Early Career Optometrists Education Grant (Vic)



Terms and Conditions 2019

Purpose	This document provides a framework for establishing and documenting the Early Career Optometrists Education Grant (Vic).
Scope	This policy applies to the annual grant awarded by Optometry Victoria South Australia and the Early Career Optometrists Victoria South Australia committee, supported by Dr Christolyn Raj and Sunbury Eye Clinic.
	The grant is only for Victorian-based early career optometrists.
Value	The total value of the grant is \$1500. This may be awarded to one or more recipients at the discretion of Optometry Victoria South Australia.
Eligibility	Applicants must be:
	 eligible to practise optometry in Victoria; up to ten years from graduation from their optometric degree, and a current member of Optometry Victoria South Australia.
	The applicant cannot be part of any committee or subcommittee of Optometry Victoria South Australia. Applicants must disclose if they've applied for any other grants or bursaries in relation to the activity they're applying for.
Funding	The grant is funded by Dr Christolyn Raj and Sunbury Eye Clinic. The grant funds will be transferred to a nominated account to be held by Optometry Victoria South Australia before being released to the applicant(s).
Selection Criteria	The successful applicant(s) will be determined by the ECOV/SA committee and Optometry Victoria South Australia's CEO. This will be determined by the responses detailed within the application:
	the motivation for choosing the research studies, course, workshop or conference;
	 how this will impact the applicant's practise and future patients;
	 how this will contribute towards future career aspirations;
	and other extra-curricular activities and involvement outside of the clinic, and
	the applicant is effectively able to represent Optometry Victoria South Australia.
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The grant must be used within 12 months of being awarded.

Applicants may request reimbursement for travel that has already been paid for, but not undertaken.

Payment will be made in the form of a reimbursement from Optometry Victoria South Australia to the applicant. The applicant is responsible for providing evidence of the total cost of the research studies, course, workshop or conference for application. If this amount is greater than the awarded grant, the applicant is responsible for any excess costs.

Successful recipients will be required to meet with Sunbury Eye Surgeons, and be interviewed about their research studies, course, workshop or conference, for Optometry Victoria South Australia's *Scope* magazine. Recipients will also be required to present a short summary of their experience, at an ECOV/SA education seminar.

If the proposed research studies, course, workshop or conference for which funds were received is cancelled or is unable to be completed, the funds can be used for the same activity in the following 12 month period. If the activity cannot be completed in the following 12 month period, the funds must be transferred back to Optometry Victoria South Australia.

Successful applicants are eligible to reapply for the grant three years after receipt of the grant.