

ERS Grants & Sponsorship Guidance 2023

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2 Introduction

Since 1992, ERS has offered over 2'500 various grants and sponsorships intended to recognise excellence and help support young investigators to attend the annual ERS International Congress. These contributions are financed both by ERS or sponsoring companies to offer funding opportunities and awards to ERS members within the respiratory field.

3 Application

- Applicants of all ethnicities, gender and career choices including periods of career breaks (unemployment, parental leave etc.) are encouraged to apply.
- Applicants may apply for a grant and/or sponsorship directly through the online abstract submission platform which opens annually beginning of December and closes the following year in February. For further information on how to submit an abstract, please visit the [ERS website](#).
- Requests for a grant and/or sponsorship outside of the online abstract submission platform will not be considered as valid and will therefore not be taken into consideration.

4 Selection

All abstracts are graded anonymously by a panel of at least three reviewers on a scale from one (lowest) to six (highest), with an average score of three minimum for acceptance, on the basis of the following criteria:

- Scientific strength
- Methodology
- Provided data
- Novelty and/or originality of its findings

Based on these elements, the decision is taken to accept or reject abstracts for the congress. When allocation of abstracts into sessions begins, ERS officers also consider the limitations of slots available in the Congress programme.

Only abstracts having met the quality threshold of 3.5 and above will be considered for an ERS Grant or Sponsorship.

5 Notification

Awardees are notified of their grant or sponsorship acceptance by end of June at the latest, once the official abstract acceptance/rejection notifications have been sent out. Only candidates who have been awarded with a grant or sponsorship will be notified, candidates who have not been awarded with a grant or sponsorship will not be notified.

If the awarded candidate does not provide confirmation of receipt of the notification, or confirmation of acceptance of the grant or sponsorship, or fails to provide the requested information and materials within the requested timeframe, the grant or sponsorship will be re-allocated to another candidate.

6 Grant collection

Travel grants may be collected onsite at the ERS Finance Desk within the congress centre. Prior to the meeting, candidates will be provided with a Declaration of Eligibility form to read and sign which they must present at the ERS Finance Desk, along with valid identity papers (identity card, passport). Declaration of Eligibility forms may also be provided by ERS staff members at the ERS Finance Desk, for candidates who were unable to complete it prior to the annual meeting.

Candidates will be informed of the ERS Finance Desk's location within the congress centre and opening times shortly before the ERS International Congress Milan 2023.

The travel grant will be given to candidates in the form of a credit card which they can use at a cash machine to withdraw the funds or to be used as a direct payment method.



ERS Grants and Sponsorships 2023

7 ERS Sponsored Abstract Grants

The Sponsored Abstract Grants are offered to early-career authors with the best scored abstracts submitted within the topics of the supported fields. Abstract grants are sponsored by pharmaceutical companies in different respiratory fields each year.

These abstract grants offer access to early-bird registration fee and travel grants of various amounts to attend the ERS International Congress Milan 2023 and present their abstract in person.

7.1 Eligibility criteria

- ERS active membership
- Minimum average grade of 3.5
- Non-MD
- Must not be a previous winner of the exact same Abstract Grant
- Must not have received any other ERS Grant or Sponsorship in the last three years
- 40 years of age or under at the time of the application deadline

8 ERS/ELF best abstract grant for Healthy Lungs for Life

The ERS/ELF best abstract grant for Healthy Lungs for Life is presented to the author of the most newsworthy abstract linked to the Healthy Lungs for Life campaign, which focusses on disease prevention.

This abstract grant, sponsored by ELF, offers a free-registration and a 2'000€ travel grant to the best abstract author on a Healthy Lungs for Life topic to attend the ERS International Congress Milan 2023 and present their abstract in person.

8.1 Eligibility criteria

- Research into topics related to lung health (including smoking cessation, physical activity, vaccination, air quality and climate change)
- ERS active membership
- Minimum average grade of 3.5
- Must not be a previous winner of the ERS/ELF best abstract grant for Healthy Lungs for Life
- Must not have received any other ERS Grant or Sponsorship in the last three years
- 40 years of age or under at the time of the application deadline

9 ERS/ELF Travel Grant for Best Abstract in Patient Centred Research

The ERS/ELF Travel Grant for Best Abstract in Patient Centred Research is presented to 2 authors of abstracts which best demonstrate the most effective and impactful example of patient involvement in medical research. To find out more about patient involvement in research, visit the ELF website.

This travel grant will fund scientists and/or clinicians doing research that is focused on issues that will have patient-centred outcomes which will impact directly on patients, and/or qualitative research that helps understand patients conditions, and/or that directly matter to patients and that patients understand.

This abstract grant, sponsored by ELF, offers a free-registration and a 1'500€ travel grant to two abstract authors each to attend the ERS International Congress Milan 2023 and present their abstract in person.



9.1 Eligibility criteria

- Research including patient Involvement throughout
- ERS active membership
- Minimum average grade of 3.5
- Must not be a previous winner of the ERS/ELF Travel Grant for Best Abstract in Patient Centred Research
- Must not have received any other ERS Grant or Sponsorship in the last three years
- 40 years of age or under at the time of the application deadline

10 ERS Congress Sponsorship

The Congress Sponsorships are offered to early-career authors with the best scored abstracts from scientifically developing countries. This sponsorship offers free registration and a €300 travel grant to attend the ERS International Congress Milan 2023, to present their abstract in person. Additionally, candidates may register for free for either 1 full day or 2 half days of an ERS Post-Graduate course.

10.1 Eligibility criteria

- Candidate from scientifically developing country
- ERS active membership
- Minimum average grade of 3.5
- Non-MD
- Must not have received any other ERS Grant or Sponsorship in the last three years
- 40 years of age or under at the time of the application deadline

11 ERS Young Scientist Sponsorship

The Young Scientist Sponsorships are offered to authors of high-quality abstracts and in early stages of their career. This sponsorship offers free registration and a €300 travel grant to attend the ERS International Congress Milan 2023 and present their abstract in person.

11.1 Eligibility criteria

- ERS active membership
- Minimum average grade of 3.5
- Non-MD
- Must not have received any other ERS Grant or Sponsorship in the last three years
- 40 years of age or under at the time of the application deadline

12 ERS/Asian Pacific Society of Respiratory (APSR) Young Investigator Award

The ERS/APSR Young Investigator Award is offered to 2 authors of high-quality abstracts who are in early stages of their career and affiliated to the Asian Pacific Society of Respiratory. This award offers free registration and a €1'500 travel grant to attend the ERS International Congress Milan 2023 and present their abstract in person.

12.1 Eligibility criteria

- APSR active membership
- Minimum average grade of 3.5
- Must not be a previous winner of the ERS/APSR Young Investigator Award



- Must not have received any other ERS Grant or Sponsorship in the last three years
- 40 years of age or under at the time of the application deadline

13 ERS/Japanese Respiratory Society (JRS) Young Investigator Award

The ERS/JRS Young Investigator Award is offered to 2 authors of high-quality abstracts who are in early stages of their career and affiliated to the Japanese Respiratory Society. This award offers free registration and a €600 travel grant to attend the ERS International Congress Milan 2023 and present their abstract in person.

13.1 Eligibility criteria

- JRS active membership
- Minimum average grade of 3.5
- Must not be a previous winner of the ERS/JRS Young Investigator Award
- Must not have received any other ERS Grant or Sponsorship in the last three years
- 40 years of age or under at the time of the application deadline

14 ERS Best Abstract award

The Best Abstract awards are offered to 14 authors, 1 for each of the 14 ERS Assemblies, who scored the highest grades across all submitted abstracts. This award offers free registration and a €300 travel grant to attend the ERS International Congress Milan 2023 and present their abstract in person.

For this award, there are no eligibility requirements, as the awards are automatically assigned to the best scored abstracts, irrespective of the candidate's background or profile.

Rules and regulations

15 Eligibility for travel grants

In order for the awarded candidates to be eligible to collect their travel grants, the following requirements must be met and rules apply:

- Candidates must be the presenting author of the winning abstract.
- Candidates must attend the ERS International Congress Milan 2023, in person and onsite to present their abstract.
- Candidates must not have received any additional funding from a pharmaceutical company to cover registration fees, travel costs or accommodation pertaining to the participation of the ERS International Congress Milan 2023.
- Candidates must read and sign the Declaration of Eligibility form, before providing it to the ERS Finance Desk at the ERS International Congress Milan 2023.
- If the candidate has a conflicting entitlement in addition to the awarded grant or sponsorship (e.g. a flat amount for acting as a speaker), they will only receive the grant of the highest value. The monetary entitlements cannot be cumulated and will be calculated as the example below:
 - If a candidate receives a travel grant of 600€ and a speaker flat amount of 300€ - the candidate only receives the travel grant amount of 600€.
 - If a candidate receives a travel grant of 300€ and a speaker flat amount of 300€ - the candidate only receives a single amount of 300€.



16 No-show's

In order to be entitled to collect their travel grant, candidates must present their abstracts. If the awarded candidate does not present their abstract, they are no longer entitled to their grant or sponsorship.

- If a candidate **does not attend** the ERS International Congress Milan 2023 and **does not present** their abstract, they are **not entitled** to collect their travel grant at a later stage.
- If a candidate **does attend** the ERS International Congress Milan 2023 but **does not present** their abstract, they are **not entitled** to collect their travel grant onsite or at a later stage.
- If a candidate **does not present** their abstract **but still collects** their travel grant, they are obligated to refund the travel grant to ERS even if expenses have been made. If the candidate does not comply with the request of reimbursement, it will entail an indefinite ban from obtaining any future ERS grants or sponsorships.

17 Transferring grants & sponsorships

The selection for grants and sponsorships is based not only on the scientific merit of the submitted abstract, but also on the candidate's profile and compliance with the eligibility criteria. Funding opportunities are specifically attributed to carefully selected candidates, rendering sponsorships and grants non-transferable. Therefore, the travel grant and free onsite registration cannot be transferred to another person (co-author, presenter, supervisor etc.).

In addition, the grants and sponsorships do not extend to co-authors. Therefore, co-authors of the awarded candidate that plan to attend the ERS International Congress Milan 2023 will not be granted with funding opportunities.

Moreover, ERS will not offer any additional financial support or cover any supplements for accompanying people (family, partners, children etc.).

18 Abstract presentation desistance

If an awarded candidate is unable to present their abstract or attend the ERS International Congress Milan 2023, they must immediately contact scientific@ersnet.org. Candidates may obtain an online registration instead but will no longer be entitled to a travel grant.

Abstracts may only be presented onsite (not online). Therefore, if the awarded candidate cannot present their abstract, they can either ask a co-author to present it on the candidate's behalf or they will need to withdraw the abstract from the scientific programme.

It is also important to note that if the awarded candidate cannot present their abstract, the travel grant and free onsite registration will not be rolled over to any future ERS Congresses. In addition, the travel grant and free onsite registration cannot be used for another ERS event or course.