Section on Transport Medicine
Research Seed Grant Program

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Section on Transport Medicine (SOTM) Research Seed Grant Program (formerly known as the Trainee Research Grant) was established in 2020 to support research in neonatal and/or pediatric transport medicine initiated by a resident or fellow.

The Section offers two (2) grants annually as part of the Seed Grant Program – the finalist who presents the winning proposal receives $2,000 and the runner-up receives $1,000. The application process opens March 1 and closes July 1.

Details on the SOTM Research Seed Grant Program are as follows:

Award Guidelines
• Any resident or fellow who initiates a neonatal and/or pediatric transport medicine research project is invited to submit a proposal for consideration. Quality improvement projects and educational projects are also eligible.
• The trainees with the two (2) highest-scored projects are required to present their research proposals during the Section’s annual Scientific Program as part of the AAP National Conference & Exhibition. Transport leaders are invited to provide project feedback during the presentations.
• The finalists chosen to present their research proposals can request up to $500 to cover travel-related expenses.
• The winner is announced at the conclusion of the SOTM Scientific Program, with the other finalist named as the runner-up.
• The two annual grants are reserved for new projects -- and not to sustain current initiatives. Project funding is not renewable.
• Funding must be used only on the approved projects, and neither grant may be used as salary support.

Project Requirements
• The grants are provided a few weeks after the National Conference & Exhibition when the winner and runner-up are announced.
• The winner AND the runner-up are required to submit written reports and final budgets noting all expenses incurred within two (2) years of receiving the funding – by no later than the day of the Section Program of that year.
• If all funding is not used by the date above, the winner AND the runner-up are required to return the remaining funds.
• The winner is also required to present his/her findings two (2) years after receiving the grant at the Section Program during the National Conference & Exhibition.
• The winner can request a maximum of $500 to cover travel-related expenses in support of his/her final presentation.
Eligibility
- Must be a physician enrolled in an ACGME accredited residency or fellowship-training program through November 1 of the application year.
- Must be a member of the Section on Transport Medicine. To apply for membership visit: https://services.aap.org/en/community/aap-sections/transport-medicine.

Evaluation Criteria

Originality (20%)
- Is the project creative?
- Does the project address a new area/question or hot topic in transport medicine?

Significance (20%)
- Does the project seek to answer an important question in transport medicine?
- Will the results be of importance to the transport medicine community?
- Will the project advance the field of transport medicine?

Approach (20%)
- Are the aims of the project clearly stated?
- Are the design and analyses appropriate for the project?
- Are there unforeseen barriers to timely completion of the project?

Feasibility (20%)
- Is the proposed project realistic?
- Can the project be completed within the proposed timeframe?

Environment (20%)
- Are adequate resources available at the investigator's institution to complete the project?
- Is mentorship/oversight adequate to complete the project?

Review Process
- Applications will be reviewed by a panel of transport medicine researchers.
- All applicants will receive written feedback.
- The grant recipients must present results for final assessment in the timeframe outlined above.

Application

Deadlines
- Grant application process: March 1 – July 1 (by 11:59 pm Central) of the eligibility year.
- Decisions will be made by August 15. Invites to the top two (2) finalists will be forwarded by August 31.
- Funding will be provided to the winners by no later than December 31.

Mandatory
1. Application
2. Current CV
3. Documentation of Human Subjects approval not necessary for submission.
4. A letter from the mentor in support of the project.