

## FINAL REPORTING

- The administering body provides both the funder and the open community the names of those who benefitted as well as the companies that provided the grants.
- SA Heart® will do this on the SA Heart® website [www.saheart.org](http://www.saheart.org)
- MedTech regulations allow only for a final sum of grants received for any one event, and the companies contributing to the pool to be indicated.
- The sponsoring company or companies will all receive a full reconciliation.
- Money received for a particular event and not spent is then returned – or transferred to another congress's grant pool if the sponsoring company agrees.
- SA Heart® will acknowledge industry partners that have contributed to any meeting grants.

## SA HEART® CRITERIA

In the event of unrestricted grants, SA Heart® will use the following criteria for delegate selection.

- SA Heart® paid up member
- Active participation within SA Heart®, SIGs, regional branches or wider cardio

vascular community (contributing committee member, trainer, speaker or other active involvement)

- Returned application for congress support
- Equity and diversity - underserved areas, specialty and gender
- Training status and / or experience
- Previous sponsorship(s) received (repeated year on year support to the same congress will only be considered in exceptional cases with relevant motivation)

SA Heart® believes that these criteria form a fair basis and encourage membership and active participation, in turn strengthening the cardiovascular community.



**South African Heart  
Association®  
PO Box 3213  
Matieland  
7602**

**Phone (021) 889 6129  
Email: [info@saheart.org](mailto:info@saheart.org)  
[www.saheart.org](http://www.saheart.org)**

# Congress sponsorship

**Your SA Heart® guide to  
delegate sponsorship after  
MedTech regulations**



## WHAT INFLUENCE HAS MEDTECH GOT?

Under MedTech regulations device companies subscribing to MedTech may no longer sponsor or support Health Care Professionals (HCP) directly to any third party congress.

## HOW CAN INDUSTRY REMAIN INVOLVED IN SPONSORING DELEGATES?

- The effected industry companies may still give **educational grants** for delegate support to organisations e.g. congress organisers, medical professional organisations (like **SA Heart®**), hospital groups to support delegates to attend a conference.
- These grants can be **restricted** (the sponsoring company specifies criteria for the recipient profile eg. Nurse/techs or specialty **BUT** without specifying a candidate by name) or **unrestricted** grant, in which case the receiving /administering organisation may stipulate their own criteria to distribute the funds for delegate support.

## WHO DO I APPROACH?

The South African Heart Association (**SA Heart®**) and its special interest groups have agreed that SA Heart® as mother body should apply to industry for support for

members to attend congresses of **general cardiology** (SA Heart, ESC, WCC, PASCAR, ACA). The special interest groups will apply to industry for support for their members to attend congresses relating to their specialty.

## HOW CAN I APPLY?

- The educational grant receiving organization **must** call for applications mentioning whether restricted or unrestricted grants are available.
- Applications must be an open and transparent process.
- **SA Heart®** will call members to apply via an **online link** or approach relevant target groups in case of restricted grants received.

## WHO DECIDES?

- **Grant allocation** occurs using the applications received and the criteria associated with either the restricted educational grant criteria set by the respective donating company or companies, or **SA Heart®** criteria for unrestricted educational grants.
- Any applicant may also be sponsored in part to afford more candidates the opportunity to attend while contributing in part to the overall expenses.
- The **committee** dealing with grant allocation administered through **SA Heart®** consists of:
  - Two representatives of the SA Heart® board of directors,

- one from each of its standing committees (Education, Fulltime Salaried Committee, Ethics and Guidelines and Private Practice committee),
- and within those representatives ensure a presence of adult (private and public) & paediatric cardiologists and surgeon,
- as well as an allied professional and basic scientist.

## DOES SA HEART® GAIN?

- Grants whether restricted or unrestricted, are requested and ring-fenced for **one particular event**
- Money not spent **does not benefit the** receiving organisation, may not be transferred to other HCP not specified in the criteria or another event without the explicit consent of the donating company.
- Any **money not spent must be reimbursed** to Donor Company.
- Only a very limited amount (market value) may be used to manage the grant(s) and relating administration.

## WHAT DO I DO?

- Apply timeously for any advertised grant
- Speak to companies that have previously funded you personally to provide grants to SA Heart®
- Get involved in SA Heart®!