

## RCOT Annual Awards FAQs 2022

### **Can I apply for more than one award at the same time?**

You can apply for more than one award if the applications are for awards in different categories, but you **must not duplicate funding requests**. If you apply for more than one award towards the same activity, the individual applications should seek support for different elements of the activity.

### **I am a student member, which annual awards can I apply for?**

As a student member you can apply for the RCOT Student Award for Entrepreneurship and Leadership, The Barbara Tyldesley Student Award, AMPS-ESI UK and Ireland Award, Innovation Award and Pearson Award. For detailed guidance on the criteria for each of these award categories; please see pages 7-16 of the Notes for Guidance 2022.

### **I am a researcher, which annual awards can I apply for?**

You can apply for The Constance Owens Early Researcher Award and the Pearson Award. Depending on the type of research activity you might also consider the RCOT Innovation Award or the Tunstall Award for Technology Innovation in Occupational Therapy.

### **I am looking for funding to support my CPD, which annual awards can I apply for?**

The Pearson Award and the International Activity Award are the most common ones that members can apply for support towards their CPD, however, depending on your project / activity other award categories may also be available. Please see award specific guidance in the Notes for Guidance document for more information.

### **I am looking for funding to support service evaluation or practice development, which annual awards can I apply for?**

The Constance Owens Service Development award is specifically aimed at supporting an individual occupational therapist participating in a service development activity or project relevant to occupational therapy. Again depending on the project you might also consider the RCOT Innovation Award or the Tunstall Award for Technology Innovation in Occupational Therapy.

### **I am an independent practitioner; can I apply for an annual award?**

Yes, as an independent practitioner member you are able to apply for various award categories depending on the type of activity and project that you seek funding towards.

**I am an independent practitioner and run my own business, who can provide corroborative evidence to support my application?**

Applicants cannot authorise / sign corroborative evidence to support their own activity. An independent practitioner running their own business, can submit a letter or email of support from colleague, supervisor or external collaborators to confirm their participation in the planned activity.

**Can I use an annual award to cover my salary while I'm working on the project/activity?**

No, award funding cannot be used to “enhance the applicant’s salary.” However, funding can be used for backfill, and applicants may use the funding to pay for additional staff to cover their work whilst undertaking project activities (but not themselves).

**As an independent practitioner, can I use an annual award to cover my salary while I'm working on the project/activity?**

No, as above, award funding cannot be used to “enhance the applicant’s salary.” However, funding can be used for backfill, and applicants may use the funding to pay for additional staff to cover their work whilst undertaking project activities.

**How do I make my application stand out and have a good chance of success?**

Applying for an annual award is a competitive process. In previous funding rounds, successful applicants paid close attention to the guidance notes and submission criteria; demonstrated the impact of the activity for the people who access occupational therapy services/carers and the profession; and clearly identified the personal benefits to their continuing professional development.

**How are the applications anonymised and assessed?**

All identifying information is redacted from the application prior to sending it for review. We encourage applicants to use an anonymous writing style (i.e., use terms like “the service, the Trust” rather than the name of your institution/workplace). Once anonymised the applications are independently reviewed by an external and internal RCOT assessor. The Annual Awards panel meets in January each year to decide on the funding based on the independent reviews.