



MPCA Dental Therapy Scholarship Application Initial Scholarship Application

Complete this page if you have never received an MPCA Dental Therapy Scholarship.

4. Please share how your professional aspirations as a dental therapist may align with each of MPCA's goals for this scholarship program (listed below). Please feel free to share additional goals you may have as a dental therapist. (Minimum 400 words, 35 points)

- o Specifically, what makes you want to be a dental therapist?
- o How do your aspirations align with MPCA's goals for this scholarship program (listed below)?
 - Grow Michigan's dental therapy workforce
 - Make dental therapists available to Michigan's community health centers
 - Improve the recruitment and retention of oral healthcare providers within Michigan's dentally underserved regions
 - Increase the level of culturally respectful oral healthcare delivery in Michigan. See this article for more context about cultural respect: [Cultural Respect | National Institutes of Health](#)

5. Please describe your financial need for this scholarship. (Minimum 150 words, 25 points)

- o Describe current or anticipated financial hardship
- o Describe the impact this scholarship would have on your ability to pursue dental therapy education
- o If you did not receive this scholarship, or if this scholarship did not cover your entire journey, would you still pursue dental therapy?
- o Describe all other anticipated grants, scholarships, and loans

6. Please describe any experience you have working, volunteering, or job shadowing in a dentally underserved community (e.g., a dental HPSA), community health center, or Native American health organization. If you have no such experience, please describe your interest level in engaging with these communities and/or organizations as a dental therapist.

(Minimum 150 words, 15 points)

- o What did/do you expect to learn from these experiences?
- o How did/do you expect these experiences to contribute to your professional goals and direction?
- o Please see the following websites for more information about these settings:
 - [What is a HPSA? | Bureau of Health Workforce \(HRSA\)](#)
 - [What Are Community Health Centers? \(MPCA\)](#)

**7. What draws you to the state of Michigan?
(Minimum 100 words, 15 points)**

- o Are you a current or prior resident?
- o Do you have family connections here?
- o What do you love about Michigan?
- o Describe your commitment to practicing in Michigan after graduation

**8. Why do you believe you should be a top contender for this scholarship?
(Minimum 150 words, 10 points)**

- o Describe your commitment to dental therapy and the spirit of the profession
- o Speak to your ability and commitment to complete the educational and licensure requirements for dental therapy

