

GSG Professional Development and Travel Award – Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I missed the deadline for the award, but just got accepted to a conference. Is there any way to apply for the award after the deadline?

A: No. Applications are open **2 times** in the Academic year Fall/Spring, Spring/Summer. Once an application period has closed, it cannot be reopened. There are **NO EXCEPTIONS** for late submissions. Please visit the GSG website for up-to-date Application Deadlines and Award Periods. Subscribe to our Newsletter and Social Media channels for reminders and updates.

Q: Am I able to apply for a conference that is happening the next academic year?

A: No. You must be requesting funds for the current academic year. This allows a fair chance for those with faster approaching endeavors to receive funds.

Q: I plan to attend a conference next semester, but my abstract has not been accepted yet. Can I still apply for the award?

A: Yes, we encourage applicants to apply during the application period regardless of abstract acceptance.

Q: I am not planning to present at the conference. Will my application still be considered even though I am not presenting?

A: Yes! This is a lottery system award. If eligibility requirements are met, everyone will have an equal chance of receiving the award regardless of purpose.

Q: I was awarded an Award for an in-person conference opportunity; however, I have just been informed that the conference has been moved to a virtual format. Can I still use the award to virtually attend the conference?

A: Yes. Please inform the Award Officer about the change.

Q: Can I use the award to pay for my **tuition?**

A: No. Per the guidelines, this Award cannot be used for UAB Credit generating activities.

Q: Can I use this award to upgrade my **laptop or pay for hardware** maintenance or service fees?

A: No. This award cannot be used for personal hardware purchases.

Q: I requested books during my application process but want to use the rest of the money for software as well. Is that possible?

A: No. If the award was granted only for Books, it cannot be used for other purposes. Please be mindful when filling out your application and clearly indicate the purpose of the award.

Q: Of the amount that was dispersed to me, how much can go towards my hotel or car rental?

A: That is entirely up to you. The amount provided to you can be used in any way for your approved travel or professional development expenses.

Q: I want to go to professional school after completing my graduate degree, and I must take an **admissions exam**. Can I use this award to pay for costs associated with this exam?

A: No. The GSG award must directly benefit your current graduate degree and research studies and cannot be used for other purposes.