Applying for an International or Media Scholarship

Scholarship applications were accepted from 8 December 2011 to 15 February 2012. All scholarship applicants were notified of their application status in April 2012.

Types of Support

Scholarship applicants were able to request a full or partial scholarship through an online application system.

A full scholarship included:

- Registration fee for the conference (includes access to all sessions and exhibitions);
- Travel (pre-paid airfare or ground travel at the lowest fare available, from the nearest international airport or station);
- Accommodation (shared in dormitory rooms for the days of the conference);
- Modest daily living allowance for the duration of the conference (22-27 July 2012, USD 55 per day).

A partial scholarship included any combination of the above.

Application Criteria

Applications were open to anyone working in the field of HIV. All applications were made on the same online, profile-linked application form, available in English and Spanish.

Most of the questions asked on the application form were related to personal details and work experience. There were also essay questions which asked for further details regarding the applicant’s organization, occupation or involvement in the field of HIV, motivation to attend the conference and how the applicant’s organization or community would benefit from the scholarship.

International scholarship applicants were asked to submit a letter of recommendation after completing the scholarship application. No international application was accepted without submission of the letter of recommendation.

Abstract presenters, workshop facilitators and programme activity organizers were also asked to link the application to the submitted abstract(s), workshop(s) and programme activity(-ies). Instructions on how to do this were detailed within the application.
Media scholarship applicants were asked to provide media accreditation and supporting documents, along with the letter of recommendation. No media application was accepted without submission of the required supporting documents.

**Overview of AIDS 2012 Scholarship Statistics**

More than 10,000 applications were received from 181 countries, from all realms of the field of HIV and AIDS.

More than 800 recipients of full and partial conference scholarships were awarded from the pool of applicants based on recommendations and criteria established by the AIDS 2012 Conference Coordinating Committee (CCC), the Scientific Programme Committee (SPC), and the Workshop and Programme Activities Working Groups. The CCC charged a Scholarship Review Committee with overseeing the selection process and the overall distribution. We would like to thank the members of these committees and working groups who helped shape the scholarship programmes.

The majority of scholarships were offered to delegates who would directly contribute to the conference programme through an abstract, a programme activity (Global Village or Youth Programme) or workshop. A small number of media representatives were also funded to attend both the conference and a pre-conference briefing. In addition to these groups, priority was given to women, PLHIV, people from key affected populations, young people, students and community representatives.

Funding for the AIDS 2012 Scholarship Programmes has been kindly provided by: Broadway Cares / Equity Fights AIDS (BC/EFA); Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA); the Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS (DIFFA); the Ford Foundation; Kaiser Permanente; MAC AIDS Fund; the OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID); TD Bank Financial Group; the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH); Viiv Healthcare; and Wolters Kluwer Health. The conference organizers would like to thank these organizations for their generous contribution to the programme.
The following is a breakdown of how the scholarship budget was allocated.

**Figure 1. Scholarship Budget Allocation by Type**

- General delegates: 45%
- Abstract presenters: 36%
- Programme activity organizers: 14%
- Workshop facilitators: 1%
- Media representative: 4%

**Figure 2. Scholarship Budget Allocation by Geographic Region**

- Africa: 38%
- Asia and the Pacific Islands: 17%
- Latin America and the Caribbean: 13%
- Europe: 12%
- North America: 20%
The following is a breakdown of scholarships by gender, age and HIV status.

Figure 3. Awarded Scholarships by Gender

- Male: 47%
- Female: 52%
- Transgender: 1%

Figure 4. Awarded Scholarships by Age

- Between 16 and 26: 25%
- Between 27 and 40: 49%
- Between 41 and 50: 19%
- Above 50: 7%
Figure 5. Awarded Scholarships by HIV Status

- HIV+ 38%
- HIV- 36%
- Prefer not to answer 23%
- Unknown 3%