FUNDS FOR EDUCATIONAL AND SCHOLARLY OPPORTUNITIES

The University of Vermont Larner College of Medicine (LCOM) Medical Student Funds for Educational and Scholarly Opportunities (FESO) program was established to award funds to 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 LCOM and the education of our students, while maximizing the use of available funding to support travel for students seeking outside learning opportunities.

Applications for funding for extramural learning opportunities will be accepted on a rolling basis and must be submitted at least 2 months ahead of proposed travel. Applications that meet certain criteria will be reviewed and approved on a rolling basis. Others will be brought to the full FESO Committee for review and discussion. Awards generally do not exceed $500. The FESO committee will meet 4 times per year.

- Applications received by September 30 will be reviewed in mid October
- Applications received by December 31 will be reviewed in mid January
- Applications received by March 31 will be reviewed in mid April
- Applications received by May 31 will be reviewed in mid June

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 students can also apply through this competitive award process.

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.

Monetary awards for student travel are typically issued by Student Financial Services. If you have questions about how the payment will be processed and/or incorporated into existing financial aid packages, please contact MedSFS@uvm.edu.

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 LCOM 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.
- 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.

Students who meet the above criteria and are either presenting accepted scholarly work or are serving in a leadership role on behalf of LCOM in a national organization will be awarded up to $500 per scholarly activity.
Students who are co-presenting must submit individual applications and disclose that the application is for a joint presentation.

Students requesting an application review outside of the above criteria should submit a letter with their request to the Committee administrator audree.frey@med.uvm.edu. Applications should be submitted as far in advance of travel as possible. Awards will ordinarily not be awarded retroactively for previous travel. Applicants will be notified if they are approved for funding within two weeks of the above committee schedule. Students must be in good academic standing to apply for an Educational Opportunity 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 audree.frey@med.uvm.edu. The committee chair must review all changes.