**Rewarding Excellence**

**A Bursary scheme for Specialty Trainees in Obstetrics and Gynaecology.**

This scheme provides an opportunity to apply for a financial award to support personal and professional development. Below is important information about the eligibility criteria and application process. Please ensure that you read the information carefully prior to application.

**Intended purpose of bursaries**

The bursary scheme offers grants to Specialty Trainees under three headings:

* + Presentation at Meetings – National or International.
	+ Postgraduate Certificates & Diplomas
	+ Special Skills Courses or Training

The emphasis when allocating bursaries is on enhancing professional development opportunities and, as such, emphasis will be placed on how participation contributes to personal development rather than the qualification attained on completion.

**Eligibility**

All trainees in ST1-7 of the specialty training programme who expect to complete the course/training or attend the meeting before their CCT date

The learning experience can be within the last 6 months or planned during the next 3 months

Each category may have its own application requirements but applicants ***for all awards*** must have received an ARCP outcome 1 at their last review.

Trainees can only apply for one award in each round of applications

**Exclusions**

Applications will not be accepted from the following groups:

* Trainees currently out of programme (OOPE; OOPR). Funding would usually come from those sponsoring the out of programme work
* Subspecialty trainees. Funding is available from HEE to support training
* Trainees who have completed or left the training programme
* Applications for ATSM courses
* Application for examinations or exam revision courses

**Application**

**Applications should be submitted by Friday 10th February 2023**.

Applicants will be notified of the outcome by Monday 6th March 2023 and must be claimed within 4 weeks. There will be a further round of applications in June 2023

All applications (or enquiries) should be submitted to:

regionalteaching.yh@hee.nhs.uk

Informal inquiries can be made to the Director of Education: jayneshillito@nhs.net

Please be aware that the bursary scheme is a **competitive process of application**. Making an application does not guarantee that you will be granted an award.

**Method of Assessment**

Eligible applications will be assessed by a panel consisting of at least 2 assessors including:

* Head of School/ Director of Education
* ATSM Director
* Additional members of the Consultant body, at least 1 per panel.

The scoring scheme will use criteria developed against the questions on the application form. Individual scores will be combined, an average score derived and the application ranked relative to other applicants in the scheme.

**Categories & Criteria.**

**Meetings – National or International.**

Bursaries are intended to facilitate the trainee to attend a meeting or Conference to present ORIGINAL work. Priority will be given to oral presentations but may be considered for poster presentations depending on the credibility of the meeting and the quality and originality of the work undertaken. **The original abstract should be submitted along with the completed application form**

**Postgraduate Certificates & Diplomas.**

The bursary is awarded towards the cost of the additional qualification leading to a recognized certificate or diploma. Although there is no maximum limit, awards of over £1000 are not usually made. Application can be made once the course commences and covers only the cost of the course and not any associated travel, subsistence or costs of examinations

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Awards can only be guaranteed for the current financial year and there is no guarantee of additional grants to aid in any further years of study that you may commit to.

Examples of courses that would be appropriate for bursary funding.

* PG Cert Workplace Based Postgraduate Medical Education
* PG Cert / MA Medical/Clinical Education
* MA in Healthcare, Ethics and Law
* MA in Developing Professional Practice in Management
* MSc Teaching Mindfulness Based Approaches
* Courses to support the Advanced Professional Module

Decisions concerning bursaries are not made solely on the basis of the type of course that you are applying for. Successful applications will demonstrate how this course will benefit personal / career development, and how it will bring benefits to the wider NHS.

**Special Skills Training**

**To apply for this award the trainee must have passed their MRCOG examinations** (Parts 1-3). This award is aimed at more senior trainees who wish to develop additional skills or special interests to ensure they are competitive for a Consultant post and to complement or enhance their ATSMs.

This might include additional on line learning or alternative courses and particulalry relevant at present are courses that support learning and teaching with technology; teaching in virtual communication; health and wellbeing.

Senior trainees can also apply for a bursary towards expenses for attendance at specific additional courses or training centres to learn skills that are not available within the Region and which will usually support or complement their ATSM choices. Examples include advanced laparoscopic courses; urogynaecology training courses, special fetal medicine techniques or overseas educational exchanges

In addition to the application form a supporting statement from their ATSM and/or Educational Supervisor will be required.

**Claiming Bursaries and Cancellation**

If you are successful in obtaining a bursary you will be sent further information about how to claim the funding with your offer letter. We are not able to pay expenses in advance or to pay invoices directly. Failure to claim your award within 3 months may result in withdrawal of funding. The School of Obstetrics and Gynaecology reserves the right to amend or withdraw this scheme at any time without prior notification.