



Orthopaedic educational grants to fellowship and residency programs—with independence and transparency.

omegamedicalgrants.org

Grant requestor FAQs

The application process

We have four fellows in our trauma program. Can we apply for four grants?

Programs may only apply for one grant in each fellowship or residency category.

Can I send in my application by mail?

The OMeGA grants management system is electronic to be time- and resource-efficient, and ensure a fair and consistent review of all application requests.

Is it difficult to apply for a grant electronically?

The step-by-step process is user-friendly—and getting more so with each cycle. While applying on-line may be new to your program, it is standard in many application environments, and reduces our carbon footprint. In fact, we estimate we saved more than 18 trees and 282 gallons of oil by not printing multiple copies in the review process.

When can I apply?

OMeGA will begin accepting applications on Monday, January 4, 2010 and will close on Wednesday, March 24, 2010 at 5pm CST. We will notify institutions of grant awards by May 14.

Is there a charge to apply for a grant?

There is a \$25 processing fee per application.

Can we see the Grant Recipient Contract before we apply?

The Letter of Agreement, which grant recipient organizations are required to sign, is posted on the website. You must agree to these terms as part of the registration process.

Funding criteria

We applied last year and did not receive a grant. What can we do to improve our chances this year?

All applications have an equal chance of receiving a grant, regardless of last year's outcome. We recommend clearly answering the questions asked with complete and grammatical sentences. Promote the uniqueness of your program succinctly. We are planning to publish a "help guide" on the OMeGA website—check back in December for additional suggestions.

Will OMeGA fellowship grants cover our overhead costs?

OMeGA grants may be used for salary, benefits and educational expenses needed to support a fellow. Capital improvement or capital equipment purchases, malpractice insurance coverage, endowment funding, meals, travel, housing and indirect costs from your institution are not covered by an OMeGA grant.

Must my program be accredited to apply for fellowship funding?

Fellowship programs do not need to be accredited. We understand that programs may need funding in order to get through the accreditation process.

How will funding decisions be made?

Review committees review and evaluate all applications within their respective sub-specialties and make recommendations to the OMeGA board for approval.

My program is located in Canada. Is OMeGA really open to non-U.S. applications?

All programs in the Americas get fair and equal consideration, whether they are academic institutions or community hospitals, MD or DO programs.

Independence and transparency

Are OMeGA's guidelines consistent with AAMC guidelines?

AAMC and OMeGA both prescribe an arms-length relationship between industry and academic institutions to create a level field for all institutions and candidates. OMeGA is not privy to specific candidate information until after the grant has been awarded and only publishes aggregate information.

One of the OMeGA review committee members works for my institution. Can we still apply for a grant?

Board and review committee members recuse themselves from considering grant applications made by institutions with which they have been associated in the last two years.

I appreciate seeing which programs were awarded grants in each category. Why don't you publish the amount awarded to each program?

OMeGA is working to secure additional funding for all sub-specialty categories. "Need" is part of our message to potential donors, which we measure by the number/amount of grants awarded divided by the number/amount of grants applied for. Since contributions could increase at any time, programs may be discouraged by the amounts that may be available at a given time and choose not to apply; this unfairly describes the true need and works against OMeGA's mission to fund all orthopaedic training areas.

Go to
omegamedicalgrants.org
for more information.

Zimmer is the Founding Supporter of OMeGA.