

The SBL Travel Grants offer opportunities to current SBL members to attend the Annual Meeting, participate in the program, enhance their professional development, and build their network with fellow scholars. These grants help facilitate the work of Program Units, the International Cooperation Initiative (“ICI”), the Status of Women in the Profession Committee, the Underrepresented Racial and Ethnic Minorities in the Profession Committee, and other SBL Committees representing scholars in the field. These grants are intended to support underrepresented and underresourced scholars. As such, preference will be given to women, ethnic/racial minorities, and members from ICI-qualifying countries. A key criterion is an applicant’s demonstrable financial need.

Two of the four Travel Grants (up to \$2,000.00 each) will be offered to members whose proposals have been accepted by a Program Unit and have demonstrated that the work of the unit and the field will be enhanced by that member’s participation. The other two grants (up to \$1,000 each) will be given to members who have never attended an Annual Meeting. The Society will provide lodging (one room, single or shared) for four nights and complimentary meeting registration. The grants defray transportation, hotel accommodations, and other expenses incurred for the Annual Meeting. Grant monies will be distributed as reimbursement for expenses incurred for travel to/from the meeting and meals while attending the meeting up to \$2,000 and \$1,000 respectively.

### **SBL ANNUAL MEETING PARTICIPANT TRAVEL GRANT**

What does a grant include?

- \$2,000
- Lodging (one room, single or shared) for four nights
- Complimentary Annual Meeting registration

Who is eligible?

- Members whose proposals have been accepted by a current SBL Program Unit and have not attended an Annual Meeting in the last five years.
- Preference will be given to women, ethnic/racial minorities, and members from [ICI-qualifying countries](#).
- Applicants must have completed a Masters degree or be enrolled in a Ph.D. program.
- Persons who have previously received either the Participant Travel Grant or Attendee Travel Grant are *not* eligible.

What is the procedure for application?

- Applicants must submit their papers through the Annual Meeting paper proposal process on the [SBL website](#). Papers must be submitted no later than

March 1. *Please note: because Annual Meeting program unit chairs have until April 1 to accept or reject paper proposals, Participant Travel Grant applications will remain pending until the paper is accepted. This fact will not negatively affect one's application.*

- Applicants should then submit Travel Grant applications to Beth Tracy ([beth.tracy@sbl-site.org](mailto:beth.tracy@sbl-site.org)) no later than March 1. Applications must include:
  - a narrative of no more than 500 words, demonstrating how the applicant meets the criteria of the Travel Grant;
  - a brief explanation of the contribution made to the program unit;
  - a synopsis of Curriculum Vitae, highlighting contributions to the field; and
  - a letter confirming participation if funded, including a budget showing estimated travel expenses and other possible sources of funding;
  - a letter of recommendation from a person who knows the applicant's academic work and can confirm his or her interest in SBL (i.e. advisor, mentor, research supervisor).

#### SBL ANNUAL MEETING ATTENDEE TRAVEL GRANT

What does a grant include?

- \$1,000
- Lodging (one room, single or shared) for four nights
- Complimentary Annual Meeting registration

Who is eligible?

- Preference will be given to women, ethnic/racial minorities, and members from [ICI-qualifying countries](#) who have never attended an Annual Meeting.
- Applicants must have completed a Masters degree or be enrolled in a Ph.D. program.
- Persons who have previously received either the Participant Travel Grant or Attendee Travel Grant are *not* eligible.

What is the procedure for application?

- Applicants must submit Travel Grant applications to Beth Tracy ([beth.tracy@sbl-site.org](mailto:beth.tracy@sbl-site.org)) no later than March 1. Applications must include:
  - a narrative of no more than 500 words, demonstrating how the applicant meets the criteria of the Travel Grant;
  - a synopsis of Curriculum Vitae, highlighting contributions to the field; and

- a letter confirming attendance if funded, including a budget showing estimated travel expenses and other possible sources of funding;
- a letter of recommendation from a person who knows the applicant's academic work and can confirm his or her interest in SBL (i.e. advisor, mentor, research supervisor).

### CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPANT AND ATTENDEE TRAVEL GRANTS

What are the criteria for the Travel Grants? (The more criteria met, the stronger the application.)

1. New contribution. How will this person bring something new into the scholarly conversation?
2. Quality of contribution. How will this person advance the academic quality of biblical scholarship?
3. Partnership with other scholars. How will the grant facilitate broad collaboration between scholars of different countries and different areas of expertise?
4. Realistic Budget. Have other sources of funding been explored?

Decisions for both types of Travel Grants will be made and announced by May 1.

### ALTERNATE CANDIDATES

Because visa processing issues may ultimately prevent a grant recipient from attending the Annual Meeting, the Review Committee may reserve alternate candidates. Such candidates will be notified of their status by May 1. An alternate candidate will be deemed recipient of a grant only if the original recipient fails to provide proof of a successfully completed visa application for travel to the Annual Meeting to the Review Committee by September 1.

### REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Travel Grant Review Committee will consist of the following persons.

- Two representatives from the Status of Women in the Profession Committee
- Two representatives from the Underrepresented Racial and Ethnic Minorities in the Profession Committee
- One representative selected by the International Cooperation Initiative Executive Board

### PROCESS OF SELECTION FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Travel Grant Review Committee members will serve two-year terms that are nonrenewable. When the Status of Women in the Profession Committee and the Underrepresented Racial and Ethnic Minorities in the Profession Committee nominate



members for service on the Travel Grant Review Committee, they should give preference to persons who have served at least one year on their respective Committee of Council, and whose tenure on their committee coincides with the duration of their term on the Travel Grant Review Committee. The ICI Executive Board will select a representative who has been active in the ICI program to serve on the Travel Grant Review Committee. Members should be selected and confirmed at the Annual Meeting.