

GUIDELINES

The Ajaib (Jab) and Nirmal (Munni) Sidhoo Charities Fund Trainee Travel Grants for International Scientific Conferences

The purpose of the Ajaib (Jab) and Nirmal (Munni) Sidhoo Charities Fund is to support and strengthen the training, continuing education, and collaborative work of young researchers working at Vancouver General Hospital (VGH) of the University of British Columbia (UBC) Hospital in the areas of Diabetes or Urology. As participation at scientific conferences is an important activity in the development of a research career, this competition will support Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute (VCHRI) trainees to present at an international conference.

Eligibility

- Applicants must be VCHRI trainees doing their research training at VGH or UBC Hospital – this includes master's and doctoral students, postdoctoral and clinical research fellows.
- The trainee must be directly involved in research which will improve the quality of care and patient outcomes for those affected by diabetes or urology related concerns.
- Diabetes disproportionately impacts Indigenous Peoples and communities. If your research is related to diabetes, you will be required to answer a question on how this has been considered. For any questions contact the [Indigenous Health Research Unit](#).
- The conference must be international in scope (but can be held in Canada).
- The trainee should be presenting their own work, whether part of a larger study or a stand-alone study, OR they must have had substantial involvement in the project on which they are presenting.
- The trainee is the first author on the accepted abstract.
- The conference must be occurring between the 1st day of the application deadline month and 6 months following the application deadline. For example, between January 1st and June 30th for the January 15th deadline.
- This must be the first international conference at which the information is being presented by the applicant (or anyone else).

Deadlines

There are two deadline dates for submitting requests: January 15 and September 15 (or the first working day after those dates). One grant will be awarded each competition, in an amount up to \$3000, paid out upon submission of receipts. Receipts must be submitted for reimbursement within one month of conference travel. There is one category for all trainees, and an individual can only win this travel prize once every two calendar years.

Eligible expenses (original receipts must be provided, including boarding passes)

- Air (economy fare) and ground transportation to conference site
- Accommodation
- Conference registration
- Cost of printing conference poster presentation (if applicable)
- Meals:
 - For meals you can *either claim a per diem OR submit receipts* for each meal (between your departure and return times) that is NOT provided through the conference fee, up to the maximums below. It is not possible to claim a mixture of per diem and submit receipts for meals during the duration of your trip.

Breakfast \$12

Lunch \$15

Dinner \$25

Total = \$52 / day

Note: the per diem reimbursement level is based on the VCH travel expenses policy.

Application process

Submit a completed Request Form and all required attachments to education.award@vch.ca by 4:30pm on either

the September or January deadline to be considered for that round of funding. Each application will be reviewed for eligibility and completeness. When there are multiple requests meeting the full eligibility criteria, the award will be made by random selection.

Request Form

Request forms and guidelines are available on VCHRI's webpage for the [Sidhoo Fund](#).

Reporting

The trainee is required to submit a brief report on the conference experience along with the Expense Reimbursement form (and receipts) to VCHRI. As well, VCHRI requests that a digital photo be submitted with the report, as the winners are announced on the VCHRI website. The report will be forwarded to the VGH and UBC Hospital Foundation and donor and therefore must be written in lay language. Awardees are also required to write a thank you note to the donor.

Contact Information

Krista Glowacki, Research Awards Lead
Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute
6/F, 2635 Laurel Street
Vancouver, BC V5Z 1M9
education.award@vch.ca