AAA Student/Postdoctoral & Young Faculty Travel Awards

The Student/Postdoctoral Travel Award, Young Faculty Travel Award and the Poster and Platform Presentation Awards highlight AAA’s commitment to supporting biomedical researchers early in their training and encourage the participation of students and young anatomist at the Annual Meeting. Eligible candidates must be AAA members and be the first author and presenter at EB, giving either a poster or a platform presentation.

The Committee for Early Career Anatomists (CECA) will blindly review the abstracts, without knowing the names of the authors, sponsors, or institutions. CECA will score each abstract based on scientific merit and specifically, the following:

- **Introduction (5 pts)** – Was the question/hypothesis/objective stated clearly? The introduction should provide context to your reader, an introduction to your topic and its importance, and your study objective, question, or hypothesis, whichever is appropriate.

- **Method (5 pts)** – Was the approach/method for answering the question stated clearly and is it appropriate to the study? The methods section should include brief, clear statements of the appropriate methods used to conduct the study. Keep this as straightforward as you can. If the methods were unusual or novel describe in slightly more detail.

- **Results (10 pts)** – Were the results clearly stated and placed in their appropriate context? A summary of the most important results must be included. Key findings should be clear, concise, and explicit. Results should include supporting data. Lack of results with supporting data will lead to your abstract score being lowered for this section. Include appropriate statistics to support claims of significance.

- **Conclusion (5 pts)** – Did the conclusion clearly communicate the take-home message from the study and did it relate to the study objective(s)?

- **Significance and implications (10 pts)** – Did the author effectively communicate the significance of the results? This section should also include the importance/significance of the findings, and directions for future work and next steps. This is your opportunity to describe the significance of your findings to science and/or the translation of your findings to progress in your field.

**Early Career Travel Award** – The top 5 highest rated abstracts in the Early Career category will be awarded an Early Career Travel Award. Must be a junior faculty member (within 10 years of highest degree) who is first author and presenter of a poster or a platform presentation at EB.

**Student/Postdoc Travel Award** – This travel grant is awarded to all students/postdocs who are eligible. No competition is required. The top travel award applicants are invited to compete for a platform or poster award within their academic level (see below).

*Platform Presentation Awards* - The top 4 highest rated abstracts within each award category will be selected as finalists for a platform award. The finalists are judged at the annual meeting.
*Poster Presentation Awards* – The next 12 highest rated abstracts within each award category will be selected as finalists for a poster award. These finalists are judged during their assigned poster session.

*Regardless of your presentation preference (Oral, Poster, or Indifferent), you may be selected to compete as a finalist in a different category. Finalists may also need to present again in their regular EB programmed session.*

Abstracts prepared for this competition should be submitted electronically to [www.experimentalbiology.org](http://www.experimentalbiology.org) through the regular abstract submission process by November 14.

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**Frequently Asked Questions:**

*Do I need to be a member of AAA in order to qualify for an AAA Travel Award?*
  Yes, one of the qualifications is that you are a member of AAA. You will need to indicate that you are a member of “Anatomy” and select AAA as your sponsoring society when you submit your abstract online. $250 travel grants will be awarded to new AAA Student Members who have joined prior to the abstract/award deadline; $350 travel grants will be awarded to renewing AAA Student Members who have renewed prior to the abstract/award deadline; and there is a $500 competitive award for junior faculty who have been an AAA member for at least a year. Also compete for an additional platform or poster presentation award. In all cases, dues must already be paid for the coming year. The $350 Travel Award is for members with more than 1 consecutive year of membership (without a lapse in membership).

*Do I need to be listed as a first author?*
  Yes, you must be listed as first author in order to be eligible for an AAA Travel Award.

*Do I need to submit an abstract with an AAA topic category?*
  Yes, the topic category must be an AAA abstract topic category (7000-7066 AAA) to receive a travel award and compete in one of the award competitions.

*Do I need to select AAA as my sponsoring society?*
  Yes, AAA must be selected as your sponsoring society in order to apply for an AAA Travel Award and when registering, you must select that you are a member of AAA.

*What should I choose for my “presentation preference”?*  
  Choose Oral, Poster, or Indifferent. Regardless of your presentation preference (Oral, Poster, or Indifferent), you may be selected to compete as a finalist in a different category.

*Will my advisor be contacted?*
  Yes, your advisor will be notified that you submitted an abstract and applied for an award. In addition, your advisor will be included on any feedback that is sent to the competition finalists.

*When will I be notified about the award?*
  Recipients and award finalists are notified about 8 weeks after the abstract deadline.
When will the travel awards be distributed?
The travel award checks will be distributed at the meeting in the Anatomy Lounge at the Convention Center after 4pm on the day of your presentation.

Do I need to attend the meeting in order to receive the travel award?
Yes, you will need to attend the Annual Meeting in order to receive the travel award. You cannot transfer it to another student or member.

Instructions on the next page

How do I apply for the Travel Award?

1. Apply for a Student/Postdoc or Young Faculty Travel Award when you submit an abstract at www.experimentalbiology.org. As long as you meet the following requirements then you will be eligible to apply for a travel award:
   - First/presenting author must be an AAA member
   - Must list AAA as your sponsoring society
   - Must have selected an AAA topic category

   Step 1 - select that you are a member of American Association for Anatomy

2. When you get to Step 4 – Abstract Details, be sure to select “Anatomy - American Association for Anatomy (AAA) – Participating Society” as your sponsoring society. And at the bottom of that same page, select an Anatomy topic category. New change - Only AAA regular, associate or emeritus members can “sponsor” their own abstract. Student and Postdoc members will need their advisor or another member to sponsor their abstract.
3. When you get to the Award page (Step 5), fill in the following information (see image below):

- Select your Academic Level (Early Career, Postdoc, Graduate, or Undergraduate) or select “I don’t want to apply for an Anatomy Award” if you chose to not apply. Early Career Travel Award is only for early career and junior faculty.
- Click yes on applying for a Student/Postdoctoral Travel Award.
- Enter your advisors information. Early Career and Postdocs are not required to enter this information.
- If you submitted to one of the Education & Teaching topic categories then check this box so your abstract will be judged against other Education & Teaching abstracts.