Funds for Educational & Scholarly Opportunities

The University of Vermont Medical Student Travel Awards Program was established to support students, who meet certain criteria (see below) for travel to attend conferences, present scholarly projects, and participate in national or international educational opportunities. In providing this opportunity, our goal is to benefit the Larner College of Medicine (LCOM) and the education of our students, while maximizing the use of available funding to support travel for students seeking outside learning opportunities.

Funding will be allocated three times during each academic year, through Student Financial Services, for extramural learning opportunities. Travel support related to conference attendance, research, etc., that is tied to specific departments should first be considered by those departments or through other resources, however student can also apply through this competitive award process.

There are three application deadlines and award disbursements per year for grants. The Funds for Educational & Scholarly Opportunities (FESO) Committee will review applications and allocate available funding. Students will comply with University policies for University sponsored student domestic and international travel. Students are required to adhere to University policy for insurance coverage when traveling on University sponsored business, and participate in the iAbroad program for international travel.

Funding of student travel will be coordinated with the Financial Aid Office and may affect a student’s financial aid. Successful applications will meet the following criteria:

- Include a clear and compelling rationale for the proposed activity, written by the student, as part of the application process (1/2 to 1 page in length)
- Include a supervising UVM Larner College of Medicine faculty mentor who will assume both educational and supervisory responsibilities. Applicants must have a letter of support from their UVM faculty mentor explaining their supervisory role and support of the project.
- Must specify the duration, timing, and content of the educational experience.
- For International travel, must give evidence that there is local authority approval for where the experience is being conducted.
- For national meetings must submit the proposed meeting agenda.
- Describe how the educational experience will benefit the student’s medical education.
- Describe efforts made to obtain funds from other sources.
- Describe how the educational experience will benefit the Larner College of Medicine in areas of education, research, or service and how it will benefit other students and the Larner College of Medicine community.
- Applications with an emphasis on scholarly activity in education, research, or service will be given priority.

The three application deadlines are August 30, January 30, and April 30.

The FESO Committee will meet within two weeks of the application deadline to determine which applications will receive funding. The FESO Committee will only review or fund applications that are submitted outside of this cycle under extenuating circumstances. Students requesting an application review outside of the application cycle should submit a letter with their request to the Committee administrator colleen.case@med.uvm.edu. Applications should be submitted as far in advance of travel as possible, but not more than nine months ahead of proposed travel. Awards will ordinarily not be awarded retroactively for previous travel. Applicants will be notified if they are approved for funding within three weeks after the deadline date. Students must be in good academic standing to apply for a FESO Grant.

If your travel purpose should change for any reason (after you have submitted your application and/or have been approved for funding), please notify the Committee administrator colleen.case@med.uvm.edu ***. The committee must review all changes.