or complete online.

Applications will be reviewed by the EVP and selections will be made in consultation with the Resident Advisory Committee.

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