The FCE Travel Grant Program for FCE Fusion
FOCIS awards travel grants on a competitive basis to FCE trainees who demonstrate a desire to attend the FCE Fusion event at the FOCIS Annual Meeting. Travel grant recipients receive complimentary Annual Meeting registration. The value of the travel grant is dependent on the FCE location:

- Local FCEs* trainees receive $100 travel support.
- U.S. or Canadian-based FCE trainees receive $500 travel support.
- Trainees from FCEs based outside of the U.S. and Canada receive $750 travel support

*Local FCEs are located within a commuting radius of the FOCIS Annual Meeting venue.

Information about the nomination, application, notification processes, and deadlines are available on the FCE website and emailed to FCE Directors and Associate Directors.

Eligibility Requirements
- A trainee affiliated with a FOCIS Center of Excellence (FCE)
- Membership in FOCIS confirmed before the course
- Abstract submission to the FOCIS Annual Meeting

Application Process: Using their own selection criteria, FCE Directors may submit one primary and one secondary trainee candidate. Local FCEs may submit two additional candidates for a total of four (4) candidates. Submissions are accepted through an online nomination form shared with FCE Directors and Associate Directors.

Then, FOCIS will contact the candidates and request they complete an online application. Applications will be accepted from December 20, 2021, through January 19, 2022 (FOCIS abstract submission deadline). Incomplete or late applications will not be considered. The application requests the following items:

- A 300-word maximum statement from the trainee outlining why they wish to attend the FCE Fusion event, how they would benefit from participating, and their current research (goals, career interests, and aspirations).
- A curriculum vitae (CV) or resume
- Abstract submission confirmation for the FOCIS Annual Meeting (i.e., the ID # or pdf file of submission confirmation)

Review Process: The FCE Committee will review the applications and select the travel grant recipients. Selection criteria will be based on the abstract scores from the FOCIS Abstract Review committee and the applicant’s past and future commitment to performing immunology research as well as selecting recipients from as many FCEs as possible. The ability to support one or two candidates from each FCE will be based upon the number and quality of applications.

Notification: Recipients will be notified by email by March 21, 2022.

Requirements of Recipients
The travel grant is to cover travel expenses incurred for attending the FCE Fusion event. The travel grant is given as a reimbursement after the event. Reimbursable expenses include air and ground transportation, hotel accommodations, and meals. Documentation of expenses incurred must be provided. Reimbursements will be processed through the FOCIS office. Recipients must complete the following activities before the FOCIS office will process reimbursement requests.

Before the FCE Fusion event, recipients are responsible for:
- making arrangements for travel and hotel accommodations.
- registering for the FOCIS Annual Meeting. FOCIS will grant complimentary Annual Meeting registration to recipients. Instructions and discount code will be emailed to recipients. Recipients must attend the FCE Fusion event and present their Annual Meeting abstract submission as a poster presentation.
• Preparing and printing an abstract poster for presentation during FCE Fusion event

After the FCE Fusion event, recipients are responsible for:
• Taking a photo of themselves at the FOCIS Annual Meeting and share it with the FOCIS office staff. Other attendees are encouraged to be in the photo too. Recipients are encouraged to submit a photo during the event using Twitter, Facebook, and other social media.
• Writing a brief essay on how what you considered to be the highlights of the FCE and FOCIS Annual Meeting and any suggestions for improvement.
• Completing the online FCE Fusion evaluation. The link will be available after the event concludes.

About the FCE Fusion event
The FCE Fusion event is a luncheon and networking event. It is held annually before the FOCIS Annual Meeting. All FCE Directors and Associate Directors are invited to attend.

FCE trainees are nominated to present their FOCIS Annual Meeting abstract during a poster session and receive mentoring and feedback from FCE directors. Trainee participation in this symposium is limited to those who were competitively selected to receive a travel grant.

The 2022 FCE Fusion event will be held on Tuesday, June 21, 2022 from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. PT at the San Francisco Marriott Marquis in San Francisco, California, U.S. View the webpage with information about the FCE Fusion event.