

## Guidelines for Awarding IAFO Research Grant

### 1. IAFO UG/PG Research Grant

The IAFO will consider providing a financial grant of up to INR 10,000 annually to undergraduate (UG) students (1 grant per year) and a financial grant of up to INR 20,000 annually to postgraduate (PG) students (1 grant per year) for completed research projects on forensic odontology topics. The completed research project should not be published/submitted anywhere for publication when the applicant is seeking the grant).

*Eligibility criteria for under- and postgraduate applicants:*

1. Guide of the completed UG research project should be an IAFO life member residing and registered as a dentist in India, which has to be mentioned in the grant request sent to the IAFO
2. For completed PG research grant applications, both the guide and the PG student has to be a member of the IAFO
3. Application (submitted in .pdf format by the guide) should include the following headings:
  - a. Name of student
  - b. IAFO life membership number (for UG student research grant application mention the guide's name and IAFO life membership number)
  - c. BDS Student/MDS Student (tick any one)
  - d. Email address of student
  - e. Mobile number of student
  - f. Guide name, designation, department, affiliation, mobile number, email address and life membership number of IAFO [**NOTE: Only a full-time faculty of an institution/hospital can be a guide**]
  - g. Completed research project title
  - h. Ethical approval for the research project from the college (student applicant's name(s) must be reflected in the institutional ethical approval) with signature of competent authority (e.g., Member Secretary of Institutional Ethics Committee)
  - h. Signature of UG/PG student, guide and Dean/Principal

4. Proposal must be <1,000 words, in PDF format and submitted with information under the following headings:

- a. Title of the completed research project
- b. Introduction/background and review of literature
- c. Material and methods
- d. Results
- e. Importance/implication/application/conclusion
- f. References (5–10 relevant articles)

5. Grant applications will be sent for blind peer review to a Credentials Committee. So, the proposal (in no. 4 above) should not have any identification details of the student/guide/college.

**[NOTE: The IAFO President and Secretary shall each nominate one IAFO member to a three-member Credentials Committee (IAFO President being the third member). This Committee will scrutinise applications for UG/PG research grants and take a final decision, which will be informed to the IAFO EC by the Secretary and approved in the subsequent EC Meeting. The duration of this Committee is for two (2) years and forthcoming President and Secretary can further look into nominating subsequent members to the Credentials Committee.]**

6. PGs can condense their dissertation synopsis, but in the same format mentioned above under 4(a–f).

7. Applications should be sent to the IAFO Secretary ([info@iafo.in](mailto:info@iafo.in)) who will forward them to the three-member Credentials Committee. Last date for submitting applications is 15 September 2024.

8. The IAFO encourages recipients of IAFO UG/PG research grants to submit their completed research full-length paper to the Journal of Forensic Dental Sciences, the official publication of the IAFO, and/or present a modified paper/poster on the same in the IAFO National Conference during the year.

## 2. IAFO Grant for International Conference Participation

The IAFO will consider providing a financial grant of up to INR 50,000 annually to its members for participation in international forensic odontology conference for presenting original research/representing IAFO. If the amount requested by the applicant is less than INR 50,000 and multiple applicants exist, more than one application can be provided the grant in such situations, however, the total financial grant disbursed by the IAFO should not exceed INR 50,000 annually. The financial support can be for international conference registration/travel/accommodation, whichever is higher and not exceeding INR 50,000 annually.

*Eligibility criteria and format for applicants:*

1. Should be a life member of IAFO for minimum ten (10) years.
2. Organised (as Organising Chairperson/Organising Secretary) at least one IAFO national conference, (OR) attended minimum three (3) IAFO national conferences (OR) organised at least three forensic odontology CPE programmes (as Organising Chairperson/Organising Secretary) under the aegis of the IAFO, (OR) a combination of IAFO conference attendance and CPE programme organisation that adds up to at least three (e.g., attended one IAFO conference + organised two forensic odontology CPE programmes under the aegis of the IAFO).
3. Presented minimum three (3) research papers (not reviews/case reports, etc.)/invited keynote lectures in IAFO conferences (OR) published at least three (3) research papers on forensic odontology (not reviews/case reports, etc.) as a corresponding author in journals indexed in Pubmed/Medline/Scopus/Web of Science (other indexing agencies are not acceptable), (OR) a combination of paper/lecture presentation(s) and publication(s) that adds up to at least three (e.g., presented one research paper + one keynote lecture + published one research paper).
4. The conference to be attended must be organised by one of the established international forensic organisations such as International Organization for Forensic Odonto-Stomatology (other reputable international forensic organisations such as American Academy of Forensic Sciences may be considered), and must not be in predatory organisations.
5. Requirements listed under nos. 2 and 3 must be supported with self-attested scanned certificates/PDFs/brochures.
6. Applications should be sent to the IAFO Secretary ([info@iafo.in](mailto:info@iafo.in)) who will forward them to the IAFO EC. **[NOTE: Though applications are considered every year, if the required guidelines are not fulfilled or the IAFO does not approve any applications for the research grant, granting these funds are not mandatory or a compulsion; funds not granted in a year will not be carried forward to the next.]**

7. Application (submitted in .pdf format) should include the following details:

- a. Name of member, work address, mobile number, email address and IAFO life membership number
- b. Research paper title (which is accepted for presentation in the international conference)
- c. Letter of acceptance from international conference organiser
- d. Signature of member with undertaking that information furnished is true

8. Accepted abstract in PDF format

9. Applications must conform to the above eligibility criteria (nos. 1–5) and format (nos. 6–8), failing which they may be rejected.

Applications are discussed and approved/rejected in EC meeting. The decision of the IAFO EC is final. The IAFO encourages recipients of IAFO research grants to submit their completed research full-length paper to the Journal of Forensic Dental Sciences, the official publication of the IAFO, and/or present a modified paper/poster on the same in the IAFO National Conference during the year.

Those who are successful in getting this financial support are eligible to reapply for this grant again only after three years from date of conference for which grant was sanctioned. And, during this 3+ year period, the member should have:

- a. Attended at least one (1) IAFO national conference or organised (as Organising Chairperson/Organising Secretary) at least one IAFO national conference or organised one forensic odontology event (as Organising Chairperson/Organising Secretary) under the aegis of the IAFO.
- b. Presented at least one (1) research paper (not reviews/case reports, etc.) or invited keynote lecture in an IAFO national conference and published at least one (1) research paper on forensic odontology (not reviews/case reports, etc.) as a corresponding author in a journal indexed in Pubmed/Medline/Scopus/Web of Science (other indexing agencies are not acceptable).

\*\*\*