



ALABAMA

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Albert Schweitzer Fellowship Alabama Announces Largest Cohort in Program History

2026-27 Cohort of 25 Graduate Students Representing Five Institutions and 11 Disciplines Named

Albert Schweitzer Fellowship of Alabama
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Birmingham, AL – February 26, 2026 -- The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship of Alabama (ASF) announced today the selection of its 2026-27 class of Alabama Schweitzer Fellows. Representing Auburn University, Samford University, Tuskegee University, the University of Montevallo, and the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), this year’s cohort reflects a diverse range of health disciplines, including counseling, dentistry, medicine, nursing, optometry, pharmacy, epidemiology, and more. With 25 fellows, this is the largest cohort in the organization’s history.

Fellows will spend the next 15 months immersed in community public health projects. Their projects will improve the health and social well-being of their populations of choice throughout the state while simultaneously strengthening their leadership skills. In doing so, they will continue the legacy of the Fellowship’s namesake, the famed physician-humanitarian Dr. Albert Schweitzer.

Since 2015, Alabama’s Schweitzer Fellowship has forged many beneficial academic partnerships representing a number of graduate schools and universities throughout the state.

“We are thrilled to welcome the largest cohort of Fellows in Albert Schweitzer Fellowship Alabama’s history. This year’s applicant pool was truly exceptional — filled with passionate, thoughtful, and deeply committed emerging professionals — making the selection process both inspiring and incredibly difficult,” said Kimberly Eaton, Executive Director of ASF of Alabama. “These Fellows have already demonstrated remarkable initiative, thoughtfully refining their project ideas and identifying meaningful ways to serve our communities. I am confident they will carry forward the Schweitzer legacy of service and leadership, and we look forward to seeing the impact they will create across Alabama in the months ahead.”

ASF Fellows work closely under the guidance of community site partners and academic mentors throughout the project period. ASF will announce in Summer 2026 the specific projects and community site partners of the newest class of fellows. It is anticipated the 25 Alabama Schweitzer Fellows will be joined by approximately 200

other 2026-27 national Schweitzer Fellows working at program sites across the United States. Upon completion of their Fellowship year, the 2026-27 Schweitzer Fellows will become Schweitzer Fellows for Life, joining an active network of Schweitzer alumni continuing their commitment to improving the public health of underserved communities throughout their careers.

2026-27 Alabama Schweitzer Fellows

Name	School	Discipline
Gitanjali Alapati	UAB Heersink School of Medicine	Medicine
MaKayla Armstrong	UAB School of Public Health	Epidemiology
Caroline Bald	UAB Heersink School of Medicine	Medicine
Abdulhakeem Binhambali	Tuskegee University	Interdisciplinary Pathobiology
Kailand-Ascia Brown	UAB Heersink School of Medicine	Medicine-Rural Medical Scholar
Nar’Kiyah Butler	Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy	Pharmacy
Dylan Carpenter	UAB School of Nursing	Nursing
Christopher Colvin	UAB School of Health Professions	Nutrition Sciences
Carter Cooper	UAB School of Dentistry	Dentistry
Dezirae Cunningham	Samford University McWhorter School of Pharmacy	Pharmacy
Shallom Enogela	UAB School of Education and Human Sciences	Community Health Promotion
Deeksha Hanumanula	UAB School of Public Health	Maternal and Child Health Policy and Leadership
Shelby Harlow	University of Montevallo	Counseling

Dhanvi Kantamneni	UAB School of Dentistry	Dentistry
Carson Kim	UAB School of Dentistry	Dentistry
Abbie Kleckley	UAB Heersink School of Medicine	Medicine
Jocelyn McAlpine	UAB School of Nursing	Nursing
Rabab Meghani	UAB Heersink School of Medicine	Medicine
Gift Nnamdi	UAB Heersink School of Medicine	Medicine-Medical Scientist Training Program
Jillian Richardson	Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy	Pharmacy
LaQuadria Robinson	UAB School of Nursing	Nursing
Navaneeth Shibu	UAB Heersink School of Medicine	Medicine
Srushti Talluri	UAB School of Public Health	Maternal and Child Health Policy and Leadership
Maddie Thigpen	UAB School of Optometry	Optometry
Holly Yazdi	UAB Heersink School of Medicine	Medicine

About The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship of Alabama

The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship (ASF) of Alabama is developing the next generation of healthcare professionals to serve and empower vulnerable people to live healthier lives and create healthier communities in Alabama. Since 2016, ASF of Alabama has trained 166 students who have partnered with over 89 community organizations to provide over 30,700 hours of service at a value of more than \$797,400 to Alabama's most vulnerable groups. Nationally, more than 4,000 U.S. Schweitzer Fellows have delivered nearly 750,000 hours of service to individuals and communities in need. Through its intensive 15-month Fellowship program and the ongoing work of its 4,000+ Fellow for Life alumni, ASF perpetuates the legacy of physician-humanitarian and Nobel Peace laureate Dr. Albert Schweitzer.