1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE
This policy governs the awarding of Younger Fellows Travelling Fellowship Grants. It covers the application and selection criteria as well as the value, frequency and conditions of the Fellowships.

2. KEYWORDS
Travelling, grant

3. BODY OF POLICY

3.1. Background
As a means of recognising the challenges Younger Fellows face when travelling overseas to further post Fellowship studies and experience, the Younger Fellows Committee has been assisted by various sponsors to establish travelling scholarships. The Younger Fellows Committee acknowledges that in addition to offering financial support, the grants would also foster amongst Younger Fellows a commitment to involvement in the Younger Fellows Committee and College activities more broadly.

3.2. Eligibility Criteria
The applicant must be a Younger Fellow of the College (that is within 10 years of gaining Fellowship) at the time of submitting their application, who is planning to travel overseas within the next 12 months to further post Fellowship studies prior to returning to Australasia to practice, and be prepared to report on the experience in accordance to the policy’s reporting requirements.

3.3. Application requirements
All applicants are required to provide specific details of the planned visit (approximately 1 page) including the proposed itinerary, explicit details of work and/or study to be undertaken and envisaged benefits of this activity. Details of any financial support or funding already secured (e.g. research grants, sponsorship and/or other grants) and the proposed use of the Grant funds should also be included. Additional funding from external bodies may affect selection.

3.4. Guidelines for selection

3.4.1. The applicant’s ability to demonstrate the benefits of his/her further studies/experiences to the surgical community in Australasia will be an important aspect relevant to selection.

3.4.2. Selection will be dependent upon the applicant’s ability to provide a clear plan of their proposed studies, emphasising the benefits to be gained.

3.4.3. Selection will be dependent on the inclusion of a confirmation letter from the institution of any intended appointment with regards to any funding provided.

3.4.4. Consideration will be given to those in their earlier post Fellowship years, to those having secured structured appointments to established units over less structured proposals and to those who have not secured alternative financial support.
3.5. Value of the scholarship

The value of the scholarship is dependent on the sponsorship offered.

3.6. Frequency of the Grant

The Grants can be awarded annually, subject to sponsorship and provided there is a worthy applicant.

3.7. Financial Arrangements

3.7.1. The recipient must refer to his/her financial or taxation advisor to ascertain the taxability of the stipend.

3.7.2. Payment of the award will be made in one instalment.

3.7.3. The Grant will only be paid on receipt of a valid tax invoice.

3.8. Reporting and other requirements

On completion of the Travelling Fellowship, the recipient is required to:

3.8.1. Provide a written report on their experience for the YFC and be prepared to present a brief descriptive paper at the ASC following their return (5-10 minute presentation at YFC face to face meeting).

3.8.2. Prepare a paper suitable for publication within Surgical News.

3.8.3. Be actively involved in the YFC or other College activities.

3.8.4. Act as a representative on the Selection Committee where appropriate.

3.8.5. Before accepting a Travelling Fellowship Grant, recipients must agree to these conditions in writing.

4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

- Professional Development Activities Management Leadership Policy
- Surgeons and Trainees Interaction with the Medical Industry Guidelines
- Surgical News Policy
- Younger Fellows Travelling Fellowship Grant Procedure

Approver: Chief Executive Officer
Authoriser: Professional Development and Standards Board