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THE HONG KONG ORTHOPAEDIC ASSOCIATION

Scholarship for Online Virtual Education Activities For **Young Fellows and Members** Regulations and Application Guidelines (revised in Apr 2021)

Principles

1. Scholarship is to encourage further education & research.
2. In view of the unsettled COVID-19 pandemic and ongoing overseas travel restrictions, the HKOA scholarship for the year 2021 will be arranged to sponsor application and participation in **online virtual education activities**.
3. The individual should contribute towards his/her own further education: the scholarship is not guaranteed to provide 100% coverage of the application fee for the online education activity.
4. The scholarship should be the sole source of financial subsidy for the applied activity.

Amount of Sponsorship

HKOA Scholarship for Online Virtual Education Activities for young fellows and members will be standardized as follows:

- Receipted claims up to HK\$ 3,000 for each successful individual applicant.
- Regardless of the country or locality in which the organizer of the online education activity is based.

Administration and Rules

Selection round for year 2021:

- a) mid-April 2021: for events taking place from 1st July to 31st December 2021;
- b) mid-October 2021: for events taking place from 1st January to 30th June 2022 (*tentative*) unless otherwise stated.

In each round, a total amount of HK\$ 45,000 will be available for the captioned HKOA scholarship.

Announcement:

To be advertised in the HKOA web site or by e-mail to fully paid-up members and fellows at least one month prior to the closing dates.

Application:

Applicants must be fully paid-up members or fellows of the Association and less than 12 years of service in orthopaedics (internship/externship NOT counted) on the day the applications close. Members or fellows who have received sponsorship (excluding that being an Ambassador of the HKOA) from the HKOA within the immediate 12 months prior of the starting date of the proposed event will NOT be eligible.



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Applicants must submit: -

1. A completed standard application form.
2. Preliminary program pamphlet about the proposed conference/meeting, and,
3. A brief CV.

The applicants should be aware that it would take 4 to 6 weeks after the closing date for the Council to complete the selection process and to notify successful applicants.

Selection Criteria and Rules

The Council will first evaluate whether the proposed event is appropriately beneficial to the applicant, taking into account the quality of the proposed event, and reserve the right to execute any unfavorable consideration.

Points system:

- 4 points for paper presentation/speaker/moderator in the online education event

Deduction:

Points are to be deducted if HKOA sponsorship (including awards from HKOA Chapter) have been awarded* within the following period prior to the closing date of application:

12 – 24 months: 2 points

25 – 36 months: 1 point

* The word “awarded” is used to include those who have been offered a scholarship but who withdrew themselves after the selection, or that the final payment of sponsorship was forfeited due to violation of rules. Penalty points for withdrawal could be mitigated if a very good reason existed for the withdrawal, e.g. illness, failure to get leave approval.

- Applicants with equal scores will be allocated a position by the draw of lots.
- Applicants for Specific Scholarships will first compete among themselves. They should also indicate on their application forms whether they would like to be considered for the Standard Scholarships should they fail to be awarded their desired Specific Scholarships.
- After the allocation of Specific Scholarship, Standard Scholarships will be awarded to each of the top scorers until the remaining amount is no longer sufficient to support the next applicant in line.

Claims and Payment

Receipted claims have to be supported by original documents: official proof of registration for the online education activity AND receipt of the respective online conference / meeting registration fee.

Payment will only be made if the Honorary Secretary receives (1) an acceptable report accompanied by (2) a copy of the Certificate of Attendance, and the original documents to support the receipted claims, within 30 days from the last day of the online education activity. Payment will be forfeited if these rules are not strictly adhered to.