

John Buckingham Travel Grant

Learning & Development Guideline GDL-4887

Review: January 2026

Governing Policy: POL-4914 Learning and Development Grant Policy

Eligibility summary SET Trainees

Interest area Attendance at the American College of Surgeons (ACS) Annual Clinical Congress

The John Buckingham Travel Grant encourages international exchange of information around surgical science, practice and education by enabling a Trainee to attend the American College of Surgeons (ACS) Annual Clinical Congress. The grant also provides Trainees with the opportunity to establish professional and academic collaborations and friendships.

The late John Buckingham was a well-loved specialist breast cancer surgeon who pioneered the sentinel node mapping technique. He contributed significantly to BreastScreen Australia and was also highly regarded in the international arena. This grant was established in recognition of his great love of teaching.

The ACS sponsors a RACS SET Trainee to attend the ACS Annual Clinical Congress each year. In exchange, the ANZ Chapter of the ACS sponsors an ACS resident to attend the RACS Annual Scientific Congress.

Conditions

This guideline outlines information specific to the respective grant's purpose, duration, conditions and recipient eligibility. For all the conditions for this scholarship it is essential that you also read the Learning and Development Policy.

Applicant eligibility

Applications are open to SET Trainees.

Applicants are encouraged to be a member of the Resident and Associate Society of the American College of Surgeons or have applied for resident membership with the intention of gaining Fellowship of the ACS in the future.

Applicants are also expected to be a member, or to apply for membership, of the ANZ Chapter of the ACS.

This grant is not available for SET applicants.

Eligible activity

The grant funds travel to attend the ACS Annual Clinical Congress in October in the year after the grant is awarded.

John Buckingham Travel Grant GDL-4887

Selection panel

The selection panel is comprised of:

- the Chair (or their nominee) and a member of the ANZ Scholarship and Grant Committee (ANZSGC)
- the President and another member of the ANZ Chapter of the ACS
- a representative of the RACS Trainees' Association (RACSTA) Executive

Recipient obligations

The recipient is expected to make a brief (5-10 minute) presentation outlining their report and including the impact this opportunity will make on surgery in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. It is expected this will be presented at the ANZ Chapter of the ACS meeting at the RACS Annual Scientific Congress in May of the following year.

The recipient must provide RACS with a report in the requested format on the meeting attended and any institutions visited. A copy of this report will be forwarded to the ANZ Chapter of ACS and to the RACSTA Committee.

Reapplication

As recipients may only receive the John Buckingham Travel Grant once, past recipients are ineligible to reapply.

Partner committee

The ANZ Chapter of the American College of Surgeons.

Financial arrangements

The grant funding will be paid to the recipient following receipt of a valid tax invoice as requested by the Scholarships and Grants department. Payment will be made in one instalment before 1 March in the grant activity year.

Funding Source

The grant is funded by the ANZ Chapter of the American College of Surgeons.