

OVERVIEW

The WSEF Grant Program is intended to encourage members of the International Anaplastology Association to pursue creative and innovative research or educational projects within the field of facial and somatic prosthetics that will benefit the field as a whole.

The WSEF Committee seeks to identify people of exceptional talent, focus, logic, and imagination who have ideas for research or educational projects that demonstrate one or more of the following ideas:

- Innovative developments in materials and techniques in anaplastology
- The potential to make a genuine difference in the lives of anaplastology patients
- New approaches to teaching and training students in the field of anaplastology
- Transdisciplinary, interdisciplinary, or multidisciplinary approaches to working with related professionals in healthcare, education, technology, and other fields

The number of grants awarded and their monetary amounts will vary each year based on the quality of applications and the size of the fund. Requests for larger sums of money may be honored for truly outstanding proposals if the applicant demonstrates a clear benefit to the field and need for the funds. However, the WSEF committee reserves the right to award no grant if the scientific committee is not satisfied with the quality of the proposals.

TIMELINE

The WSEF Committee:

- Invites all IAA members to submit their applications by 1 December
- Distributes the applications to the WSEF Scientific Committee for ranking via a judging rubric provided by the WSEF
- Forwards the WSEF Scientific Committee's decision to the Vesalius Trust and notifies the award recipient by 1 March

ELIGIBILITY

WSEF Grant applicants are required to:

- Be a member of the IAA in good standing and maintain that membership throughout the duration of their project
- Work in or be a student of a field that supports the rehabilitation of patients requiring anaplastology services
- Finish their project within 24 months (unless project clearly states why more time is necessary)
- Publish the results of their project in the IAA Journal – the first issue published following completion of the project
- Present the results of their project at an annual meeting of the IAA within 3 years after project completion
- If the applicant is a student member, they must have a project advisor who is a non-student member of the IAA and has been for at least 3 years.

*The applicant may not use this award to promote a commercial product in which they have a financial or controlling interest.

*The WSEF Grant program is an IAA member benefit. It awards grants to individuals, not institutions. The applicant must be an IAA member and is responsible for overseeing and reporting on the project, regardless of whether other researchers or institutions are involved or benefit financially.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING PROPOSALS

The following criteria are used to judge applications:

- The applicant must meet all eligibility requirements
- The submission form must be properly filled out and submitted by the deadline
- The proposal should embody ideas and innovations that benefit the field of anaplastology
- The scientific committee that judges applications is instructed to consider diversity in projects from year to year

PROJECT EXAMPLES

Acceptable projects are not limited to the examples given below. These examples are meant to give the applicant an idea of how he or she might work with other researchers or institutions to benefit the field as a whole.

- **Lectures and Workshops**
The applicant could organize a workshop, lecture, or a series of lectures on topics related to anaplastology. WSEF Grant money could go toward an honorarium inviting an expert to speak at an IAA meeting or toward

funding a location and accommodations for a separate lecture or workshop series. In both cases, the applicant would be responsible for advertising the event and making it available (through digital lecture slides or video broadcast) to all IAA members. The applicant would also be responsible to publish a summary or related paper in the Anaplastology Journal.

- **Research Projects**

The applicant may request WSEF Grant funds to purchase or rent equipment or software required to perform a research project related to anaplastology. The scientific committee will judge this type of application based on the quality of the research study design. Anaplastology, as a healthcare field, strives toward evidence-based practice, which requires well-designed and executed treatment studies. These include randomized controlled trials, as well as observational studies like cohort and case-control studies. Applicants who wish to perform research projects with WSEF Grant money must follow strict, high-quality research designs and methods and must demonstrate a clear benefit to the field.

- **Travel**

The applicant may request WSEF Grant money to fund travel for him or herself or a group of researchers or students who would conduct research or attend a training exercise. Travel will be funded for research only if the research project is outstanding and meets all the requirements above. Travel to attend an educational or training opportunity will be funded only if the training or education received can be clearly translated into a format that can be shared with all IAA members and anaplastology professionals and would truly benefit the field. The applicant would be responsible to disseminate the information they learned via lectures and workshops and would be required to publish in the Anaplastology Journal and present the information at an IAA meeting.

- **Educational Program**

An applicant may be interested in establishing or improving an anaplastology training program. WSEF Grant money can be used to purchase equipment or develop coursework and teaching protocols for training programs that would be open to all anaplastology students. This type of request may require more time to complete, but the applicant would still be responsible to present and publish the project upon completion or sooner if possible.