



SCA Global Conference 2020 – “Young Investigator Initiative – NAF Travel Award” Application Information

Background

For junior researchers it is often challenging to get an overview in the field of rare disease like ataxia. The Young Investigator Initiative is initiated by Heike Jacobi and Jennifer Faber and was formed within the framework of SCA Global as a platform for scientific exchange amongst young researchers and for education and training purposes. The idea is to assure high quality of clinical assessments by trained clinicians, to attract and bring together young researchers within the field of ataxia research. A first step was to organize a travel grant award for young investigators together with the National Ataxia Foundation (NAF).

Aim

The National Ataxia Foundation offers to reimburse up to \$2,000 USD in financial support to three eligible young investigators who are committed to ataxia research who (without financial support) would be unable to attend the SCA Global Conference in Bonn Germany on April 6-7, 2020. The travel award will cover:

- 200 EUR meeting fee (for YI)
- up to 400 EUR for European and up to 1,500 EUR for international flights
- accommodation costs for 2 nights (in one of the [hotels providing discounted rates](#))

Procedure for Young Investigator

Young investigator shall submit by 15th of December 2019:

- A letter of intent including her/his activities in the field of ataxia research and/or patient care
- Rationale why it is important to attend the conference for her/his further work in ataxia
- Letter of support from his/her group leader in ataxia research
- Confirmation that the investigator does not have financial support to attend the SCA Global conference otherwise

Submission to: yii_sca-global@posteo.de

Procedure for Selection Committee

The SCA Global – Young Investigator Initiative will collect all applications. A structured document will be developed to assist in the review process by the executive board. The steering committee of SCA Global will serve as executive board. Based on review of the applicants' submissions and the need for funding, the executive board will recommend three young investigators to receive up to \$2,000 USD travel support to attend the SCA Global conference.

Based on the recommendations of the executive board, the National Ataxia Foundation will make the final selections of young investigators to receive travel support.

Executive Board Members

T. Klockgether (Germany), T. Ashizawa (USA), L. Jardim (Brasil), A. Durr (Paris), Bin-Weng Soong (Taiwan), and D. Szmulewicz (Australia). S. Hagen (NAF) and J. Greenfield (UK Ataxia, EuroAtaxia) will represent the patient organizations.