



FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS

The Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) has established a Grant Scheme to fund research in the field of publication ethics. The Scheme is designed to provide financial support to any member of COPE for a defined research project that is in the broad area of the organisation's interests, and specifically in the area of ethical standards and practice in biomedical publishing. The project should have a specific goal and be intended to form the kernel of a future publication.

A maximum sum of £5000 will be allocated to any one project, but applications for smaller sums are welcomed.

The terms and conditions of the Grant are as follows:

1. At least one of the applicants must be a member of COPE.
2. Calls for applications will be made twice a year with closing dates of 1 December and 1 June. An electronic version of the application form must be sent to the Administrator no later than 12 pm (noon GMT) on the closing date for consideration by COPE Council.
3. The application must contain a lay summary of the project, a definition of the question to be posed, sufficient methodological detail to allow assessment of the viability of the project, a clear timeline and a definition of the likely deliverables. A full justification for the sum requested must accompany the application.
4. A report on the progress of the research should be presented within one year of the award and at the end of the project. The grant must be used within two years from the date of award, and balance sheets must be forwarded annually. These should be sent to the Administrator. Any remaining funds after two years must be returned.
5. It is anticipated that the work stemming from the project will be presented at one of COPE's annual seminar meetings within 2–3 years of the award. Such data may also be published in peer-reviewed journals. Any publications or related presentations at meetings by the recipient emanating in part or whole from COPE's support should be duly acknowledged and copies sent to the Administrator.

Applications are reviewed by a COPE sub-committee. Applicants will be advised of a decision as soon as practicable after the deadline date.

An application form can be obtained by contacting Linda Gough, COPE administrator, at LGough@bmj.com or 020 7383 6602. For more information on COPE, see <http://www.publicationethics.org.uk/>

The closing date for receipt of applications is 1 December 2007 or 1 June 2008.