Conference and Training Grant

Decision Criteria

The following criteria are used for judging among eligible candidates, in descending order of importance.

- Available budget for awards,
- Limitation or lack of available financial support to candidate, including whether the proposed conference offers grants or bursaries,
- Effect of conference/training attendance on researcher development as explained by the candidate in the letter of motivation, with priority given to candidates presenting papers in venues where useful feedback and networking are likely or attending training that will make a significant difference to their development,
- Quality and relevance of the conference topic, theme or organisation to the applicant's research plans, with targeted conferences given higher priority in non-EST Congress years. In EST Congress years, priority should be given to candidates presenting on a relevant panel,
- Breadth of awards. Allowing a variety of candidates to attend a variety of conferences is preferred over allowing several candidates to attend the same conference, except in EST Congress years. In EST Congress years, priority is given to ensuring awards to as wide a variety of panels or streams as possible. A single award per EST panel is preferred, unless the committee deems that there is an overwhelming reason to give multiple awards for speakers participating in the same panel. There is an upper limit of three awards per EST panel.
- Successful applicants may not receive another grant for three years. The committee always prioritises applicants who have not received a grant before.
- Finally, the committee bears in mind the full costs of attendance to the candidate and whether the award will mean that conference attendance can take place.

Should the applicant not be able to attend the conference for reasons beyond their control the committee may, at their discretion, allow the grant to be used for an equivalent conference the next year. The candidate should endeavour to inform the committee as soon as possible and should provide an alternative. This may include a relevant panel at the EST Congress.

Applicants must provide proof of expenditure within one month of attendance.