Purpose and Intent:
The Ohio State University Fisher College of Business Academy for Excellence in Healthcare Scholarship was created in 2013 to provide financial assistance and opportunity to further the pursuits of hospital project teams in creating transformational change for patient care.

The rapidly evolving health-care industry has created a new standard of excellence for the safety and accuracy of patient care. We believe many opportunities for operational improvement remain untapped – and that the key to unlocking these is in changing how we work, how we communicate, and how we lead.

The Academy is designed to help healthcare organizations identify and solve their greatest operating challenges, ultimately driving results that can significantly reduce costs and improve patient outcomes. This is accomplished through a team-based, project-focused learning experience that will equip attendees with the tools and leadership principles of lean management.

Eligibility
- Any hospital with a 3 – 5 person project team comprised of members who are mid-level manager or directors within the organizational structure.
- Resume is required of each team member and professional experience level will be assessed – team leads must have attained Director or higher level in their respective hospital system.
- Supportive administration with a sponsor should be identified for each project team.
- Hospital project team will be required to present a problem statement to be address during the course.
- This program does not discriminate on the basis, of race, age, disability, marital status, veterans status, gender, familial status, sexual orientation, religion, creed, color, national origin or any other factor and welcomes application from any and all individuals who meet these requirements.

Qualified Projects
To qualify for the scholarship hospital project teams must pursue a course of hands-on learning that is supported by a sponsor within the hospital system. The project team will prepare a problem statement to be approved by Fisher faculty prior to the admittance and awarding of the scholarship funds.
Open Application Submission Period
During open application period all eligible applicants may submit applications. All applicants are encouraged to submit the application as soon as possible but not past the noted deadline indicated on the Academy webpage. The Scholarship Committee will conduct application reviews in the weeks leading up to the series and then written notification to applicants will occur no later than one – two weeks prior to series start.

All applicants who were not awarded funding must reapply again for future sessions to be considered, no application will be placed “on hold” and there is no alternate or waiting list. Additionally, applicants who were awarded funding previously must also reapply annually – there are no “automatic” approvals or renewals.

Determination of Scholarship Recipients
The Scholarship Committee will not utilize a first-come-first-served basis for determining recipient rankings. Determination of funding approval is based on many factors. Scholarships will be awarded at the sole discretion of a committee comprised of one faculty member and two staff of the The Ohio State University Fisher College of Business. Preference will be given to applicant groups of three to five in number, employed by institutions of scale headquartered in North America. Examples of appropriate scale would include, but not necessarily be limited to, acute care institutions with more than 250 beds or ambulatory surgery centers with more than 100 employees.

Examples of such factors are:
- Compelling healthcare or patient project and need
- Nature and purpose of healthcare project and overall impact within a system
- Anticipated future benefits to be derived by the healthcare system or community at large
- Previous project team successes and implementations
- Educational aspirations to pay forward and replicate results in other departments
- Availability to other sources of funding for similar education
- Applicants overall primary motivation for seeking course of project
- Application question results
- Letter of references, support and recommendation
- Problem Statement clarity
- Applicant interviews
- Work and performance record

Qualified Education Expenses
Hospital project teams are encouraged to seek qualification for other forms of assistance such as Foundation grants, other local and national grants, and other private and public funding sources to carry out additional projects as identified. Types of fees and expenses vary greatly given Hospital Project Teams.