



The Guthkelch Award

The Society for Research into Hydrocephalus and Spina Bifida (SRHSB) funds the Norman Guthkelch New Investigator Award to assist New Investigators or Early Career Investigators to attend the annual meeting of SRHSB. The awards are made by the SRHSB Award Committee based on the quality and research excellence of submitted abstracts. Applicants should consult the SRHSB website for further details.

Frequently Asked Questions

Applying For the Norman Guthkelch Award

How will applying for the Norman Guthkelch Award benefit me?

The high profile given to the Award offers a superb opportunity for students starting or researchers early in their research careers to gain national and international exposure and recognition for their research and ongoing academic achievements. Successful recipients of the Award will be required to deliver a plenary presentation at the next SRHSB meeting following their Award, allowing dissemination of their research to an international audience. Through their awards experience, students will have access to a wealth of research and practical knowledge nationally and internationally. Students will be able to network with other finalists and share ideas across the various universities for the wider benefit of patients, researchers and institutions. The awards are also a fantastic way to congratulate and reward students who have strived for excellence in their chosen fields and gone that extra mile.

Who is eligible to apply for these Awards?

The entries are open only to students in training for a postgraduate degree or new investigators within 5 years of the award of their MD/PhD degree. Families of SRHSB members and the judging panels are not eligible to enter.

How can I apply for the Norman Guthkelch Award?

You must complete the application form online through links on the SRHSB web page

How many entries can I submit?

You are only allowed to submit one application for the Award and are not allowed to re-submit an application if successful in obtaining an Award. The SRHSB Award Committee will select applicants that meet the criteria set for the Norman Guthkelch award. Their decision will be final.

Do I need the support of the University to apply?

You are able to apply yourself providing you have agreed to the Terms and Conditions of the Award as stated on the SRHSB website.

How should I fill in the application form so that I have the best chance of being successful?

Judges on the Award Committee will be looking for specific criteria including clarity, scientific merit, clinical impact, novelty and innovation. Applications should be well-written, with good grammar and free from spelling and typographical errors.

Are there any Terms and Conditions for applying?

Yes, please read the Terms and Conditions before applying.

My University tutor/mentor is on leave/is not involved directly with the project. Who can I put in this section?

Any senior faculty staff member or institution administrator can validate the information contained in your application if your immediate academic peer is unavailable at the time of the Award application submission.

I am a member of faculty staff at the University. Can I apply for the Award?

No, you will not be eligible. The Norman Guthkelch Award is aimed at new investigators, or early careers investigators within five years of obtaining their MD or PhD and who have yet to be appointed to a Faculty position.

Who judges the Awards?

A panel of interdisciplinary and international experts within the executive board of the society eminent in the fields of research into hydrocephalus and neural tube defects will judge the applications, and will score these based on the Award criteria. The highest scoring applications will be shortlisted for the Award.

Can I request feedback from the judges regarding my application?

Feedback will be given to shortlisted applicants only

How will I know if I have been shortlisted to present at the annual conference?

Applicants who have been shortlisted will receive an email to notify them of this decision. The Organizing Committee of the SRHSB Annual Conference will be advised shortly thereafter, and shortlisted applicants will be required to deliver an oral presentation based on their abstract, and this will be judged at the annual conference meeting by members of the Award Committee who will rank the presentations. The presenter of the top ranking presentation will be the successful recipient of the Norman Guthkelch Award. Therefore, please note that by submitting an application, and if shortlisted, you are committing to attend the SRHSB annual conference following your application to present your research. .

When will the shortlisted presentations be held?

Presentations to the shortlisted applicants, acknowledging the high standard of their applications, will take place during the annual conference of SRHSB.

How will I know if I have been selected to receive an award?

Judging will be conducted whilst attending the conference and prizes awarded/announced before the end of the conference.