

Background

The role of the Grants and Awards Committee (GAC) is to oversee and administer the awards made by the Institute of Medical Ethics (IME). The committee currently has six members including the chair and is supported by a member of the administrative staff. The GAC is answerable to the Board of Trustees of the IME.

The awards made by the IME include elective bursaries and intercalated scholarships for undergraduate medical students; conference grants for undergraduates and postgraduates and grants to institutions for activities focused on medical ethics and law. The application forms and guidelines are available on the IME website. The GAC also oversees the Mark Brennan prize and the essay prize for foundation year doctors.

Role of GAC member

1 To assess applications for grants and awards. The amount of work involved varies during the year. The elective bursary applications are submitted and assessed during the autumn term. The intercalated scholarship applications are received and assessed between March and June. In both cases the time required depends on the number of applications. This year we have introduced double marking of all bursary and scholarship applications. It is very difficult to put an estimate on the time required but we would estimate no more than the equivalent of half a day each term.

Applications for **conference and institutional grants** are received throughout the year. The time required to assess these is less than the time required for the bursary and scholarship applications and would amount to no more than one day spread over the course of the year.

- 2 To contribute to the making of final decisions about awards with other members of the GAC.
- 3 To represent the GAC on the Board of Trustees with the other members and to contribute to discussions when appropriate.
 - 4 To discuss matters of policy with members of the committee and Board of Trustees.
 - 5 To attend the annual meeting of the GAC which is usually held on Zoom.