



NIH ORWH Science Policy Scholar Travel Awards for the Organization for the Study of Sex Differences (OSSD) 2025 Annual Meeting

ABOUT THE AWARDS

The NIH ORWH Science Policy Scholar Travel Awards will support the development of two junior investigators who are focused on women's health or sex and gender differences and are also interested in research policy. The awards will help defray the cost of attending the [Organization for the Study of Sex Differences \(OSSD\) Annual Meeting](#) that is taking place June 1–5, 2025, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Attendance at the OSSD meeting offers a unique opportunity for investigators to network with leading scientists and clinicians working to advance sex and gender inclusion and policy. Interested investigators who have submitted to OSSD an abstract for a poster, oral session, or symposium about a policy-related matter connected to women's health or sex and gender differences are invited to apply for this travel award. A panel of experts will review the abstracts, and two of them will be selected for the two scholars' travel awards.

TOPICS OF INTEREST

Applicants are encouraged to submit to OSSD abstracts related to research policies relevant to the health of women or sex and gender differences. Examples include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Studies on how policies for women's health or sex and gender differences affect and promote research in those areas
- Identification of policy gaps that might promote such research and the projection of the gaps' effects
- Identification of specific research disciplines and/or research topic areas that require more work to promote women's health or sex and gender differences

AWARD AMOUNT

ORWH will provide two awards, in the amount of \$3,000 each, to support the attendance of the selected NIH ORWH Science Policy Scholars at the OSSD 2025 Annual Meeting.

APPLICATION AND AWARD TIMELINE

- The travel awards' application period ends February 3, 2025.
- The award recipients will be announced on March 1, 2025. *The selected individuals will be notified via email.*

WHO CAN APPLY?

To be eligible for the NIH ORWH Science Policy Scholar Travel Awards, applicants must:

- Possess a baccalaureate or higher degree
- Be one of the following: a medical student from any health-related discipline, a postdoctoral trainee, an American Association for the Advancement of Science fellow, a medical resident, a member of the uniformed services or National Guard, or an investigator who is no more than 5 years past a doctoral degree or residency
- Be the first author on the submitted OSSD abstract accepted for presentation
- Not be a federal employee

Investigators from underrepresented populations are encouraged to apply.



HOW TO APPLY

Submit your abstract on the [OSSD Awards page](#). **Applications must be submitted to OSSD by February 3, 2025.** Please check the OSSD website for updates on the application's timeline.

Once you have submitted your application to OSSD, send an email with the subject line "NIH ORWH and OSSD Science Policy Scholar Travel Awards Application for 2025" to Samia Noursi, Ph.D., at samia.noursi@nih.gov. **Please send this email by February 3, 2025, to be considered for this award.**

Please include in the email your mailing address, phone number, and email address and the following required Word document attachments:

- A copy of the abstract submitted to OSSD, including its title and authors
- Your curriculum vitae; list all of your NIH grant support, if applicable
- A cover letter stating:
 - (1) Your eligibility (see requirements in the "Who Can Apply?" section above)
 - (2) Your interest in pursuing policy research on women's health and/or sex and gender differences
 - (3) Your career goals
- A letter of support from your academic adviser, mentor, or fellowship director

QUESTIONS

For questions about the awards, please contact Dr. Samia Noursi, Associate Director for Science Policy, Planning, and Analysis at ORWH. You may contact Dr. Noursi via email at samia.noursi@nih.gov.

ABOUT ORWH

NIH is committed to improving the health outcomes of men and women through the support of rigorous science that advances fundamental knowledge about the biology and behavior of living systems. In 1990, NIH established ORWH, which works in partnership with NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices and other agencies and offices within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 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, racial and ethnic minorities, and children in NIH-defined clinical research. These policies have been rolled out in phases since 2001, with parallel inclusion changes in review activities and study design requirements.

NIH continues to multidimensionally address the issue of sex and gender inclusion and reporting across biomedical research through program oversight, review and policy, and collaboration with extramural researchers, health care providers, advocates, and the public. This effort 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 NIH grant applications that proposed studies in vertebrate animals and humans.

For more information about ORWH, visit <https://orwh.od.nih.gov>.

For more information about OSSD, visit ossdweb.org.