Funding has been made available to support McPherson ERI trainees during the COVID pandemic. This award is aimed at helping trainees attend upcoming online conferences and/or training programs that contribute to their vision-related research and/or career development.

All applicants must be in McPherson ERI member labs located at UW–Madison and perform vision-related research. The application process is open to postdoctoral researchers, graduate students, and undergraduate students.

- Applications will be accepted effective immediately.
- Applications will be accepted for future (and not-yet-paid-for) conferences and training programs only.
- Applications will be reviewed on a first-come, first-serve basis by the McPherson ERI Leadership Committee.
- Amounts up to $250 may be requested (one request per applicant; maximum of two requests per McPherson ERI member lab).
- The application period will remain open until designated funds are expended.
- Carryover or transfer of an unused award is not permitted.
- For conference attendees, preference will be given to speakers.

Applicant Requirements

- McPherson ERI Trainee (defined as an undergraduate student, graduate student, or postdoctoral researcher currently working in a McPherson ERI member laboratory) or status as a Trainee Member of the Institute.
- Trainees presenting a poster or talk at a conference will be expected to present a poster at the next in-person or virtual McPherson ERI poster session.

Please submit your application via email with the following information:

1. Your name
2. Name of your McPherson ERI member mentor/advisor
3. Your home department
4. Your trainee classification (undergraduate, MS/PhD/MD/DVM student, or postdoctoral fellow)
5. Number of years in your classification
6. If presenting, title of poster/paper and presentation abstract
7. A link to the conference or training event you wish to attend.
8. The conference or training registration fee amount that you are requesting.
9. A paragraph (up to 250 words) discussing how this conference or training opportunity is important for your vision-related research, education, and/or career.

Please note that incomplete applications will be returned without a funding decision.

Submit questions and completed applications to Chris Lacey via email. (chris.lacey@wisc.edu)