



Applications Open: September 5, 2025

Applications Close: September 19, 2025 at 11:59 PM PT

Program Duration: 8 months

EMBARK Awareness Fellows Program

EMBARK Awareness, or Early measures in Black and African American Communities to Raise Kidney Disease Awareness, a nationwide program of the GlomCon Foundation, aims to raise awareness and provide education in Black and African-American communities about kidney diseases. By providing community-based outreach and free screening and genetic testing events, we seek to empower individuals to take control of their health and prevent the progression of kidney disease.

The EMBARK Awareness Fellows Program is a new, funded opportunity designed for current medical students who are passionate about community health and have an interest in nephrology. There will be two Fellows for the 2025-2026 school year: Education Fellow and Narrative Medicine Fellow.

The EMBARK Awareness Fellows Program will commence over **eight months from October 13, 2025 to May 29, 2026**, with potential for extension through the summer and next school year. **EMBARK Awareness Fellows will each receive a \$5,000 stipend to support their participation in the program and recognize their contributions to kidney health equity.**

AIM

The EMBARK Awareness Fellows Program aims to create meaningful opportunities for Black/African American medical students in medicine to grow as leaders in kidney health. As part of this national program, Fellows will collaborate on initiatives that align with EMBARK's mission to reduce disparities in kidney disease outcomes.

OBJECTIVES:

The program is designed to deepen medical trainees' knowledge of kidney health while actively contributing to community outreach efforts aimed at reducing health disparities in kidney disease diagnosis and treatment. The program's objectives include:

- Fellows will create and disseminate education materials tailored to both medical trainees and community members to enhance kidney health literacy and promote preventive care.
- Fellows will assist in recruiting and supporting a diverse group of medical student volunteers, helping to grow the EMBARK Students Program and foster a pipeline of future kidney health advocates.
- Fellows will grow leadership skills by collaboratively designing, organizing, and implementing at least one kidney health awareness/screening event during the program year.
- Each Fellow will establish a regular mentorship relationship with a nephrologist or related specialist, engaging in a minimum of three sixty-minute one-on-one meetings to discuss career development, clinical interests, and research opportunities.

HOW IT'S STRUCTURED:

The EMBARK Awareness Fellows Program offers medical students the opportunity to engage in both collaborative and independent work while advancing kidney health equity. Fellows will work as a team to expand the EMBARK Awareness Students Program, recruiting student volunteers, organizing events, and promoting kidney health awareness. They will also mentor undergraduate participants in GlomCon's Mentored Internship Program in Nephrology (MIPiN), fostering the next generation of nephrologists, clinicians, researchers, and advocates. The activities of the fellows will be directed by the EMBARK Awareness Student Programming Lead, Eunice Lamothe.

Each fellow will be responsible for hosting or supporting at least one EMBARK community-based kidney screening in their region, providing hands-on experience in community outreach and preventive health. In addition, every EMBARK Awareness Fellow will be paired with a dedicated mentor in nephrology or a related specialty, meeting regularly for individualized guidance on career development, clinical interests, and research pursuits.

For the inaugural cohort, two distinct fellowship tracks are available, each offering unique avenues to contribute to the EMBARK Awareness mission while working together to design and implement medical student programming focused on kidney disease equity:

- **Education Fellow:** The Education Fellow will lead the development of innovative, accessible, and culturally-informed kidney health programming and resources designed to serve the student population. Responsibilities include:
 - Plan and host four virtual educational events for medical students, with a focus on promoting kidney health awareness and disease prevention.
 - Contribute to the development of a mentorship program to connect students with mentors in nephrology and related specialties.
 - Create student-facing educational materials and author articles on kidney disease prevention, management, and wellness to share on EMBARK's website and social media.
 - Collaborate closely with the Narrative Medicine Fellow and Student Lead to further design and support the EMBARK Awareness Students Program, aimed at engaging diverse medical students in impactful kidney health initiatives.
- **Narrative Medicine Fellow:** The Narrative Medicine Fellow will play a central role in amplifying the voices and experiences of patients, providers, caregivers, and other stakeholders in kidney health as well as create patient-facing education materials. This role will also showcase and promote EMBARK's community-based work, using storytelling as a powerful tool to inspire action and raise awareness. Responsibilities include:
 - Conduct at minimum five interviews with physicians, patients, and community leaders to capture and share compelling stories for EMBARK's newsletter and social media platforms.
 - Write and design patient education materials that are accessible, culturally sensitive, and engaging.
 - Create and manage digital content across multiple platforms, including Instagram, Twitter/X, Facebook, and LinkedIn.
 - Oversee the production of EMBARK's quarterly student-facing newsletter.
 - Collaborate closely with the Narrative Medicine Fellow and Student Lead to further improve and support the EMBARK Awareness Students Program.

The Fellowship Program will begin on October 6th, with a two-hour orientation, where Fellows will meet the EMBARK Awareness Executive Team and learn about the history of the organization and priorities for the 2025-2026 school year. Fellows will meet bimonthly on Monday evenings, with exceptions for holidays and other events.

TIME COMMITMENT

Students should expect to contribute 20-25 hours per month on average on activities for the fellowship, including bimonthly meetings, all events, mentorship meetings, and independent project development time. All fellowship activities will be completed remotely. Our expectations include:

- Attend the virtual EMBARK Awareness Fellows Orientation on October 13, 2025
- Attend a minimum of 80% of the bimonthly Fellows meeting
- Attend a minimum of three 1:1 meetings with assigned Nephrology Mentor
- Host or support one community-based Kidney Screening in your area with the EMBARK Awareness team

EMBARK Awareness Fellows will receive a \$5,000 stipend, disbursed in two installments in February and May, to support their participation in the program and recognize their contributions to kidney health equity.

METRICS

To assess the impact of the EMBARK Fellows Program, we will track a range of engagement and outcome metrics, including:

- Attendance at virtual events hosted by EMBARK Fellows
- Participant satisfaction among medical students, measured through post-event surveys
- Participant satisfaction among undergraduate students participating in mentorship, measured through post-event survey
- Recruitment of medical student volunteers for screening and outreach activities
- Reach and visibility of EMBARK initiatives through social media impressions and engagement
- Community participation, measured by the number of attendees at student-led screening and education events

WHO SHOULD APPLY

Students currently enrolled in U.S. MD or DO programs may consider applying if they have:

- Good academic standing
- Demonstrated commitment to health equity and reducing health disparities
- Effective oral and written communication skills
- Interest in developing leadership skills in community outreach and programmatic development
- Desire to enhance their knowledge of kidney disease and explore Nephrology or related specialties

REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must be currently enrolled in a U.S. MD or DO program. Priority consideration will be given to those with personal experience with kidney disease.

To apply for the EMBARK Awareness Fellows Program, Applicants must submit the following materials:

1. Letter of Good Academic Standing

2. Updated Resume or CV
3. Letter of Recommendation: *Please share a Letter of Recommendation discussing academic performance and clinical interests. **Writers should submit Letters of Recommendation to eunice.lamothe@glomcon.org by September 22, 2025.***
4. Statement of Interest (500 Words Max): *Please share why you are applying to be an EMBARK Awareness Fellow and how your interests align with the program's mission to advance kidney health equity.*
5. Paragraph Summary of Availability for the 2025–2026 School Year
Please include your current year in medical school and outline any academic or clinical commitments, so we can better understand your availability throughout the program.
6. **Optional for Narrative Medicine Fellow Applicants:** Submit a portfolio highlighting relevant creative or communications work. *Examples may include writing samples, social media content created for student organizations, event flyers, or other design work.*

If accepted to the program, Fellows will undergo a mandatory background check. Additionally, Fellows will be asked to submit a Professional Biography to be featured on the EMBARK Awareness website. **The deadline to apply for the EMBARK Awareness Fellows Program is September 19, 2025 at 11:59 PM PST.**

IMPORTANT DATES

- Application is open from September 5, 2025 to September 19, 2025
- Letter of Recommendation deadline September 22, 2025
- Interviews take place from September 29, 2025 to October 2, 2025
- Acceptance notification on October 6, 2025
- Onboarding takes place on October 13, 2025
- Mid-Year Check In's take place from February 2, 2025 to February 6, 2025
- Bimonthly Fellows Meeting every other Monday beginning October 20, 2025, with the exception of holidays
- End-of-Fellowship Celebration on May 29, 2025

[APPLICATION FORM](#)

Have questions about the EMBARK Awareness Fellows Program? Email the EMBARK Student Lead at eunice.lamothe@glomcon.org.