ERS SPONSORED GOLD MEDALS, AWARDS AND GRANTS
GUIDELINES 2019

Every year, under the supervision of the ERS Science Council and Programme Committee members, ERS collaborates with companies willing to offer sponsorship to ERS Members.

Abstract Grants, Main Awards and Gold Medals financially supported by companies (600€ to 50,000€) have specific criteria of eligibility/selection and are given at the ERS at the International Congress, during a ceremony in a dedicated scientific session or at one of the related Assembly/Group members’ meeting.

The current ERS Gold Medals, Main Awards and Abstract Grants are based on applications and nominations. Abstract Grants are based on abstracts submitted for the congress to the relevant group/category.

The ERS sets clear application criteria to facilitate a fair, transparent and coherent selection of candidates. Depending on the amount of the fund and the application process, distinct categories of funding can be selected by pharmaceutical companies. These standard procedures are applied to ensure:
- Clear criteria for eligibility of the candidates
- Ensure a fair and transparent process of selection
- Define a standard process to be used for future funding opportunities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories</th>
<th>Application</th>
<th>Selection</th>
<th>Grant amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gold Medals (50,000€)</td>
<td>- Application/ Nomination form &amp; required document</td>
<td>- By group of experts</td>
<td>50,000€ Full prize amount given to pursue the research project led by the awardee recipient: the amount will be paid to the institution/lab of the awardee. 15% of Overhead for ERS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- By end of February</td>
<td>- Based on criteria of selection and eligibility</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main Awards (min. 7,500€)</td>
<td>- Application/ Nomination form &amp; required document</td>
<td>- By group of experts</td>
<td>Full prize amount given to pursue the research project led by the awardee recipient: the amount will be paid to the institution/lab of the awardee. 15% of Overhead for ERS</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- By end of February of the Congress year</td>
<td>- Based on criteria of selection and eligibility</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants based on Abstracts</td>
<td>- Online application included in abstract submission platform</td>
<td>- 3/4 members of the Assembly</td>
<td>The full amount is given as individual reward to cover part of the expenses related to congress attendance (accommodation &amp; flight) 15% of Overhead for ERS</td>
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<td>(650€-2,000€)</td>
<td>- By the abstract deadline</td>
<td>- At the Spring meeting</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Based on grade, session type and criteria of eligibility</td>
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</table>

15% Overhead is applied to cover administrative management and promotional material for these funding programmes.

Companies wishing to sponsor a new award or grant can complete the form below and send it to the ERS office to establish the contract and other administrative tasks.
What are the benefits as a sponsor?

- **Visibility**: all these prizes are visible and advertised on ERS communication website, newsletter and during the Congress. Associating the sponsor name to the ERS activities is a good incentive to create a new Grant/Award on a topic not covered.

- **Other fields of respiratory medicine**: Different fields of the respiratory medicine are covered by the existing funding opportunities. Identify a key area not covered yet and that fits your strategy.

- **Candidates**: By defining clear criteria of eligibility and selection for all Grants and Awards, the ERS ensures a clear communication with potential candidates and avoids receiving inappropriate applications.

- **Transparent/clear**: Procedures for Awards and Grants are standardised and the ERS Office works on this base to ensure the appropriate follow-up and communication on Grants and Awards. A formal contract is signed by the sponsor and the ERS for each Grant or Award. The sponsoring company is notified and will agreed on the awardee/grantee before the selected candidate is contacted.

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**Gold Medals (minimum 50,000€)**

The ERS Medals cover particular diseases or areas (such as COPD, asthma, infection, oncology, ILD) and are presented during the Opening Ceremony of the Congress. For more information, please contact alexandre.delage@ersnet.org or maeve.tsu@ersnet.org

The ERS offers the Gold Medals with a funding of €50,000 to a researcher who has made outstanding clinical, scientific/research contribution in any sector of respiratory medicine and who is pursuing an active research project in the same field (including basic science, pathophysiology, epidemiology, prevention, clinical practice, diagnosis, treatment, or rehabilitation).

Evaluation criteria:

- ERS members 60 years of age or under
- Past years achievements in research
- Potential for future contribution to the scientific field
- Active scientist
- No previous sponsorship by the pharmaceutical industry on original research
- Three years moratorium for previous ERS awardees
- ERS current Officers, staff members and consultants are not eligible for the ERS Gold Medals and other funding programmes (with the exception for Group Chairs, Group Secretaries, Associate Editors and national Delegates).

Applications and nominations for the Gold Medals must be made through the application form by 14 February, 2019, including the required documents:

- A Curriculum Vitae - max. 2 pages
- A list of original peer-reviewed publications underlining top 10 papers - Abstracts should not be listed
- A summary of the main career achievements and personal contribution to the field – max. 1,000 words
- An overview of current research projects indicating the areas of research that the award may be used to support. – max. 1 page
- A COI declaration form completed (Industry and Tobacco).
**Main Awards** (minimum 7,500€)

Awards are processed based on a transparent and standard procedure using the official online application form. Criteria of eligibility and selection are clearly established, communicated and advertised. A committee of experts in the field (at least four) will have to be nominated for pre-selection and reviewing of applications. The final decision will remain with the ERS Science Council under the supervision of the Research Director and/or relevant Assembly Head.

Evaluation criteria:
- ERS member
- There are no geographical restrictions on applicants
- Age limit can apply
- Past years achievements in research
- Potential for future contribution to the scientific field
- Active scientist
- No previous sponsorship by the pharmaceutical industry on original research
- Former awardees of this specific award will not be considered again and candidates who received any other ERS award or grant in the last three years won’t be considered either.

Applications and nominations for the Main Award Medals must be made through the application form by 14 February, 2019, including the required documents:
- A Curriculum Vitae - *max. 2 pages*
- A list of original peer-reviewed publications underlining top 10 papers - *Abstracts should not be listed*
- A summary of the main career achievements and personal contribution to the field – *max. 1,000 words*
- An overview of current research projects indicating the areas of research that the award may be used to support. – *max. 1 page*
- A COI declaration form completed (Industry and Tobacco).

**Abstract Grants** (between 650€ and 2,000€)

Every year pharmaceutical companies get in contact with Assembly Heads and the ERS Office to offer funding for a specific group of people. The Grants range from 650€ to 2,000€.

Application & selection:
Applications for the Grants must be made through the abstract submission platform form by 14<sup>th</sup> February 2019. The Grants are listed in the ERS website and should the candidate feel that his abstract falls under one of the grant categories, he must apply for the grant through the platform. The office clears the application lists and removes the candidates who do not match with the established criteria prior to the Spring Meeting. The Selection Committee can focus on the best candidates/abstracts for the selection. The selection process is processed by a group of Members of the Assembly/Group and the decision is made at the Spring Meeting at the latest.