

Scholarship Guidelines

Scholarship Program 2021

The IUSTI and ISSTDR sponsored STI & HIV World Congress wishes to support young investigators and other STI professionals, particularly those from low- and middle-income countries, to participate in the forthcoming STI & HIV World Congress 2021.

Our field has a long history in addressing the many aspects of sexually transmitted infections with international cooperation, even more vital in this era of Sars-CoV-2. Our Congress strives for global inclusivity, and particularly to support young clinicians and investigators as they enter what we hope will be a lifetime journey. As a result, our Congresses feature scholarship programs, offering financial support for eligible scholars to attend the meetings and to join program components specifically designed for them.

The 2021 STI & HIV Congress will continue this tradition. Given the unique circumstance of the 2021 Congress being fully virtual, scholarship funding will be devoted to pay for Congress registration fees and access to quality online services. While it is impossible to mimic the experience of a *'face to face'* in-person attendance, the lower costs of online participation will allow us to offer more scholarships to more people and more countries.

Scholarship Benefits

- Free registration.
- Full access to all Congress sessions and resources.
- A nominal stipend (\$150/€130) to allow access to quality online services.
- Guaranteed acceptance of submitted abstract.
- Preferential selection for program presentation.
- Preferential admission to sessions with restricted attendance.

Application Process

Awards will be made in the following scholarship categories:

- A. Investigators and other STI professionals who have achieved their terminal degree within the past 5 years. Preference will be given to applicants from lower- and middle-income countries.
- B. Other investigators and STI professionals from lower- and middle-income countries
- C. Members of and advocates for communities disproportionately affected by STI. Preference will be given to applicants from lower- and middle-income countries.

The application process will be fully online and comprised of the following components:

- Abstract submission form (basic personal information and contact and workplace information) – this will be the same as the general abstract submission form.
- Selection of scholarship category A, B, or C.
- A 150-word bio that includes basic background information on education and work experience and provides the rationale for the scholarship category applied for.
- A brief statement of your future career aspirations
- A brief, one-page letter of support from a mentor, supervisor or senior colleague.
- A 300 word abstract on a scientific or programmatic project the applicant wishes to present on. The abstract should follow the general outlines given in the Congress's Call for Abstract.

Selection Process

All applications will be reviewed by members of the Scholarship Committee who will judge the merits of the application, including meeting the criteria of the scholarship category applied for and the quality of the abstract.

Those selected for a scholarship award will receive the benefits outlined above. Abstracts of those not selected will be automatically forwarded to the general abstract pool and will be judged separately.

Deadlines

All scholarship applications should be submitted by January 25, 2021. Decisions on acceptance will be emailed to applicants by March 8, 2021.