



## **BRITISH SOCIETY FOR MICROBIAL TECHNOLOGY LABORATORY EDUCATION GRANTS**

### **Who are we?**

The BSMT is a not-for-profit organisation of microbiologists working mainly in the NHS and Public Health England as healthcare scientists and medical microbiologists. The society's aim is to promote an exchange of information on laboratory practices in clinical microbiology.

The society was founded in 1985 by a group of colleagues from a widespread geographical area who had a common interest in antimicrobial susceptibility testing and who were concerned about the plethora of methods, the lack of acceptable controls and the need for validation of procedures and recommendations on interpretation and performance. With an increasing array of new antibacterial drugs, as well as novel idiosyncratic pathogens being recognised, there was a need for a forum to discuss and to attempt to identify and address these concerns.

Since then, the BSMT has become broader in its interests, and its Annual Scientific Meeting and workshops have covered many different aspects of microbial technology and management. Please visit the website for further details on future and past scientific meetings.

<http://www.bsmt.org.uk>

### **About the Education Grants**

The BSMT is offering Laboratory Education Grants of up to £1000 to individuals, ideally to support the practical side of laboratory-orientated education. All applications will be considered by the BSMT committee who, if necessary, will call upon peer reviewers. A decision will normally be reached within six weeks of the application being received.

Grants will be awarded on the basis of the application's quality and its relevance to diagnostic microbiology. Applications must include a budget breakdown of costs (transportation, conference fees, honoraria, etc.). Grants will only be considered and approved once ethical approval has been granted (if required).

The committee may decide to fund each request completely, partially, or not at all depending on the funds available.

***Please note that incomplete forms may be returned to you as your grant application may be considered invalid.***

**Criteria required by the BSMT for grant applications:**

- Applicants must be working in an accredited laboratory
- Written authorisation is required from the laboratory manager (or equivalent)
- The project should have a project supervisor
- Applicants must be fully aware of ethical considerations, statistical validity and time-frame constraints
- Ethical approval must be obtained (if required) before submitting application for consideration
- Research and development should relate to diagnostic microbiology
- The expected time frame for the project is within one year
- Other funding for the project should be made known to the BSMT (this information will remain confidential within the BSMT)
- The facilities within which the research will be carried out should be available from the proposed start of the award
- A copy of the project report will be provided to the BSMT

The BSMT will require a periodic update (time scale to be agreed) of a candidate's progress with a written acknowledgement of its involvement within the project, when it is written up or published. Candidates are also invited to present their project on a poster presentation or in some cases to present orally at one of the BSMT scientific meetings if requested by the BSMT.

Please complete the information required below and post or email your completed application form to Sally Lowe, Department of Microbiology, Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Armthorpe Road, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, DN2 5LT or to [sallylowe@nhs.net](mailto:sallylowe@nhs.net) For further information call 01302 642835 or email.  
(use further sheets if needed).

**Applicant's details:**

Name ..... Date of birth .....

Institution .....

Address .....

.....

Tel No ..... Fax No ..... Email .....

Post held ..... Proposed project start date .....

Institution where the work will be performed .....

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Supervisor.....

Supervisor email.....

Supervisor telephone.....

Reason for application .....

.....

Project title .....

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How much do you predict the project will cost? .....

How much funding are you seeking from the BSMT .....

Who is providing other funding?.....

What would you spend the proposed grant on? .....

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**Project details (electronic format)**

Please give the details of your application under the following headings in a font size of not less than 12 points using no more than two sides of A4 paper under the following headings:

Objectives; Background; Experimental methods; References; Proposed project start date; Funding requested from BSMT; Proposed use of grant.

**Other Information and Declarations (please complete form below and sign):**

**Yes    No**

I am working in an accredited laboratory and written authorisation from laboratory manager (or equivalent) accompanies this application    

Authoriser's name and position .....

Supervisor's name and position .....

What is the project timescale? .....

The facilities in which the research will be carried out will be available for the proposed start of the award.    

Is ethical permission required?    

If yes, have you obtained it?    

\*\*(Grants that require ethics approval will NOT be considered without ethics approval being granted first)

I will ensure that any data will be statistically validated    

I will provide the BSMT with my project's progress at regular intervals (time frame to be agreed)    

I will insert a written acknowledgement of the BSMT's support within the project    

I will supply the BSMT with an electronic copy of the final report    

I agree to present my findings as a poster or oral presentation at a BSMT conference if required to do so    

I have read and understood the criteria under which the grant is awarded and, if an award is made, I agree to abide by them.    

I understand that failure to abide by the criteria will jeopardise the success of future applications from myself and my organization.    

I have made the BSMT aware of other funding accessed for this project    

My centre has been represented at previous BSMT meetings    

Signature of applicant .....

Signature of Project Supervisor .....

Date of Application Submitted .....

To the best of my knowledge, the information given in this application form and the electronic submission is accurate and complete.    

**For BSMT use only:**