Purpose of the Grant

The MICCAI Main Conference and Satellite Events Participation Grants aim to provide financial support for students and early-career scientists, including those from diverse and underserved backgrounds, to participate in MICCAI conferences. Diversity here is used as a short form for “Equality, Diversity and Inclusion”, encompassing a wider range of underrepresented characteristics in the scientific community including but not limited to lower-income countries and countries where few papers are received.

Grant Eligibility

MICCAI young scientists who meet the eligibility criteria listed below can apply for the MICCAI Participation Grant following the call for application.

- The MICCAI society definition of a young scientist is a candidate who is or was a student at a recognized university or degree granting institution at most two years prior to the MICCAI paper submission deadline.

- For student applicants, proof of student status needs to be provided at the time of conference registration. An applicant is considered to be a student if he/she is or was a student at a recognized university or degree granting institution at the time of the early bird conference registration deadline (August 1st). Proof of student status under the above definition will be requested and if challenged, the final decision of eligibility will be decided by the MICCAI Awards Coordinator. A student selected for a grant should submit a letter from their research supervisor to confirm student status. Alternatively, an email from the supervisor will be sufficient.

- The applicants are expected to have expressed interest in MICCAI research topics, such as:
  - Masters or Ph.D. research topic
  - University programme enrolled in
  - Previous publications in the field
  - Past attendance of MICCAI conferences
  - Accepted papers for upcoming MICCAI conference and satellite events
● The applicant attends the conference in-person.
● Recipients of the STAR awards are not eligible for MICCAI Participation Grants.
● Optional\(^1\) diversity information can be submitted by the applicant, where any of the following could be taken into consideration:
  - Residence in low-income, lower-middle-income, or upper-middle-income economies using the [World Bank classification](resolved via the student’s university affiliation)
  - Ethnicity
  - Gender identity
  - Disability
  - Other

The online form to collect the applicant’s information will not be prescriptive in the diversity terms used and instead will allow own descriptions provided by the applicant. Due to the potentially sensitive nature of this diversity information, it will only be collected directly from the applicant via the online form, not passed on to anyone outside of the selection committee, and only be used for the purpose of grant selection and data will be purged after the conference.

**Grant Coordination**

The MICCAI Society Secretariat will oversee the selection process which is to be conducted in a fair manner. An awards committee will be set up for this purpose, with representation from the MICCAI Student Board, the MICCAI Society Diversity Working Group, Women in MICCAI, and the MICCAI annual Conference Organisation, and will be chaired by the MICCAI Society Awards Coordinator. The final draft of the grant recipients should be sent to the MICCAI Society Secretariat before formal notification is sent to the students.

**Timing of the Process**

The selection and notification process should be completed in time for the grantee including but not limited to lower-income countries and countries where few papers are received to collect the supervisor’s confirmation and register by the deadline indicated below. If a grantee does not register by this deadline, the grant will be withdrawn and given to the next eligible candidate.

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**Announcement**

The grantees will be notified by email, and requested to submit confirmation of student or early-career status and complete their registration (see above). A summary slide about the MICCAI Main Conference and Satellite Events Participation Grants will be presented at the MICCAI Conference Award Ceremony. *(Due to the large number of grantees, and potentially sensitive information originally provided, individual names will not be listed.)*

**Financing**

The MICCAI Society will provide 25 MICCAI Participation Grants annually. This amount is not part of the conference budget. Each Participation Grant will cover free registration to the main conference and its satellite events, along with a 1-year MICCAI membership.

**Collection of the Grant**

Grantees of the MICCAI Participation Grant will be receiving waiver codes to cover conference and satellite event registrations and one-year society membership fee.

Grantees will be asked to submit proof of student or early-career status at the time of registration. If they fail to do so, or if a grantee declines the grant, or does not plan to attend the main conference and/or satellite events, respectively, their grant should go to the next applicant on the ranking lists. *(The grant is not automatically transferrable.)* Final decisions will be given at the latest one week prior to the early bird registration deadline.

**Queries**

Queries should be directed to the [MICCAI Society Awards Coordinator](mailto:).