The ASPIRE-to-Excellence Initiative was established to provide a unique system which encouraged excellence in education in medicine and the healthcare professions by identifying, recognising and rewarding excellence in key aspects of education delivery. To date excellence is recognised in the following areas – Student Engagement, Social Accountability, Assessment of Students, Faculty Development, Simulation, Curriculum Development and a new theme ASPIRE Inspirational Approaches to Health Professions Education.

Areas Assessed
Schools are invited to submit an application for an ASPIRE-to-Excellence award in one or more of the following areas:
- Assessment of students
- Curriculum Development
- Faculty Development
- Inspirational Approaches to Healthcare Professions Education (New theme)
- Simulation
- Social accountability of the school (Medical Schools only)
- Student engagement

The criteria for excellence represent a de facto set of standards for best practice in education and effectively outline what best practice in these six areas should look like. The criteria have been refined following a series of pilot studies and a consultation process.

Who can Apply
Applications are accepted from medical, dental and veterinary schools and institutions. A school must be recognised by their respective regulatory authority.

www.ASPIRE-to-Excellence.org
ASPIRE Award Winners:

• Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, USA
• Aga Khan University, Pakistan
• University of Maribor, Slovenia
• International Medical University, Malaysia
• University of Western Australia, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry & Health Sciences, Australia
• University of Minho, Portugal
• Northern Ontario School of Medicine, Canada
• Hull York Medical School, UK
• University of Leeds, School of Medicine, UK
• University of Southampton, UK
• Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada
• University of New Mexico, School of Medicine, USA
• Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany
• UMC Utrecht, Netherlands
• Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Canada
• Faculty of Medicine, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand
• Uppsala University, School of Medicine, Sweden
• The School of Veterinary Medicine & Science, University of Nottingham, UK
• Florida International University, Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine, USA
• Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University, USA
• Leaders in Indigenous Medical Education (LIME) Network, Australia
• University of California, San Francisco, USA
• Royal Veterinary College, University of London, UK
• University of Sydney, Sydney Medical School, Australia
• University of Colorado School of Medicine, USA
• University of Toronto Centre for Faculty Development, Canada
• Université Laval, Canada
• Al Imam University, Saudi Arabia
• Linköping University, Sweden
• Center for Education in Medical Simulation, Saudi Arabia
• Karaganda State Medical University, Kazakhstan
• University of Miami, USA
• Mount Sinai Hospital, University of Toronto, Canada
• College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, Canada
• Imperial College London School of Medicine, UK
• NHS Education for Scotland Clinical Skills Managed Educational Network, UK
• Center for Education in Medical Simulation, Taipei Medical University, Taiwan

ASPIRE Academy:

All recipients of an ASPIRE Award are invited to join an ASPIRE-to-Excellence Academy and Membership of the Academy continues for the duration of their ASPIRE Award. The aim of the Academy is to

• Promote excellence in education through collaboration and dissemination of best practices in medical education.
• Provide members of the Academy with the opportunity to network and share their experience and knowledge.

For further details about the ASPIRE Academy and current members please visit www.aspire-to-excellence.org

Submission Process

The application process is designed to be straightforward. Guidelines and templates are provided. Full details of the criteria in each of the areas and information about the submission process can be found on the ASPIRE website www.aspire-to-excellence.org

Each submission is reviewed by a team of three assessors and their reports are considered by the relevant ASPIRE Panel. Recommendations from the panel are reviewed by the ASPIRE Board. Feedback is provided to the medical, dental or veterinary school about their submission.

Submission Deadline

The closing date for the 2020 round of submissions is 29th February 2020. Full details of the submission process are on the website www.aspire-to-excellence.org

Announcement of the Awards

The ASPIRE Awards are presented at the AMEE Annual Conference and reported in the press and on the ASPIRE website. The successful schools receive an ASPIRE trophy and certificate, and can record the award on their website and communications. Members of the school can wear an ASPIRE lapel pin representing the area in which excellence is recognised.