

# RESEARCH

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## I. COMBINED SECTIONS MEETING ABSTRACT REVIEWS

### A. Call for Abstracts

- i. The Research Section of the APTA is responsible for distributing the Call for Abstracts for the Combined Sections Meeting. The Chair of the Research Committee of the Orthopaedic Section communicates with the Chair of the Education Program Committee of the Orthopaedic Section to ensure the Chair of the Research Committee is the contact person for individuals submitting research abstracts for the Orthopaedic Section.
- ii. The Chair of the Research Committee communicates with the Section office to ensure that the call for abstracts is posted on the Section web site and in *Orthopaedic Physical Therapy Practice* and JOSPT.
- iii. Individuals do not need to be an APTA member to submit an abstract, but they MUST be sponsored by an APTA member. This is identified in the APTA online submission form.

### B. Reviewer Assignment

- i. The Vice-Chair of the Research Committee is responsible for recruiting Section members to review abstracts. All assignments are performed online through the Scholar One program. The Vice-Chair provides Scholar One with registration information for each reviewer and Scholar One technicians enter reviewers into the system.
- ii. The Vice-Chair assigns 2-3 reviewers for each submitted abstract. Review instructions and criteria for scoring are disseminated to the reviewers by the Vice-Chair.
- iii. All members of the Research Committee are expected to review abstracts for CSM as part of their committee responsibilities.

### C. Accept/Reject Decisions

- i. The Vice-Chair of the Research Committee makes the final decisions on acceptance or rejection of an abstract for either platform or poster presentation.
- ii. The decision is based on the average score given by the 2 - 3 reviewers. Abstracts are accepted based on the number of platform or poster presentations available. Abstracts are accepted starting with the highest scores and then continued until the available numbers of abstracts have been accepted.

### D. Scheduling Abstract Presentations

- i. The Vice-Chair of the Research Committee is responsible for submitting the schedule for platform presentation sessions to the Section office in time for printing in CSM conference publications.

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- 1  
2 ii. The Vice-Chair of the Research Committee does not schedule poster presentations. Poster  
3 presentations are handled by the APTA.  
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## 5 E. Moderating Abstract Platform Presentations

- 6 i. The Vice-Chair is responsible to recruit and schedule individuals to serve as moderators for  
7 the abstract platform presentations at CSM. Instructions for moderating are disseminated to  
8 the moderator by the Vice-Chair.  
9  
10 ii. All members of the Research Committee are expected to serve as a moderator for one  
11 abstract platform presentation at CSM, if they are attending CSM and asked by the Vice  
12 Chair to serve as moderator.  
13  
14 iii. The Vice-Chair is expected to attend CSM and is responsible to coordinate the moderators  
15 and session for the abstract platform presentations at CSM.  
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## 18 **II. RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM**

### 19 A. Announcements

- 20  
21  
22 i. The request for applications will be published in the Spring issue of *Orthopaedic Physical*  
23 *Therapy Practice*, JOSPT and posted on the Section's web site.  
24  
25 ii. The Chair of the Research Committee is responsible for communicating any updates of the  
26 request for applications to the Section office prior to posting of the announcement.  
27

### 28 B. Deadlines

- 29  
30 i. The deadline for grant application submission is November 15<sup>th</sup>.  
31  
32 ii. The deadline for preliminary review is due December 20<sup>th</sup>.  
33  
34 iii. The deadline for external review is 2 weeks prior to the first day of CSM.  
35  
36 iv. The deadline for notifying applicants of a decision is April 15<sup>th</sup>.  
37

### 38 C. Preliminary Review

- 39  
40 i. All grant applications will undergo a preliminary review by members of the research  
41 committee.  
42  
43 ii. During the preliminary review, committee members will screen all applications to ensure  
44 they are complete, that they meet eligibility standards, and have enough scientific merit to  
45 justify further review by the external review board. Some applications may be rejected at  
46 this stage.

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2       iii. The committee members will return their reviews to the Chair of the Research Committee  
3       by December 20<sup>th</sup>. The Chair will make final decisions for continued review of the  
4       applications by the external review board.  
5

## 6 D. External Review 7

- 8       i. An External Grant Review Board consisting of 3-12 researchers, independent of the  
9       Research Committee, will be recruited by the Chair of the Research Committee to conduct  
10      a thorough scientific review of grant applications that were deemed acceptable in the  
11      preliminary review. The number of committee members will fluctuate, depending upon the  
12      number of grants submitted each year.  
13  
14      ii. Each member of the external review board will review and score assigned grants according  
15      to the guidelines provided to them by the Chair of the Research Committee.  
16

## 17 E. Accept/Reject Decisions 18

- 19      i. A conference call or face-to-face meeting at CSM of the External Grant Review Board will  
20      take place to discuss the grant reviews and scores, and then to rank the grants for funding  
21      priority.  
22  
23      ii. The External Grant Review Board ranks the grants and makes recommendations for the  
24      funding cut line.  
25  
26      iii. The Chair of the Research Committee makes the final decisions on recommendations made  
27      to the Orthopedic Section BOD for acceptance or rejection of a grant application.  
28  
29      iv. The decision is based on the average score given by a minimum of three reviewers.  
30      Applications are accepted based on the amount of funding available in the budget for any  
31      given year. The highest scored acceptable grants are accepted first until all available slots  
32      have been filled.  
33

## 34 F. Funding Decisions 35

- 36      i. The Chair submits a recommendation for funding of grants to the Board of Directors for  
37      final approval.  
38  
39      ii. Total small grant funding is \$110,000 per year (2 unrestricted grants at \$40,000/each; 1 new  
40      investigator grants at \$30,000 each)  
41  
42      iii. Total career development grant funding is \$25,000 per year (1 Career Development at  
43      \$25,000 per year for two years)  
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45      iv. Total post-doctoral career development award funding is \$25,000 per year (renewable for  
46      an additional year at \$25,000 based on successful completion of predetermined metrics. The

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1 Section will offer the award every other year such that the maximal Section expenditure for  
2 this award would be \$25,000 per year.

- 3
- 4 v. Total Clinical Research Network (CRN) grant funding is \$30,000 per year (1 CRN grant at  
5 \$30,000 per year)
- 6
- 7 vi. Final funding decisions are determined by the Board of Directors.
- 8
- 9 vii. The Board of Directors will take a proactive and strategic perspective when considering  
10 future Foundation for Physical Therapy requests such that overall Section research support  
11 is considered. Given this, the Board will use a “nonbinding” limit of \$32,000 per year for  
12 future Foundation support to allow for ongoing Section funded research grants and  
13 initiatives.
- 14

## 15 G. Research Recipients and Study Outcomes

16 A list of research grant recipients, title of the study and an abstract of the study will be posted  
17 to the Orthopaedic Section web site along with the outcome of their study.

## 18 H. Management of Awarded Grants

- 19
- 20 i. The Chair will manage the awarded grants, ensuring that grant criteria are complied with  
21 prior to release of funds, to include Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval, IRB  
22 consent form, budget that adheres to grant criteria guidelines, and summary abstract of the  
23 awarded grant to be posted to the Orthopedic Section website.
- 24
- 25 ii. The Chair will review for approval all progress reports, final reports, requests for changes  
26 and requests for no-cost extensions.
- 27
- 28
- 29

## 30 **III. AWARDS**

### 31 A. Rose Excellence in Research Award

- 32
- 33 i. The Chair of the Research Committee will seek nominations for the award from members  
34 of the research committee and from Section members. Announcements for nominations will  
35 be posted in *Orthopaedic Physical Therapy Practice* and on the Section’s web site.
- 36
- 37 ii. Eligibility: Any peer-reviewed research article related to orthopaedic physical therapy, in  
38 which the first author is a member of the APTA and licensed to practice physical therapy in  
39 the United States, published September 1 of the previous year through August 30 is eligible  
40 for this award. E-pub, in press articles do not qualify. Should the journal containing an  
41 otherwise eligible article experience a delay in releasing its August issue, the article must  
42 be available to the general public no later than September 1, to be considered.
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- 1           iii. The Chair of the Research Committee disseminates all nominated articles to the Research  
2           Committee for review and scoring.
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- 4           iv. The article with the highest average score from the committee members review is selected  
5           as winner.
- 6
- 7           v. The Chair of the Research Committee and the Research Committee members are ineligible  
8           for the award.
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## 10           B. Orthopaedic Section Research Poster Award

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- 13           i. The poster abstract must 1) represent an original research investigation, 2) have the  
14           potential to be published in a peer-reviewed journal, 3) have the potential to impact  
15           orthopaedic physical therapy practice.
- 16           ii. The 15 highest scored eligible poster abstracts which meet the above criteria will be invited  
17           as nominees for the award.
- 18
- 19           iii. All nominees for the award must agree to present the poster at CSM, confirm PT licensure  
20           in the United States or be eligible for licensure, and be a member of the APTA.
- 21
- 22           iv. The Research Committee will evaluate and score the nominated posters at CSM based on  
23           the following criteria 1) research design, 2) clinical relevancy, 3) clear presentation of the  
24           study, and 4) effective use of visuals.
- 25
- 26           v. All nominated posters will be presented and reviewed by the research committee on the first  
27           full day of CSM.
- 28
- 29           vi. The award will be presented to the investigators of the best CSM Orthopaedic Section  
30           Poster selected by the Orthopaedic Section's Research Committee.
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- 32           vii. The award will be presented during the Orthopaedic Section reception at CSM.
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## 34           C. JOSPT Awards

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- 36           i. The Chair of the Research Committee is asked to serve on the award committee for JOSPT  
37           to select the best research paper and the best clinical paper of the year for JOSPT.
- 38
- 39           ii. The Chair of the Research Committee may designate another member or members of the  
40           Research Committee to serve in his/her place on the JOSPT award committee.
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## 43           **IV. FUNDING SOURCES**

### 44           A. Link Funding Sources on Web Site

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1 A link to the Section on Research, the Foundation for Physical Therapy, and other applicable  
2 web sites for funding of orthopaedic physical therapy research will be maintained and updated  
3 by the Research Committee on the Orthopaedic Section web site.  
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## 6 **V. RESEARCH SURVEYS**

### 7 8 A. Requests for the Section to Disseminate Survey Research Investigations to Section 9 Membership

- 10 1. The Orthopaedic Section does not endorse individual survey research investigations;  
11 however, the Section is willing to provide a conduit for dissemination of electronic  
12 research surveys for Section members through OsteoBLAST.
- 13 2. Section staff will work with the website developers to secure the membership directory  
14 to prevent the mass download of membership e-mails while allowing for targeted e-mail  
15 searches by Section members.
- 16 3. Create a mechanism for orthopaedic researchers who are Section members and who meet  
17 the criteria for Osteoblast distribution to send a mass e-mail to Section members that is  
18 generated by staff with a link to the survey instrument. A nominal fee of \$50 for Section  
19 members will be required to offset staff time. This service would only be provided to  
20 approved Section members.
- 21 4. All requests by Section members pertaining to research surveys will be sent to the  
22 Research Chair for review.
- 23 5. Following review by the Research Chair, the request will be sent to the Section  
24 President and Vice President for final approval.
- 25 6. Once final approval is given by the Section President and Vice President, a link to the  
26 survey instrument will be included in an OsteoBLAST to Section membership.
- 27 7. Criteria for review by the Research Chair  
28
  - 29 a. The principle investigator or a co-investigator must be a member of the  
30 Orthopaedic Section.
  - 31 b. The survey must be IRB approved or determined to be “exempt” research by the  
32 investigator’s host institution. Documentation of IRB review and approval must  
33 accompany the request.
  - 34 c. A link to the final version of the survey instrument must be available for review  
35 by the Research Chair.
  - 36 d. The survey instrument must include a self-contained research cover letter.

### 37 38 **B. Survey request policy statement and procedures**

39  
40 The Orthopaedic Section remains committed to its membership and the pursuit of scientific endeavors to  
41 improve clinical practice. The Section provides a mechanism for dissemination of electronic research surveys  
42 for Section members through *OsteoBLAST*, our section’s periodic e-mail newsletter sent to all section members.  
43 This mechanism is designed to support scientific endeavors while protecting the privacy and interests of our  
44 members.  
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46 For researchers interested in polling our members via e-mail, there are two options for dissemination.  
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## Option 1: Survey invitation in OsteoBLAST:

1. The principle investigator makes a formal written request by e-mail for polling the Orthopaedic Section members. The request must include the following elements.
  - a. A three sentence statement why you want to poll the Orthopaedic section membership
  - b. The study purpose and significance
  - c. A link to the final version of the survey instrument
  - d. Proposed text for **OsteoBLAST** subject line, i.e. title, a short description of the study, and the *research cover letter*.
  - e. Statement confirming IRB approval
2. After receipt of the request, the following review procedure will be followed
  - a. All requests by Section members pertaining to research surveys will be sent to the Research Chair for review who will use the following criteria for reviewing the request.
    - i. The proposed research is relevant and important to the members Orthopaedic Section
    - ii. The principle investigator or a co-investigator is a member of the Orthopaedic Section.
    - iii. The survey must be IRB approved or determined to be “exempt” research by the investigator’s host institution.
  - b. Following review by the Research Chair, the request will be sent to the Section President and Vice President for final approval.
  - c. Once final approval is given by the Section President and Vice President, a link to the survey instrument will be included in an OsteoBLAST to Section membership.
3. There is no cost from the investigator for this service from the Orthopaedic section

## Option 2: Separate e-blast invitation

1. The principle investigator can pay a \$50.00 administration fee for a **separate e-blast invitation** to the Orthopaedic Section membership. The Orthopaedic Section will send a separate e-mail message requesting participation by the membership on behalf of the Principle Investigator.
2. The criteria for **Option 1** must be satisfied.

Approved e-blast invitations will include a disclaimer that the Orthopaedic section is disseminating the research survey on behalf of the principal investigator as a service of our organization, but endorsement is not implied nor explicitly given for this research endeavor.