

**SPSA-PCS SURE COMMISSION RURAL SURGERY OUTREACH PROGRAM**  
**Funding Co-Sponsor: WSF**

**INTRODUCTION:**

The SPSA – PCS SURE Commission Rural Surgery Outreach Program was conceived through the initiative of Dr. Hernan Reyes, the founding president of the Society of Philippine Surgeons of America (SPSA) to help address the dire need of surgical and anesthesia specialists in the underserved communities of the country. This program was approved and endorsed by the SPSA Governing Board led by the incumbent President, Dr. Honorio M. Cruz. The primary goal of the program is the voluntary deployment of surgeons and anesthesiologist to the rural areas with the assistance and guidance of the PCS SURE Commission and the collaboration of the Department of Health Human Resource Development Bureau.

**DEFINITION OF TERMS:**

1. **Society of Philippine Surgeons of America (SPSA):** An association of Filipino practicing surgeons in America.
2. **Philippine College of Surgeons SURE Commission:** Surgery in the Underserved Regions for Education (SURE) Commission – the Commission of the PCS in charge of the surgical outreach /mission program.
3. **SPSA – PCS Sure Commission Rural Surgery Outreach Program:** the selection and deployment of a surgeon and anesthesiologist to an underserved communities from the list of DOH First or Second Priority government hospitals.
4. **Department of Health Human Resource Development Bureau (DOH HRDB):** the Department/Unit of DOH in charge of the mandatory Post Residency Deployment Program (PRDP)
5. **SPSA – PCS General Surgery and Anesthesia Grant Awardees:** are the selected surgeon and anesthesiologist of the Program for deployment to the underserved areas.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM:**

This is an adequately funded program offered to the Philippine Board of Surgery (PBS) and Philippine Board of Anesthesia (PBA) Diplomates or Board Eligible graduates of an accredited General Surgery and Anesthesia training programs of private and university hospitals who passed the interview and selection criteria set forth by the SPSA- PCS SURE Oversight Committee. The selected General Surgery and Anesthesia Grant Awardees will be assigned to any of the First or Second Priority government hospitals classified by the DOH for the duration of 3-6 month Since the DOH has already implemented the mandatory Post Residency Deployment Program

(PRDP) for graduates of GS, IM, Pediatrics and Anesthesia of government hospitals, the SPSA-PCS Grant Awardees, should therefore be assigned to the same government hospitals, if possible, with DOH PRDP. The presence of the PRDP graduates in the host hospitals will be highly beneficial to the SPSA-PCS Grant Awardees.

The Philippine Society of Anesthesiologist (PSA) through its local chapters has also committed its full support to the Program by sending their graduates willing to work and be deployed in the underserved regions.

The World Surgical Foundation USA (WSF) through Dr. Domingo Alvear, founding president and one of the senior advisers of the SURE Commission has generously pledged to give an additional amount to the present SPSA budget as Funding Co-Sponsor”.

The SPSA-PCS Grant Awardees will have to submit a detailed monthly report consisting of surgeries/anesthesia done with outcomes, didactics, OPD consults, referrals and conferences to the SPSA-PCS SURE Oversight Committee. The monitoring of the SPSA-PCS Grant Awardees during the period will be done by the host institution and the SPSA-PCS SURE Oversight Committee. The SPSA-PCS SURE Commission will award a Certificate of Completion to the SPSA-PCS Grant Awardees at the end of his/her tour of duty.

**SPSA-PCS SURE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE:** shall be composed of:

1. 2 SPSA Board officers (Dr. Hernan Reyes and Dr. Honorio Cruz)
2. 2 PCS SURE Commission members (Dr. Eric de Leon and Dr. Miguel Mendoza)

Functions:

1. To recruit, assess and evaluate the credentials of the applicants
2. To interview the prospective applicants
3. To select and choose the best candidates.
4. To monitor the performance of the GS and Anesthesia Grant Awardees.

**FUNDING OF THE PROGRAM:**

- A. Budget per month: 3,200 USD x 3 months

Source:

SPSA Board: 2,500 USD

WSF USA: 700 USD

Proposed breakdown:

1. General Surgery Grant Awardee: 1,600 USD
2. Anesthesia Grant Awardee: 1,100 USD
3. O.R supplies: 500 USD

- B. Insurance for the scholars: From the PCS Foundation

## **MECHANICS:**

### **I. RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION OF SPSA-PCS GRANT AWARDEES**

- PBS Diplomates: If possible, those practicing or coming from the same province/region of the chosen DOH First or Second Priority hospitals.
- GS Board Eligible graduates: If possible, those coming from the same province/region of the chosen host hospitals or to other underserved areas the scholar is willing to be assigned.
- Anesthesia Diplomates or Board Eligible: if possible, those coming or practicing from the same province /region of the chosen hospitals.

The PSGS will provide the PCS SURE Commission the list of accredited GS training hospitals from private or university institutions.

The PSA will also provide the PCS SURE Commission the list of their accredited Anesthesia training hospitals.

### **A. APPLICATIONS**

For GS and Anesthesia graduates: Submit the following to the SPSA-PCS Oversight Committee:

1. Short CV
2. Application Letter address to PCS SURE Commission
3. MD Diploma
4. PRC Board Certificate
5. General Surgery Residency /Anesthesia Residency Certificate
6. Letter of Endorsement from Training Officer
7. Letter of Endorsement from Department Head

For PBS and PBA Diplomate: Submit the following to the SPSA-PCS Oversight Committee:

1. Short CV
2. Application Letter address to PCS SURE Commission
3. MD Diploma
4. PRC Board Certificate
5. General Surgery Residency /Anesthesia Residency Certificate
6. PBS /PBA Diplomate Certificate
7. Letter of Endorsement from previous Department Head

### **B. INTERVIEW: by SPSA-PCS SURE COMMISSION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

- Virtual via Zoom

**C. ACCEPTANCE OF THE GRANT AWARDEES: SIGNING OF CONFORME AND/OR WAIVER FORM**

- Notification and Signing of Conforme /Waiver form of the selected GS and Anesthesia Grant Awardees.

**D. DEPLOYMENT**

- Letter to the Host Hospital
- Letter to the DOH Human Resource Development Bureau
- Letter to the DOH Regional Office
- Letter to the LGU (Mayor or Provincial Governor)

**E. MONITORING**

- By the SPSA-PCS Oversight Committee

**F. AWARDING OF CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION**

- By the SPSA-PCS SURE Commission

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SPSA -PCS GRANT AWARDEES:**

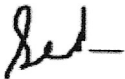
1. The GS Grant Awardee: shall be expected to do OPD consultations and answer emergency /non-emergency referrals.
2. He/She shall perform minor, medium and major type of surgeries according to his/her capability.
3. Elective major and complex cases and those needing subspecialty care should be referred to a tertiary government hospital unless a consultant in the host hospital will be available to supervise or scrub with the GS grant awardee
4. He/she should make daily rounds to the post- operative cases.
5. The Anesthesia Grant Awardee shall make pre-op evaluation of emergency and elective surgical cases, answer ER and ward referrals for difficult intubation and help other specialty with airway management.
6. The GS and Anesthesia Grant Awardees are expected to have a good and harmonious relationship with his/her colleagues, other health care providers and employees of the hospital.
7. The GS and Anesthesia grant awardees should attend the Department of Surgery/ Anesthesia and other Hospital conferences.
8. The GS and Anesthesia grant awardees should schedule one didactic lecture to the medical and nursing service of the host hospital on topics he/she deems of interest and important to them.

9. The GS and Anesthesia grant awardees should submit a comprehensive monthly report of his/her activities to the SPSA-PCS Oversight Committee.

**PROPOSED PILOT PROGRAM FOR 2023**

- A. Host hospital: Gubat District Hospital, Gubat, Sorsogon
- B. GS and Anesthesia Grant Awardees: GS and Anesthesia graduates from private or university hospitals, Diplomates or Board Eligible.
- C. Duration: 3 -6 months
- D. Schedule of Interview: 4th week of August 2022
- E. Deployment: January, 2023

Prepared by:



**BEDA ESPINEDA MD, MHA, FPCS**  
DIRECTOR, S.U.R.E. COMMISSION

Noted by:



**VIVENCIO VILLAFLOR III MD, FPCS**  
REGENT-IN-CHARGE, PCS



**RAMON INSO MD, FPCS**  
PRESIDENT, PCS

Approved: October, 2022 (03/03/2023)



**HERNAN M. REYES, MD, FACS**

SPSA Founding President and Program Development

**HONORIO M. CRUZ, MD, FACS**

SPSA President

**Pilot Program Awardees: January, 2023**

**DR. FITZGER N. BANZUELA – General Surgeon**

**DR. JONATHAN G. ZANTUA – Anesthesiology**

**Note:** Both are currently working at the Sorsogon General Hospital.