

Asia-Pacific Developmental Biology Network (APDBN) Travel Awards Program

1. Mission

The Asia-Pacific Developmental Biology Network is an organization dedicated to the following activities:

- a. To promote the exchange of scientific and other information relevant to developmental biology and related fields in the Asia-Pacific region
- b. To foster the studies and research activities of students and researchers in these fields
- c. To advance the interests of these fields by facilitating research, training, education and collaboration at the national, institutional, laboratory and individual levels
- d. To promote public awareness, understanding and appreciation of developmental biological concepts and research

2. Rationale

As part of this mission, the APBDN will establish a number of Travel Awards intended to facilitate international travel by students and junior scientists residing and working in the Asia-Pacific region, as a means of promoting intraregional exchange, collaboration and training. A total of up to a maximum of twenty (20) Travel Awards shall be made per year. Travel Awards shall be in the amount of 100,000 Japanese yen.

3. Eligibility

In principle, any student or junior scientist (postdoc, lecturer, associate professor; 35 years of age or younger) whose work or academic affiliation is located within the Asia-Pacific region is eligible to apply. Awards will be granted based on a combination of scientific merit, financial need, affiliation and nationality. In principle, only one applicant per laboratory per year will be eligible to receive an award, and awards will only be granted to individuals a single time.

Travel awards are intended to subsidize travel to scientific meetings, symposia, workshops, short-term research exchanges and other activities relevant to the study of developmental biology held within the Asia-Pacific region. Travel to other parts of the world is not eligible for funding by an APDBN Travel Award.

4. Application

The following documents must be provided by the applicant:

- a. A current curriculum vitae (C.V.)
- b. A statement by the applicant describing the reason for the request for a travel award (up to 400 words)
- c. A letter of recommendation from the applicant's academic or research supervisor

Applications should be submitted to:

Asia-Pacific Developmental Biology Network
Secretariat
info@apdbn.org
c/o RIKEN Center for Developmental Biology
2-2-3 Minatojima-minamimachi
Chuo-ku, Kobe 650-0047
Japan

Applications should be made at least two months in advance of the date of the intended travel.

5. Selection

A subcommittee of scientists organized by the APDBN on an ad hoc basis will review all applications and make decisions based on scientific merit and evidence of need. Announcement of the results will be made within 10 business days of the application.

6. Payment of Award

Travel Awards shall be in the amount of 100,000 Japanese yen, to be paid to the recipient upon receiving proof of completion of the trip funded under the award. This amount is intended to subsidize travel and accommodation expenses incurred as consequence of attending the scientific meeting or activity described in the application. Proof of completion shall take the form of the following:

- For attendance to a scientific meeting or workshop:
 1. Ticket stubs from round-trip flight to and from destination airport
 2. Conference attendee name badge showing the attendee's name, or a letter from the meeting organizer certifying that the applicant attended the meeting

- For visits to research institutes for the purpose of scientific training or exchange
 1. Ticket stubs from round-trip flight to and from destination airport
 2. A letter from the head of the host laboratory certifying that the applicant visited the designated laboratory for the purposes described in the application

Payment of the award shall be made by bank transfer, upon receipt and review of satisfactory documentation. Documents should be submitted as original versions (not photocopies) to:
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Secretariat
c/o RIKEN Center for Developmental Biology
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Chuo-ku, Kobe 650-0047
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