

### **Travel Awards, Research/Special Project awards and Poster Prizes for AGNC Members**

There are several awards which members of the AGNC may apply for. These will be awarded through application to the committee.

1. **Study/Travel Awards** have been set up to encourage AGNC members to attend and/or present at national and international meetings. An agreed sum of money will be set aside annually from AGNC funds to support the study and travel awards. These awards do not aim to pay full costs, but rather provide a contribution towards costs. Applications for these awards are considered throughout the year. Awards of up to £300 per person, can be applied for (UK and rest of Europe) and awards of up to £500 (rest of the world). Applications are not limited but priority will be given to those members who have not had an award in the previous two years. Once the annual budget for travel awards has been used no further study awards can be made for that year.
2. **New GC Travel Awards** have been set up to encourage New GC's to attend and/or present at national and international meetings. An agreed sum of money will be set aside annually from the GCTP funds to support the study and travel awards. These awards do not aim to pay full costs, but rather provide a contribution towards costs. Applications for these awards are considered throughout the year. Awards of up to £300 per person, can be applied for (UK and rest of Europe) and awards of up to £500 (rest of the world). Applications are not limited but priority will be given to those members who have not had an award in the previous two years. Once the annual budget for travel awards has been used no further study awards can be made for that year.

For the purpose of this award a New GC is either an STP trainee GC at any stage during their 3 year training programme or a GC who has come from nursing / MSc training and who has less than 3 years' experience in a genetic counselling post.

3. **Research/Special Project Travel Awards**, have been set up to recognise, promote and disseminate developments in genetic counselling practice which have a direct relevance to patient care. Applications for these awards are considered throughout the year and a maximum of three awards up to the value of £300 will be considered. For example, this could be to cover costs in visiting another centre to compare practice as part of an audit or to pay for stationary to run a research project.

**The following guidelines have been produced by the Committee with the aim of awarding funds in a fair and transparent way.**

### **Eligibility**

- To qualify for consideration applicants must have paid one year's full membership with the AGNC prior to the date of application.
- Applications will be forwarded to the administrator of the BSGM to ensure membership payments are up to date.
- Priority will be given to members who have not received an award in the last 2-year period.
- No retrospective applications will be considered.

### **Applications**

- Applicants should complete the on- line application form and e-mail this to the AGNC Secretary.
- The AGNC committee will make a decision on all applications received within a period of 4 weeks. If unsuccessful, applicants may re-apply at any time in the future.
- If there are more applications than available funds priority will be given to those who are: - presenting platform presentations, first time presenters, presenting significant new findings, attending meetings most relevant to the aims of the AGNC.
- Allocation of money will be monitored to ensure that a disproportionate amount of money is not supporting individuals employed by the same institution.
- Monies will be awarded at the discretion of the AGNC Committee and the decision is final.

### **Poster Prizes**

Poster prizes have been set up to encourage AGNC members to submit posters at the AGNC Spring Meeting. The poster will be judged by a panel during the meeting. The prize of £100 will be awarded for the best poster at this meeting each year.

### **Judging**

- The AGNC committee will appoint a panel of 3 judges to assess the poster and determine the winner of the prize.
- The panel of 3 judges will include an AGNC committee member and two full AGNC members.
- The judges will be asked to score the posters based on overall standard, content and implications for practice.
- The judgement of the panel will be final.

### **Notifications of Awards**

- An announcement will be made at the AGNC AGM and the winners will also be notified by post/email.