

# APPLICATION GUIDELINES FOR OPEN ACCESS FUNDING

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## **1. ABOUT THE ACADEMIC FORUM FOR THE STUDY OF GAMBLING (AFSG)**

The AFSG is a group of academic researchers in the UK dedicated to advancing the research needed to effectively prevent, reduce, and address gambling harm. The purpose of the AFSG is to act as a coordinated body to assert the importance of rigorous, independent research to prevent, reduce, and address gambling harm in the UK.

To accomplish its aims, the AFSG engages in a number of activities including, but not limited to:

- Responding to or initiating calls for evidence
- Providing seed grants for promising research
- Supporting independent gambling conferences
- Public engagement
- Providing support for early-career researchers

AFSG activities and grants are funded from regulatory settlements for socially responsible purposes. More information about AFSG funding can be found [here](#).

Funds are administered by Greo Evidence Insights (Greo).

On behalf of the AFSG, Greo is accepting applications for Open Access Funding.

## **2. ABOUT GREO EVIDENCE INSIGHTS**

The AFSG receives administrative and logistical support from Greo Evidence Insights. Greo Evidence Insights (Greo) is an independent, not-for-profit, research and knowledge translation and exchange organization with over two decades of international experience generating, synthesizing, and mobilizing research into action across the health and wellbeing sectors, with a particular expertise in gambling. One way Greo does this is by helping organisations to conceptualise their research needs and managing the end-to-end engagement—from solicitation to the review and awarding of funds to project oversight. This results in a rigorous and transparent process that minimises bias, manages confidentiality, strengthens the integrity of the findings, and respects the intellectual freedom of researchers.

More information about Greo Evidence Insights may be found [here](#).

## 3. ABOUT OPEN ACCESS FUNDING

### 3.1 PURPOSE

Timely access to quality evidence is a key component of knowledge translation. We believe that providing free and open access to gambling research published in scholarly journal articles will remove barriers to access and allow a larger audience to benefit from existing evidence. To encourage the development of new evidence, we offer support to those planning on publishing open access research.

### 3.2 ELIGIBILITY

To access these funds, authors or research groups must be affiliated with a UK institution. Individuals may be awarded this funding only once per calendar year (based on the manuscript acceptance date). Priority for this funding will be given to:

- Meta-analyses, systematic reviews of literature, and scoping reviews
- Secondary data analyses using [datasets listed in the Greo's Evidence Centre](#)
- Manuscripts that directly address gambling harm reduction
- Manuscripts that include policy implications for harm prevention, reduction, and/or mitigation

#### 3.2.1 Individuals and organisations

Applicants must be members of the AFSG. AFSG membership is free-of-charge and open to anyone affiliated or working with a UK university who is interested in conducting or co-creating independent research on gambling-related harm. See the [AFSG Membership webpage](#) for further details.

#### 3.2.2 Conflicts of Interest<sup>1</sup>

Each author on the scholarly journal article is required to complete and sign a Conflicts of Interest (COI) declaration form (see Section 5: Conflicts of Interest Declaration Form). Applications that include authors with *Significant COIs* are **ineligible to receive funding**.

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<sup>1</sup> Elements of this section are drawn from the World Health Organization's "Declaration of Interests for WHO Experts"

For the purposes of this funding opportunity, the following represent *Significant COIs*:

- If you have been an employee, contractor, partner, or principal working with the gambling industry<sup>2</sup> in the last 5 years
- If you have investments<sup>3</sup> in (valued at more than £5,000 overall) or commercial business interests associated with the gambling industry. This includes, but is not limited to stocks, bonds, commercial business interests such as partnerships, board memberships, etc.
- If you have provided expert opinion as part of a regulatory, legislative, or judicial process on behalf of the gambling industry in the last 5 years
- If you or your research unit or organisation has received compensation, financial support, or research funding (not including regulatory settlement funds) or other sorts of gifts or compensation directly from the gambling industry to consult, advise, conduct research, or provide any other service in the last 5 years

## 4. HOW TO APPLY

### 4.1 COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FORM

To apply for Open Access Funding, applicants must:

- Complete the [Open Access Funding Form](#)
- Upload all required supporting documents using the form, including signed copies of the COI declaration from (Section 5) for each coauthor.

### 4.2 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Questions and comments can be submitted to: [afsg-funding@greo.ca](mailto:afsg-funding@greo.ca)

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<sup>2</sup> For the purposes of this conflicts of interest declaration, the gambling industry is defined as for profit, private companies or corporations that profit directly from gambling. It does not include state owned-monopolies, regulators, or governmental bodies that receive revenue from the proceeds of gambling.

<sup>3</sup> This excludes mutual funds, pension funds, or similar investments that are broadly diversified and on which you exercise no control.

## 5. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARATION FORM

	Y	N
Significant Conflicts of Interest		
In the last 5 years, have you been an employee of the gambling industry. <sup>4</sup>		
Do you have investments <sup>5</sup> in (valued at more than £5,000 overall) or commercial business interests associated with the gambling industry. This includes, but is not limited to stocks, bonds, commercial business interests such as partnerships, board memberships, etc.		
In the last 5 years you have provided expert opinion as part of a regulatory, legislative, or judicial process on behalf of the gambling industry. <sup>8</sup>		
In the last 5 years have you or your research unit or organisation received research support or other sorts of gifts or compensation from the gambling industry <sup>8</sup> to consult, advise, conduct research, or provide any other service.		

Name (Print):

Signature:

Date:

<sup>4</sup> For the purposes of this conflicts of interest declaration, the gambling industry is defined as for profit, private companies or corporations that profit directly from gambling. It does not include state owned-monopolies, regulators, or governmental bodies that receive revenue from the proceeds of gambling.

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