



# Pediatric Endocrinology Nursing Society

Advancing Endocrine and Diabetes Care

## Conference Reimbursement Scholarship Information and Application

### Introduction

The Pediatric Endocrinology Nursing Society (PENS) Conference Reimbursement Scholarship exists to enable pediatric endocrine nurses to advance their knowledge in the areas of endocrine and growth disorders, endocrine nursing research and current issues in pediatric endocrinology nursing.

Ten reimbursement scholarships of up to \$1,000 are available. Scholarship recipients can use these funds registration expenses related to the PENS National Conference. Registration expenses can include conference registration fees, airfare, lodging, meals and ground transportation.

### Eligibility

PENS grants up to twenty Conference Reimbursement Scholarships (CRS) for attendance at the PENS National Conference. Scholarships are divided equally between two types of submissions: clinical exemplars and poster abstracts. More scholarships may be given in one category if there are fewer than ten eligible submissions in the other category. Applicants MUST be active PENS members. Applications must include either a clinical exemplar for possible publication OR an accepted poster abstract for presentation at the PENS conference. All PENS members who have submitted an accepted poster abstract are eligible to apply for the CRS. Special consideration will be given to first time poster presenters. Those choosing to submit in the poster abstract category must present their poster at the PENS National Conference of the year awarded.

Anyone receiving funds from PENS to attend the conference is NOT eligible for the CRS. This includes, but may not be limited to, members of the current Board of Directors, PENS Committee Chairs and PENS speakers. Applicants will not be reimbursed for expenses for which they receive funding from their employer or other sources.

### Application

To apply for the PENS Conference Reimbursement Scholarship, prepare a packet that includes the following materials:

1. Completed application form ([click here to access online application](#)).
2. 2-4 page clinical exemplar (additional information below) OR copy of your poster abstract accepted by the PENS Research Committee.
3. Letter from your employer clearly stating the amount of funding received from employer to attend conference.

Submit the application materials to the PENS Executive Office by [submitting online here](#). The materials must be received by March 1.

### Selection

Applications will be reviewed and rated by an appointed task force. Scholarship recipients will be notified by March 15. If you have any questions about this program or the application process, contact the PENS Executive Office at (913) 222-8657.



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### Conference Reimbursement Scholarship (continued)

#### What is a clinical exemplar?

The clinical exemplar is a narrative account of a clinical experience that has affected your pediatric endocrinology nursing practice. As nurses we participate in absolutely extraordinary experiences every day, even though we may only see what we do as ordinary and part of the job. These special experiences, or “exemplars”--as defined by Patricia Benner--are situations where the nurse has learned something about his/her practice or made a significant contribution to a patient’s or family’s well-being.

#### How are clinical exemplars different from case studies or essays?

- An **essay** is concept-based, and presents an opinion or analysis.
- A **case study** examines the component parts of a patient’s illness and care.
- A **clinical exemplar** paints the whole picture, using a narrative approach.
- A **clinical exemplar** is a story rich in emotional content and detail, rather than hard data such as test procedures and results.
- A **clinical exemplar** depicts a situation in which the nurse has learned something about his/her practice. They do not depict research directed at solving a problem or methodical analysis of a particular case.

#### How do I write a clinical exemplar?

Use a step-by-step approach in describing the clinical scenario. Keep these 5 points in mind:

- What were your intentions during the event?
- What were you feeling?
- What were you thinking?
- What conclusions did you reach as a result of this experience?
- How has the experience affected you?

#### What should a clinical exemplar look like?

- Your clinical exemplar should generally be written in the first person and the past tense--just as if you are telling a story.
- Paint a picture of your clinical experience so that the reader can actually visualize and experience your situation. Remember: an exemplar is a story, not a case study.
- Exemplars should be typed, 12 point font, double-spaced, 2-4 pages in length.