



Visitor Studies Group Annual Professional Development Bursary

The VSG annual bursary is intended to provide financial assistance to enable members to pursue professional development opportunities that are in keeping with the mission and goals of the Visitor Studies Group. £500 is offered per calendar year to cover travel, conference registration fees or other related expenses. This sum can be offered to one applicant or distributed at the discretion of the Selection Board. All bursaries are paid to the applicant in pounds Sterling; the recipient(s) will be expected to provide evidence of the bursary being spent as intended through production of receipts.

Successful recipients will be expected to write an article for the VSG newsletter, give a presentation on their bursary-funded experience at the next VSG AGM, as well as sit on the Selection Board for the following year's bursary.

Eligibility

To be eligible for a travel bursary, applicants must have been a member of VSG for at least 12 months prior to the date of application. The closing date for applications is March 31st each year. Applicants will be expected to produce a letter of reference from a senior professional in their sector in support of their application.

Selection Criteria

Applications will be judged by the following criteria:

Potential of the applicant to use the bursary to further VSG's objectives to promote Visitor Studies throughout the museum, gallery and heritage sector (UK and elsewhere)

Preference will be given to those who are not entirely dependent on VSG funding, and have 'match funding' from other sources, such as an employer or other financial award.

The selection will be conducted by the Selection Board, which will consist of one VSG committee member, one VSG member (not from committee), and the previous year's bursary recipient(s). Members of the Selection Board are ineligible to apply for the bursary; their decision will be final.

Application Form

Applicant's Details

Name

Title

Institution

Address

Telephone number

Email

VSG member since

Name of referee

Referee's relationship to applicant (eg supervisor, director, professional contact)

Letter of reference ___attached ___under separate cover

Please describe the nature of the conference / training / professional development opportunity for which you request funding. How does the remit of this event relate to that of VSG?

Please give an estimate of your full costs for participating in this event. How do you intend to meet the remaining costs?

Travel: £	Subsistence: £	Registration fees: £
Other (specify): £		
Additional means of funding:		

The Visitor Studies Group is a national group of engaged museum, heritage and arts professionals who support each other to achieve best practice in visitor research. The Visitor Studies Group seeks to represent opinion and expertise, to participate in debate and to impact on policy and strategy across the sector.

– Visitor Studies Group Business Plan, 2002

In 250 words or less, describe how you will use this bursary in order to help the Visitor Studies Group achieve these aims: