

**The Orthotic and Prosthetic
Education and Research Foundation, Inc. (OPERF)**

OPERF/ABC Resident Travel Award Program Overview

**TABLE OF
CONTENTS**

Award Programs..... 3
 ABC Resident Travel Awards..... 3
Requirements/Eligibility..... 3
How to Apply..... 3-4
Award specifics..... 4
Review Process..... 4
Notification of Applicants..... 4
Program Funding Cycle 5
Contact Information..... 5

Award Programs

The Orthotic and Prosthetic Education and Research Foundation (OPERF) provides funding to support clinically-relevant research in orthotics and prosthetics (O&P) through a three-tier system that includes Resident Travel Awards, Fellowships and Small Grants. ABC Resident Travel Awards are designated for O&P residents, Fellowships are designated for students, and the Small Grant funding is designated for investigators who have attained a doctoral degree or have a history of prior research experience. This announcement provides details for the **OPERF/ABC Resident Travel Award Program**.

OPERF/ABC Resident Travel Awards

The Orthotic and Prosthetic Education and Research Foundation (OPERF)/American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedorthics (ABC) Resident Travel Award Program supports prosthetics and orthotics residents travel to the American Academy of Orthotists and Prosthetists (the Academy) Annual Meeting and Scientific Symposium so that they may present their National Commission on Orthotic and Prosthetic Education (NCOPE) Directed Study Report or project. Travel Awards include a \$2,500 cash prize. One award may be given annually. Selection of the OPERF/ABC Travel Award recipients will be based upon the merit of the resident's project, as determined by the OPERF Research Committee and OPERF Board of Directors. OPERF has arranged for award recipients to present their Directed Study projects at the Academy Annual Meeting and Scientific Symposium. Award recipients will be responsible for their own registration and other meeting expenses.

Requirements/Eligibility

- The resident must be currently involved in or have completed an NCOPE accredited residency within the last three years. You do **NOT** have to be a resident at the time of your presentation.
- The project must be relevant to the orthotics and prosthetics profession.
- Individuals are only eligible to receive this award once.

How to Apply

The submission must include the following components:

- Complete your abstract (1-page maximum)
 - o The abstract should be developed and formatted using the template provided by the Academy in its Annual Meeting Call for Presentations
 - o The abstract must be submitted to the Academy by the date established for the Call for Presentations. A copy of the abstract must also be emailed to submissions@operf.org.

- Email a copy of the abstract to OPERF at submissions@operf.org. The email should indicate the following:
 - That the abstract describes a resident's research project that is ongoing or that was completed in the last three years.
 - That if accepted, the applicant agrees to present the research at the Academy Annual Meeting.
 - That the applicant would like to be considered for the OPERF ABC Resident Travel Award.

Award specifics

- Award funds will be paid directly to the award recipient. Any financial or tax liabilities associated with accepting the award are the responsibility of the recipient.
- Award funds are to be used for registration, travel, lodging, and/or food (as needed) by the recipient.
- Award recipients are required to acknowledge OPERF/ABC funding in presentation of the Directed Study by including the following statement: "This presentation was supported through funds from the Orthotic and Prosthetic Education and Research Foundation, Inc. (OPERF) under the OPERF/ABC Resident Travel Award.

Review Process

OPERF/ABC Resident Travel Award submissions will be reviewed by a Review Panel, comprised of OPERF Research Committee members and ad-hoc members, as needed. Submitted proposals will be assigned to two or more Review Panel members for review. Proposals will be evaluated and scored on scientific merit and relevance to the orthotics and prosthetics profession. The Review Panel may request that applicants respond to reviewer comments regarding any part of the submission prior to rendering a final funding decision. The Review Panel and OPERF members are required to maintain confidentiality regarding all aspects of the review process, the proposed projects, and the identity of award applicants. OPERF will strive to review all submissions fairly and without bias. Members of the Review Panel will recuse themselves from reviewing applications for which there is a real or perceived conflict of interest.

Notification of Applicants

All applicants will receive e-mail confirmation of receipt of their application and will be notified in writing of the status of their application approximately two months after the Academy abstract deadline. For successful applicants, notification will include information about how and when funds will be made available.

Program Funding Cycle

The following are key dates and deadlines for the **OPERF ABC Resident Travel Award Program**. Applicants are responsible for ensuring all materials are received by OPERF by the due dates.

- Applications due June 30th
- Anticipated Award notification November 15th

*Award notification date is based on anticipated number of submitted applications. A greater number of submissions than expected may delay notification. Applicants will be notified in writing if delays occur.

Contact Information

Requests for additional information may be sent to:

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