



Physical Therapy Fund 2025 Annual Report

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Program Purpose

The Physical Therapy Fund supports education through financial resources that foster lifelong learning, collaborative practice, and community building for the physical therapy profession. The PT Fund includes donor-restricted funds, the Access and Opportunity Fund, and the Dimensions of Leadership Fund.

The Physical Therapy Fund includes:

- Physical Therapy Fund – General
- Access and Opportunity Fund (formerly Minority Scholarship Fund)
- Dimensions of Leadership Pathways Grant (formerly Dimensions of Diversity Pathways)
- Mary McMillan Fund
- Harker Fund
- Maley Lecture Fund

Financial Highlights

The PT Fund operating revenue (excluding investment) is shown below. Overall, the 2025 performance was positive due to gains in investment income and net revenue from the Celebration of Diversity.

	2025 Budget	2025 Actual YTD	2026 Budget
Revenue	\$481,603	\$551,867	\$379,319
Expenses	\$478,578	\$441,985	\$377,244
Net Revenue	\$3,025	\$109,882	\$2,075

Annual Workplan Highlights

For 2025, the PT Fund:

- Hosted the Celebration of Diversity at the 2025 APTA Combined Sections Meeting, with attendance of more than 250 people and fundraising (tickets and sponsorships) totaling \$135,585. Net revenue was \$46,200 after expenses. Starting in 2026, the Celebration of Diversity has evolved into the [Opening Reception Benefitting the PT Fund](#) at APTA CSM.

- Acquired five sponsors: APTA, HPSO, CORA Physical Therapy, Alliance for Physical Therapy Quality & Innovation, and Washington University, with \$115,000 in sponsorship dollars for the 2025 Celebration of Diversity.
- Held strategic discussion on executive orders and recent developments in race-based grants and scholarships, subsequently leading to changes to the Minority Scholarship Fund.
- Revised the Minority Scholarship Fund and Dimensions of Diversity Scholarship Award to better reflect compliance changes.
- Amended its program portfolio to mitigate risk and ensure alignment with applicable regulations for the Sept. 1 scholarship launch.
- Established the APTA Societies Scholarship to APTA CSM in collaboration with the Catherine Worthingham Fellows for attendance at the annual conference.
- Established a new fund supporting the Association Leadership Scholars.
- Awarded scholarships equaling \$108,000 to 19 students, one grant recipient, and one faculty member through the Minority Scholarship Award, Dimensions of Diversity Scholarship, and the McMillan Scholarship.
- Awarded the 2025 APTA Harker Internship to Alvin Flores (Class of 2025, University of Shenandoah). The internship, funded by the PT Fund, is an annual paid internship in Government Affairs for third-year DPT students that provides experience in federal legislative advocacy, policy, and grassroots. The internship is named in memory of R. Charles "Charlie" Harker, who served as APTA's Director of Government Affairs from 1982 until 1994. The Harker Internship was created by the APTA Board of Directors in 1995 in his honor and is made possible by the Physical Therapy Fund.

Top Achievements in 2025

Throughout 2025, the PT Fund Board of Trustees demonstrated strong leadership and strategic foresight as they reviewed the impact of administrative actions, engaged legal counsel, and assessed implications for the fund's long-term sustainability. Their actions ensured continued compliance with federal requirements while preserving the mission and integrity of the PT Fund's programs. Key accomplishments for the year are summarized below.

Strengthening Compliance and Program Integrity

The trustees engaged in a year-long review of the PT Fund's program and charitable activities to ensure compliance with requirements governing 501(c)(3) organizations. After consulting legal experts and analyzing recent regulatory decisions, trustees affirmed that program modifications were necessary to:

- Protect the PT Fund's tax-exempt status.
- Reduce exposure to challenges that could affect partners, award recipients, and donors.
- Align programs with current law while preserving original intent and purpose.

This work positioned the PT Fund for continued stability and mission impact in the years ahead.

Reframing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Terminology and Race-Based Criteria

The trustees evaluated how DEI-related language and criteria fit within evolving legal, cultural, and regulatory environments, and aligned updates with APTA's revised Belonging Commitment.

Key changes:

- Reframed terminology to ensure consistency with the updated Belonging Commitment.
- Adjusted eligibility criteria to support inclusivity across diverse geographic and demographic communities.
 - Preserved the core mission and purpose of each program while broadening acceptance and appeal.

These changes ensure the PT Fund remains both legally compliant and values-driven.

Broadening the Scope of Awards and Scholarships

Trustees approved the expansion of scholarship offerings to increase access and support for future award applicants.

Key changes:

- Approval of two new scholarships to advance the PT Fund's reach: APTA Societies Scholarship to APTA CSM and Association Leadership Scholars.
- Expanded recognition of excellence and need across a wider range of applicants and professional pathways.

This expansion reinforces the PT Fund's commitment to fostering opportunity within the physical therapy profession.

Advancing Long-Term Fund Sustainability

The trustees identified long-term financial health as a top priority and began developing strategies to diversify and strengthen funding sources.

Key considerations:

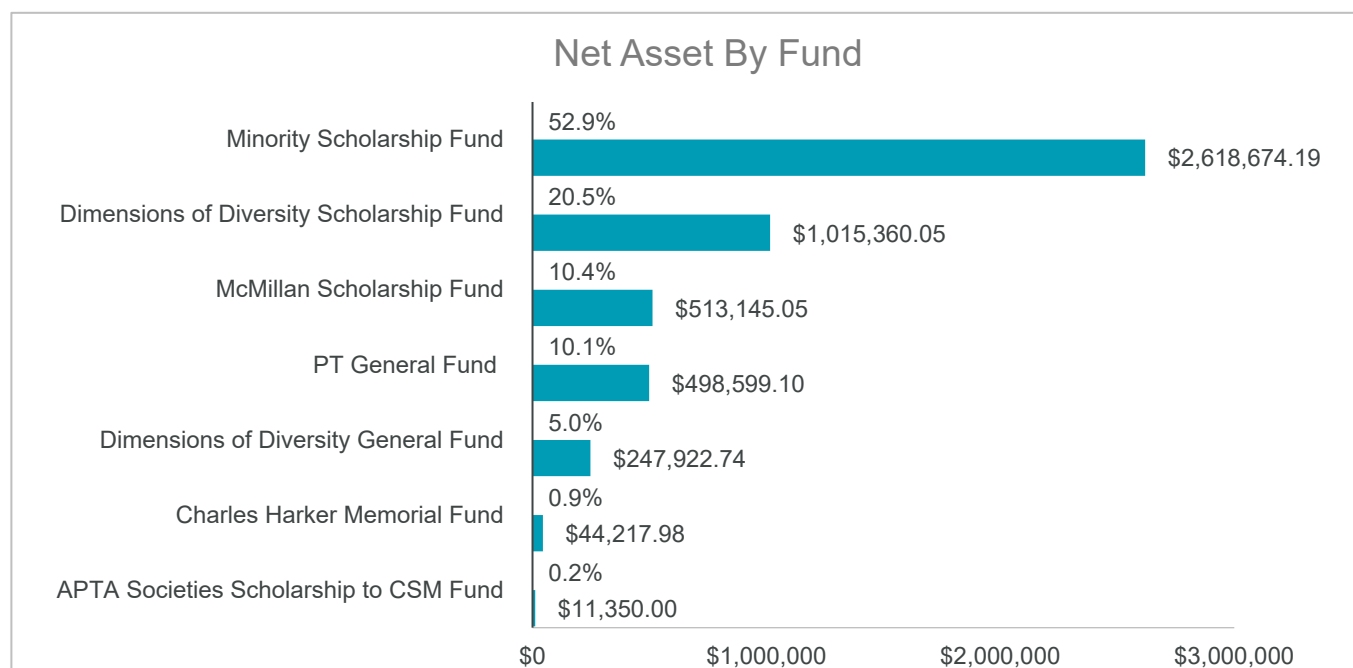
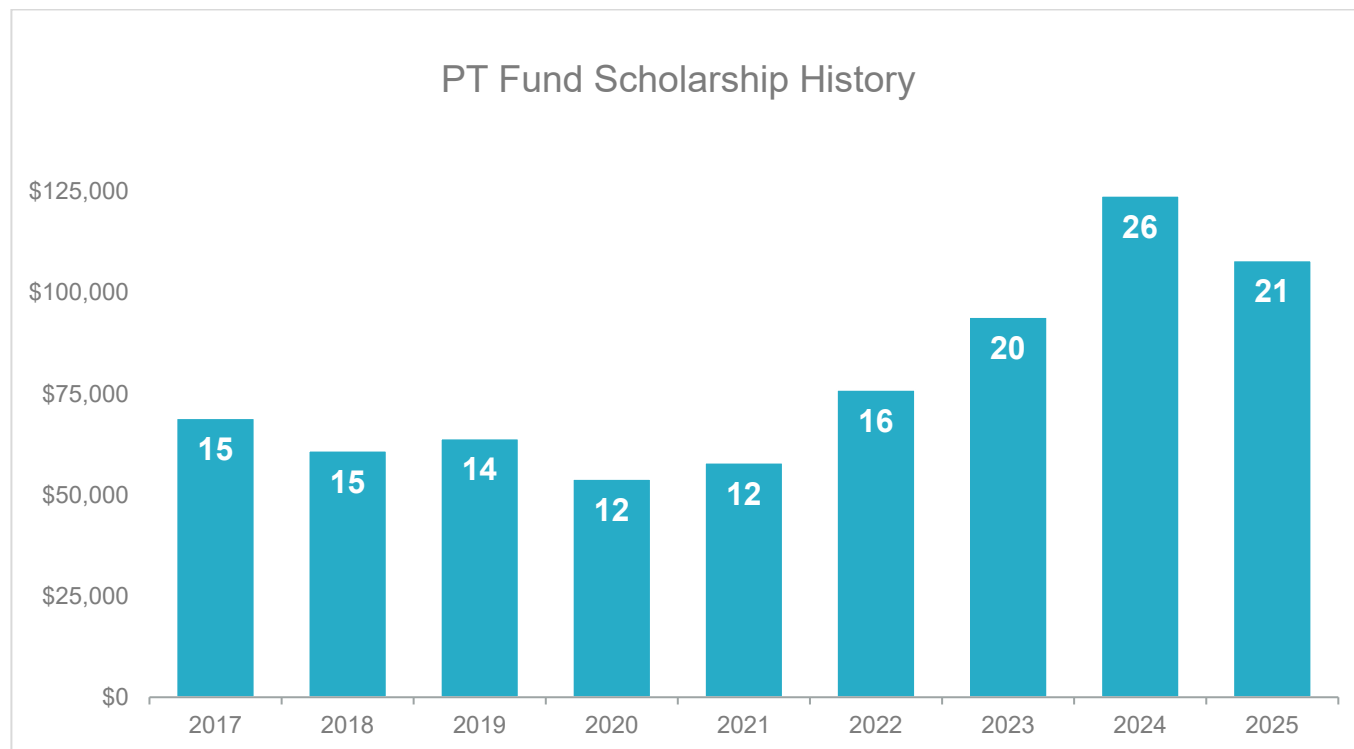
- Identifying new approaches to donor engagement and stewardship.
- Exploring nontraditional revenue streams, including matching gift programs, grant funding, and donor-advised funds.
- Strengthening partnerships and exploring collaborative fundraising efforts.

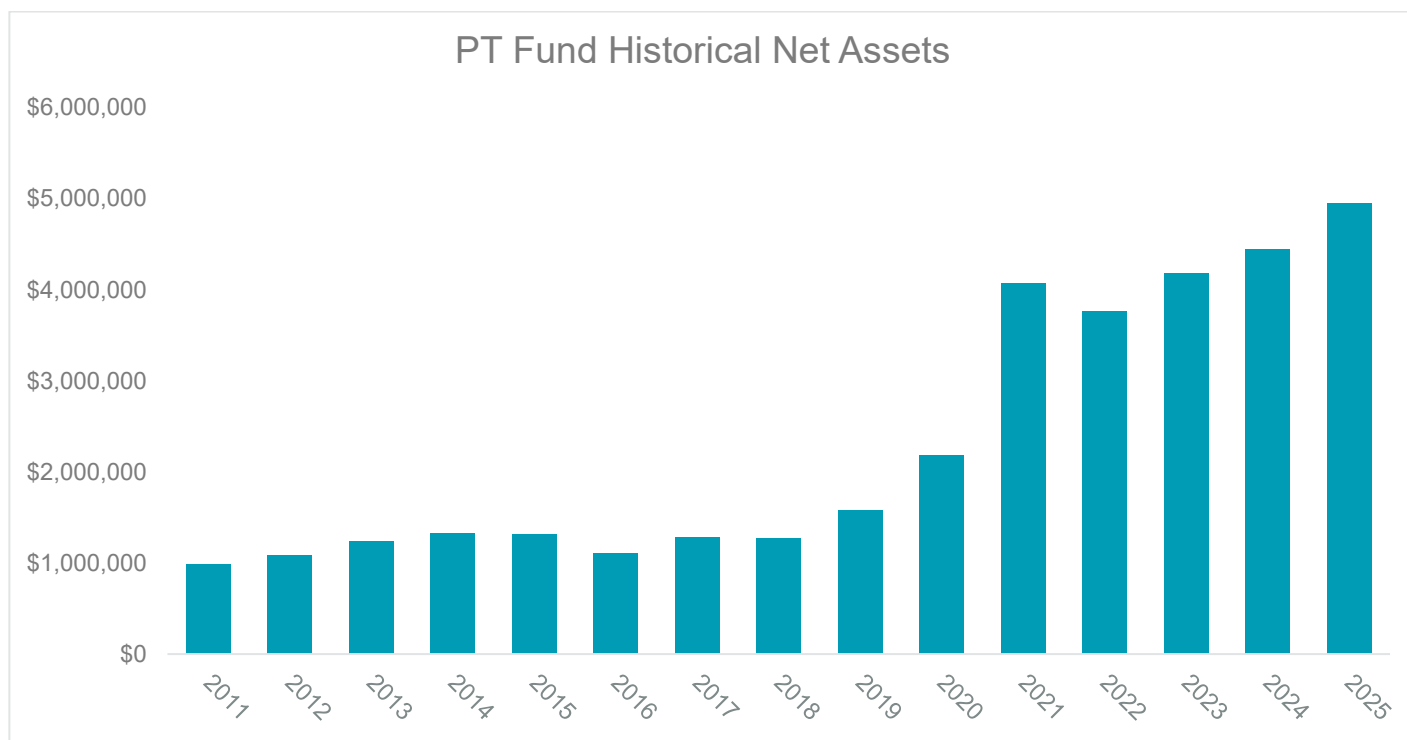
These actions will help ensure that the PT Fund grows its reserves and remains resilient amid future economic and regulatory challenges.

Opportunities for 2026

- **Volunteer opportunities:** We are launching volunteer opportunities for previous scholarship recipients to serve as ambassadors of the PT Fund. The volunteers will assist in implementing strategies to engage donors, future award recipients, and funding sources to support the PT Fund.
- **Donor retention and recruitment:** As part of its donor retention and recruitment strategy, PT Fund staff will reach out to donors regarding the changes in the fund. Most scholarships are governed by donor agreements, endowment restrictions, or board resolutions that specify donor intent, including eligibility criteria such as race. To comply with state trust law, IRS requirements for charitable gifts, and anti-discrimination laws, we must inform donors of proposed changes and, wherever possible, secure their written consent. Of APTA's seven conference rooms with naming agreements, four directly apply to the Minority Scholarship Fund.

Scholarship History





PT Fund Board of Trustees

For 2026, the PT Fund Board of Trustees will transition with new members in a few key positions: president, vice president, and secretary.

2026 APTA PT Fund Board of Trustees

- | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| • Robin Dole, PT, DPT, EdD | President | (APTA Board Member) |
| • Jamie Dyson, PT, DPT | Vice President | (APTA Board Member) |
| • Stefanie Bourassa, PT, DPT | Secretary | (APTA Board Member) |
| • Julian Magee, PT, DPT, ATC | Treasurer | (Public Member) |
| • Vacant | | (Public Member) |

2025 Outgoing PT Fund Board of Trustees

- | | | |
|--|-----------|---------------------|
| • Kelley Kubota, PT, DPT, MS (December 2025) | President | (APTA Board Member) |
| • Steven Wentz, PT, DPT (December 2025) | Treasurer | (Public Member) |