



Royal College of  
General Practitioners

# INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIPS

## GUIDELINES & CRITERIA

RCGP International Award  
Eric Gambrill Memorial Fund

## **Aim of the awards**

The International Travel Scholarships are designed to offer opportunities for GPs or Family Doctors to undertake projects outside of their home country. Our aim is to increase the profile of primary care, promoting its values and role in achieving universal health coverage or 'health for all'. We will fund projects which aim to improve the delivery and/or teaching of general practice or family medicine either in the UK or internationally.

The Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) grants International Travel Scholarships twice annually. They have been established to:

- a) Increase the quality of education and delivery of general practice or family medicine through international exchange or study
- b) To enable general practitioners or family doctors from the UK to travel overseas to study aspects of health care relevant to General Practice in the UK
- c) To assist practising doctors from overseas to visit the UK to study an aspect of primary care relevant to their own country's family medicine needs
- d) To enable general practitioners or family doctors from the UK to travel overseas to help other countries to develop their own primary care health systems.

## **The Scholarships**

There are currently two awards and scholarships available. These are:

### **RCGP International Award**

This award is funded by the College to provide opportunities to UK and overseas doctors regardless of whether they are members of RCGP or not.

### **Eric Gambrill RCGP International Travel Award**

This scholarship is awarded to UK doctors who are within five years of qualifying as GPs and in all other respects is adjudicated on the same basis as the RCGP International Award. Up to 3 Eric Gambrill awards are granted each year.

Adjudication of the applications for International Travel Scholarships is undertaken using the criteria developed for the RCGP International Award.

## **Frequency**

The international awards and scholarships are offered twice annually, usually in spring and autumn. Please contact [international@rcgp.org.uk](mailto:international@rcgp.org.uk) for more information on exact dates.

## **Value**

The value of the awards range from £200 up to a maximum of £2000.

## **Who can apply?**

Any practising General Practitioner (members or non-members of the RCGP) may apply for any of the awards and scholarships.

## **Where to apply?**

The application form for the International Travel Scholarships can be found on our website at <http://www.rcgp.org.uk/rcgp-near-you/rcgp-international/international-opportunities.aspx>

## How to apply

Applications should be submitted in Word, either using the form provided on the website or in a separate Word document using the same headings and format provided. The application form is divided into two parts;

- Part One seeks personal details. This is for administrative purposes only and will be detached from your application before adjudication since we adjudicate anonymised applications.
- Part Two is your application specifying your project and will be submitted to the Adjudication Panel. Applicants should not attach any supporting documents, CVs etc., as these will not be considered by the adjudicators.

Electronic signatures should be included where required in the form. If it is not possible to include an electronic signature the front page should be printed signed, scanned and submitted separately. Applications are accepted by email to [international@rcgp.org.uk](mailto:international@rcgp.org.uk).

## APPLICATION CRITERIA

- 1) All practicing general practitioners or family physicians are eligible to apply, irrespective of whether they are members of the College or not.
- 2) UK applicants must have attained a Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT).
- 3) Applications should be submitted using the application form provided at <http://www.rcgp.org.uk/rcgp-near-you/rcgp-international/international-opportunities.aspx>
- 4) All sections of the application form should be completed by the applicant.
- 5) The application should state a brief and clear aim plus a number of objectives which would allow assessment of the success of the study.
- 6) The application should contain detailed costings of the project and a concise timetable of study.

### Guidance to applicants:

- 1) For projects or visits which will cost more than the upper award limit of £2000 the full costs should be shown in the application and the amount applied for should also be shown. Indications should be given.
- 2) The Adjudication Panel will not consider joint or group applications. Each individual must submit their own application.
- 3) Following adjudication of the awards and notification to applicants of the result, no further correspondence will be entered in relation to the adjudication process.
- 4) A project for which the award has been granted **must begin within six months of the award being granted** (i.e. within six months of the successful candidate receiving the confirmation letter); otherwise the award lapses. However, in exceptional circumstances, and only at the discretion of the Adjudication Panel, scholarship recipients may request a postponement of the start of their overseas visit. This will usually be considered only where it can be shown that information affecting the visit was not available at the date of application.
- 5) Payment of the scholarship is made retrospectively upon receipt of satisfactory proof of expenses incurred in undertaking the project, together with a report on the visit

- 6) A report of the visit, suitable for publication, and any associated research should be submitted to the International Programme Board within eight weeks of completion of the project. Guidance on the exact requirements for the report is included in the letter to successful applicants

**Applications will not be considered in the following cases:**

- Incomplete applications will not be considered eligible for the awarding of scholarships.
- From previous recipients of RCGP International Travel Scholarships within the last five years.
- To assist medical students or trainees (UK GP Registrars / AiTs) to travel abroad.
- To assist doctors undertaking educational courses which could be undertaken in their own country.
- To support attendance at international conferences, unless attendance is an integral element of a broader project.
- For project activities already undertaken prior to the application.
- If an application is deemed by the College to have a conflict of interest with RCGP business it will not be put forward for adjudication.

**Additional guidance notes for overseas applicants:**

- Your application normally requires the name and details of your contact within the UK
- Please also ensure that you have an outline plan and timetable to which your costings relate. Your UK contact may be able to help with this.
- For those applicants who need an educational supervisor while in the UK it is essential that you provide evidence that your UK contact has agreed to act in this role.

If you have any further questions regarding the awards, please contact the International Team at:

**International Team**  
**Royal College of General Practitioners**  
**30 Euston Square, London, NW1 2FB**  
**Email: [international@rcgp.org.uk](mailto:international@rcgp.org.uk)**