

My name is Patty D'Ascenzo. I am in the Vision Studies program at the University of Pittsburgh. I wanted to take this opportunity to invite you to join me as a student member of Penn-Del AER.

Penn-Del AER is the Pennsylvania-Delaware Chapter of the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired. Penn-Del AER is dedicated to supporting those who provide services to individuals with visual impairments.

Last year I had the opportunity to attend the Penn-Del AER Spring conference as a student volunteer and presenter. My experience at the conference went beyond my expectations. I was impressed with having the opportunity to be in the presence of professionals in the field of visual impairments who were there to either share their expertise or learn about something new. It was during that weekend that I knew that I wanted to be part of such an organization. My hope is that you will want to become a member too.

The cost of a student membership is only \$98 for the year. With your membership, you have access to networking with professionals and mentors, professional development opportunities, a subscription to the Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness (JVIB), discounts, and, most importantly, the opportunity to apply for the Penn-Del AER Student Scholarship.

Each year Penn-Del AER awards a \$1000 scholarship, to a deserving student member, at the Spring conference. With a deadline of February 4, 2020, there is still time to apply for this year's award.

To learn more about Penn-Del AER membership, including the scholarship opportunity, please visit <http://www.penn-delaer.org/>

I hope to see you at the conference in April.

Patty D'Ascenzo