

APPLICATION GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT TRAVEL / CONFERENCE GRANTS

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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 **Student Travel / Conference Grants**.

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. APPLICATION GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT TRAVEL / CONFERENCE GRANTS

3.1 PURPOSE

Support is available for Master's and PhD students, and to those who hold postdoctoral positions for registration and/or travel expenses to participate in conferences, workshops, training, courses, and other research-related activities.

3.2 ELIGIBILITY

3.2.1 Individuals and organisations

Applicants must be registered as a MSc\MA or PhD student or hold a postdoctoral research position with a UK university. Applicants must also 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.

Funding must be administered by a UK university.

3.2.2 Conflicts of Interest¹

Applicants are required to complete and sign a Conflicts of Interest (COI) declaration form (see Section 7: Conflicts of Interest Declaration Form). Applicants who have *Significant COIs* are **ineligible to receive funding**.

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 industry² in the last 5 years
- If you have investments³ 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

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

² 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.

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

- 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

3.3 CONDITIONS

The following research-related activities (hereafter referred to as “events”) are eligible for support:

- Conferences
- Institutes or seminars
- Workshops
- Courses or training sessions
- Lectures or speaking tours
- Networking/collaborative visits

The AFSG committee will carefully consider the appropriateness of the event. For example, events hosted by universities, learned societies, healthcare organisations, or charitable organisations are considered appropriate, while other events would need to be considered by the research committee based on the rationale for attendance described by the applicant.

Funding applications must be submitted in advance of the event.

3.4 VALUE AND DURATION

Six awards of £500 each are available until 31 December 2024. Awards are limited to one per individual student or postdoctoral researcher annually.

3.5 DELIVERABLES

Award recipients are requested to provide a one-page summary of the events attended, including a brief description of the overall educational experience, to afsg-funding@greo.ca two weeks after the event end date.

4. HOW TO APPLY

4.1 COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FORM

The application should be completed [online](#). Applicants should provide:

- A brief description of the event
- A brief description of the applicant's involvement in the event
- A brief description of how the applicant's participation will help advance knowledge of gambling-related harms
- A brief explanation of how the proposed travel will be important to the applicant's career development
- For industry-sponsored events, applicants must provide a strong rationale explaining how attending the event will aid in their academic research or academic career
- A travel budget covering registration, transportation, food, and accommodation should be included in the application
- A copy of the completed and signed COI declaration form (see Section 7)

4.2 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Questions and comments can be submitted to: afsg-funding@greo.ca

5. REVIEW PROCESS

Applications will be assessed by the AFSG Research Committee on the following criteria:

- Appropriateness, importance, and relevance of the event to the applicant's career development and the gambling research field
- Opportunity for applicant to build professional contacts, linkages, and networks
- Role or participation level of the applicants (presenting/poster/delegate)
- Reasonableness/appropriateness of the budget

Every effort will be made to notify the applicant of the funding decision with 14 days of application.

6. TIMELINE

Call for applications was announced on 29 January 2024.

Applications will be reviewed in the order received and distributed until all six have been awarded.

7. 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. ⁴		
Do you have investments ⁵ 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. ⁸		
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 ⁸ to consult, advise, conduct research, or provide any other service.		

Name (Print):

Signature:

Date:

⁴ 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.

⁵ This excludes mutual funds, pension funds, or similar investments that are broadly diversified and on which you exercise no control.