

SAOT/COTF Research Grant

PURPOSE

To promote the growth of the occupational therapy profession in Alberta through funding support of original research that contributes to evidence-based clinical practice.

DESCRIPTION

The SAOT/COTF Research Grant is an annual grant of up to \$3,000. The grant period shall be March 1st to February 28th. Successful research projects will be directly applicable to occupational therapy science and/or occupational therapy practice, and will be original and pertinent within the Alberta context.

Examples:

- clinical intervention studies
- case studies
- a systematic literature review or scoping review
- survey relevant to a clinical area or other aspects of occupational therapy practice
- analysis of existing clinical data
- feasibility study

ELIGIBILITY

The applicant must be:

- a member of SAOT for at least 6 months prior to application
- a ACOT registrant in good standing
- a permanent resident of Alberta

Recipients of the SAOT/COTF Research Grant are eligible to re-apply in subsequent years, however, priority will be given to applicants who have not received the grant within the past three years.

AWARD AND FUNDING STRUCTURE

Applicants may apply for funding up to the total amount of \$3000. The SAOT Awards Selection Committee and SAOT Board of Directors reserves the right to award less than the total requested amount.

Grant recipients will also receive:

- A letter of recognition from the SAOT president or delegate
- Acknowledgement on the SAOT website and e-newsletters
- Recognition at the annual SAOT AGM

GENERAL POLICIES

1. The SAOT/COTF Research Grant has limited funds available for grants and cannot fund every worthy application it receives.
2. Funding awarded to an individual is considered taxable income, and a taxable income statement will be issued. It is recommended the applicant identify an institution willing to administer funds (see Application).

3. Overhead costs (i.e. rent, insurance, utilities, etc.) are not eligible to be covered by SAOT/COTF Research Grant funding.
4. The applicant and principal investigator may not draw a salary from the grant.
5. All investigators must appear on the application.
6. Funds unexpended or unallocated at the end of the project must be returned to COTF.
7. Funds not spent within one year following the receipt of the grant may be carried into the following year upon written permission from SAOT.

GUIDELINES FOR FUNDING RESEARCH

1. Applicants must state the relevance of the research to the practice of occupational therapy in Alberta.
2. Research must be applicable to the Alberta setting.
3. Applications will be rated based on a set of criteria (see below). The SAOT Board of Directors and the SAOT Awards Committee Review Committee will select the successful candidate based on merit.
4. SAOT will provide feedback on the application upon request of the applicant.

APPLICATION DETAILS

An application for an SAOT/COTF Research Grant shall include:

1. A completed application form which includes the following:
 - Name, academic credentials, contact information, and curriculum vitae of the principal and co-investigators.
 - purpose/objectives of the research
 - relevance to OT practice and profession's evidence base
 - methods
 - budget
 - timeframe for the proposed study
 - plan for dissemination of information
 - identification of any overlap with other known projects or grant applications
 - pertinent references and/or appendices
2. A 250-word abstract written in plain language summarising the purpose and methodology of the proposed research. Abstract must be suitable for public dissemination.
3. Research Ethics Board (REB) approval. Evidence of approval need not accompany the application, but it must be submitted before funding can be released.

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Acceptance of the grant by the applicant will be considered as a contract binding them to complete the research/project, as described, in the allotted time.
2. SAOT must be informed in writing of any proposed changes to the procedure and/or the budget outlined in the approved application before such changes are undertaken.
3. At project completion, the applicant will submit a 250-word report of the impact or benefit of the research to occupational therapy practice in Alberta, including how the grant has supported the research.
4. To support knowledge translation, the successful applicant will commit to participate in one of the following activities further to project completion (choice per the applicant):

- Preparation of a 1-page consumer friendly summary of research findings and implications of findings for occupational therapy practice to be posted to the SAOT website.
 - Participation in an SAOT knowledge translation activity such as a webinar, workshop, or poster to support members' awareness and integration of new knowledge as appropriate.
5. Any publications, reports or presentations based on the research project must acknowledge the financial support of SAOT/COTF Research Grant.

TIMELINES & DEADLINES

1. The deadline for application submission is February 28 of each year. Incomplete applications will be returned.
2. The review process will be completed within 60 days of application deadline and applicants will be notified.
3. The successful applicant will be announced at the SAOT Annual General Meeting.
4. The SAOT Monthly e Bulletin and website will include a short profile of the researcher and the project, in the year the grant is awarded.