

## RCOT Research Foundation Early Researcher Prize marking criteria

The Royal College of Occupational Therapists Research Foundation - Early Researcher Prize is awarded to a pre-registration BSc/MSc occupational therapy student for an outstanding research project completed in the final year of their degree programme. The prize will be awarded to the student that demonstrates significant early research skills, evidenced through completion of their research project.

**Title:**

<b>Essential Criteria</b> <b>Nomination would be rejected if these criteria are not met. This is checked prior to sending to reviewers.</b>	<b>Yes/No</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Student is BAOT member.		
Student is (or recently completed) the final year of their pre-registration occupational therapy BSc (Hons) / Masters programme.		
Has relevance to occupational therapy theory, practice, management, leadership, education, CPD or research.		

Abstract Criteria	Explanatory note	Score: 0, 1, 2 or 3	Comments
Structure, spelling, language and grammar	Is the abstract comprehensible and well presented?		
Clarity of focus, purpose, background or context.	Is it clear what the student set out to do, and why? Students should demonstrate how their work has taken account of the context for current political/ financial/ professional/ educational and/or theoretical drivers locally, nationally and/or internationally.		
Clarity of method or approach to the issues under consideration	This may refer to a robust research methodology, an explanation of strategies employed for creating a critical evaluation of a theory or journal article, or a credible approach to a practice analysis.		
Usefulness	Does the work add something useful to the existing body of knowledge in the profession? Does the work benefit people who access services?		
Extent to which the work can be considered novel, innovative, creative and/or engaging.	Is the work cutting edge, new, interesting, exciting? Does it offer new knowledge, or a new perspective on existing knowledge?		

HEI supporting statements criteria	Explanatory note	Score: 0, 1, 2 or 3	Comments
Clear reasoning as to why the nominee has outstanding research skills	For example: Did the nominator identify a robustly executed, well-understood methodology? Did they discuss the excellence of the interpretation of the data?		
Personal attributes the nominee demonstrated	For example: Did the nominator mention the enthusiasm, passion or motivation of the nominee for their project and/or research more broadly? Did they mention creativity or problem solving in regards to the research? Did they mention utilising supervisors well or provide illustrative examples of this engagement?		