



NIH ORWH Science Policy Scholar Travel Award:

Organization for the Study of Sex Differences (OSSD) 2019 Annual Meeting

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is committed to improving the health outcomes of men and women through support of rigorous science that advances fundamental knowledge about the biology and behavior of living systems. In 1990, NIH established the Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH), which works in partnership with the NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices (ICOs) and other agencies and offices within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to advance the health of women. In 1993, Congress passed the NIH Revitalization Act (Public Law 103-43), which mandates that women and individuals from underrepresented groups be included in NIH-funded clinical research. Since that time, NIH has developed and implemented policies related to the inclusion of women, minorities, and children in NIH-defined clinical research. These policies have been rolled out in phases since 2001, with parallel changes in review activities and requirements.

NIH is continuing to address the issue of sex and gender inclusion and reporting across biomedical research multi-dimensionally – through program oversight, review and policy, and collaboration with extramural researchers, health care providers, advocates, and the public. This includes developing policies that require researchers to consider sex as a biological variable (SABV) in the design, analysis, and reporting of all basic and preclinical studies. In January 2016, consideration of SABV became a requirement in all NIH grant applications that include vertebrate animal and human studies.

To support the development of junior investigators focused on women and sex/gender differences, who also have an interest in research policy, ORWH will provide one travel award to help defray the cost of attending the annual meeting of the OSSD. Applicants are encouraged to submit abstracts related to research policies relevant to women and sex/gender differences. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- (1) Studies of the effects of these policies in promoting the research,
- (2) Identification of policy gaps that might promote such research and projection of their effects, or
- (3) Identification of specific research disciplines and/or research topic areas where more work is needed to promote women and sex/gender differences. An ORWH award of up to \$3,000 will be available to support the travel of the selected NIH ORWH Science Policy Scholar whose OSSD abstract on women or sex/gender differences policy is accepted for a poster, oral session, or symposium at the organization's 2019 annual meeting in Washington, DC, May 5-8.



INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS:

Submit an abstract by following the OSSD instructions found at <https://www.ossdweb.org/2019-meeting> and send an email to Ms. Dana Simms at dana.simms@nih.gov with the required attachments:

- E-mail subject line: NIH ORWH and OSSD Science Policy Scholar Travel Award Application for 2019 OSSD.
- Attach a copy of the abstract submitted to OSSD, including title and authors (in Word format).
- Attach your curriculum vitae (saved in .doc or .docx format). List all NIH grant support, if applicable.
- Include your mailing address, phone number, and email address.
- Attach a cover letter in Word format stating:
 - (1) your eligibility (see requirements below),
 - (2) your interest in pursuing policy research on women and/or sex and gender differences, and
 - (3) your career goals.
- Provide a letter of support from your academic advisor, mentor, or fellowship director (in Word format).

For questions about the award, please contact Dr. Samia Noursi, Associate Director for Science Policy, Planning and Analysis at the NIH Office of Research on Women's Health at samia.noursi@nih.gov or 301-496-9472.

ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS:

To be eligible for the NIH ORWH Science Policy Scholar Travel Award, an applicant must:

- Have a baccalaureate or higher degree or be a medical student from any health-related discipline, a post-doctoral trainee, an American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) fellow, a medical resident, a member of the uniformed services or national guard, or an investigator who is no more than 5 years past doctoral degree or residency.
- Be the first author on a currently submitted OSSD abstract for an oral symposium presentation.

Investigators from underrepresented populations are encouraged to apply.

APPLICATION AND AWARD TIMELINE:

- Application period: October 15, 2018 to February 1, 2019
- Announcement of award recipient: March 15, 2019