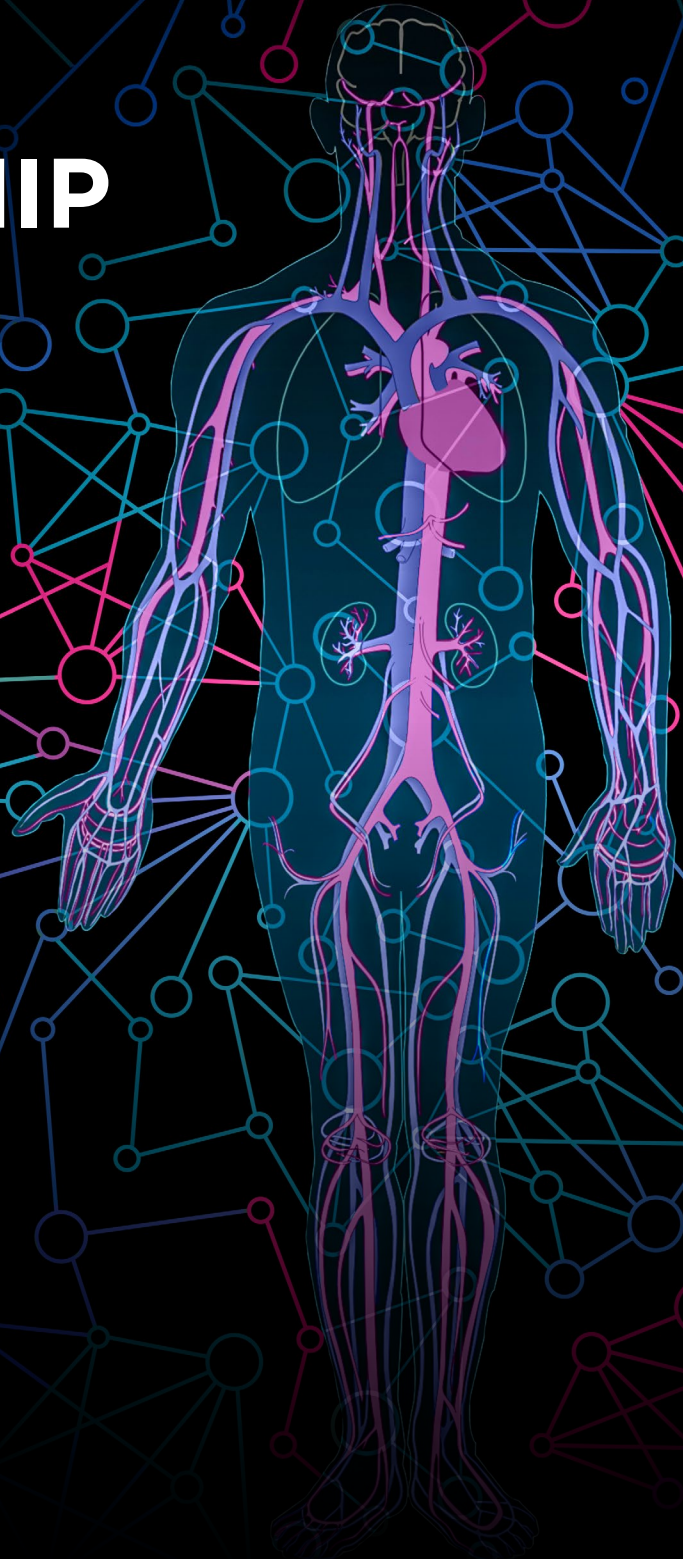




CARDIOLOGY CONNECTIONS

24th Annual SA Heart® Congress 2024
Sandton Convention Centre
8 - 10 November 2024

DELEGATE SPONSORSHIP



DELEGATE SPONSORSHIP for SA HEART® CONGRESS 2024

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

SA Heart® encourages companies - whether bound by MedTech or not - to contribute educational grants to financially support delegates through the general delegate grant pool.

HOW CAN INDUSTRY REMAIN INVOLVED IN SPONSORING DELEGATES?

- Industry partners including those who are SAMED and MedTech affiliated 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 e.g., nurses/clinical technologists or specialty **BUT** without specifying a candidate by name or making the criteria so restricted that they point to a certain individual) or **unrestricted** grant, in which case the receiving/administering organisation may stipulate their own criteria to distribute the funds for delegate support.
- **SA Heart® has criteria which requires membership of the association**, and then considers whether the applicant plays an active role in the association or cardiovascular community as well as if previous educational grant sponsorships have been received. SA Heart® works hard to ensure a balance between representation across specialities, public and private hospitals, demographics and geographic distribution of grant recipients.
- **SA Heart® received PBO status and can now issue 18A certificates in certain circumstances.** Delegate grant sponsorships may qualify for 18A certificates which maximises the impact of contributions while also potentially reducing company income tax liability.

HOW CAN DELEGATES APPLY?

- The educational grant receiving organization **must** call for applications.
- 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 and the congress website will have a tab for sponsorship application.
- After the application deadline, no further applications will be considered.
- Only delegates who have applied through the official portal before the closing date will be considered.
- Applying for a delegate grant does not guarantee sponsorship for the congress. Delegate support for the applicant depends on the amount received in the overall grant pool, the number of applicants and the criteria stipulated and matching with those of the applicant.

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 three senior members of SA Heart® appointed by the Board of SA Heart®. These members will remain anonymous to protect them from undue influence from sponsoring companies as well as undue requests and blame from members and grant applicants.

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 **funds remaining** after the allocation process can either be reimbursed to the industry partner or kept in a ring-fenced pool to support future educational grant applicants. Should funds be ring-fenced, the industry partner will be able to stipulate the criteria of how funds are allocated to applicants in future SA Heart Congresses.
- **SA Heart® does NOT charge an administrative fee for grant administration. The administrative fee is paid out of the Congress budget.**

TRANSPARENCY & REPORTING

- **After** the congress, the donating company will receive a detailed report of how their grant was allocated and spent.
- Sponsored delegates will receive information of which company or companies contributed to their delegate support with the option to write a note of thanks to that company.
- Your intended candidate is not on your report list? Criteria of a restricted grant should not be that restrictive as to point to only one individual. It also happens that more than one company specify criteria pointing to the same individual. The delegate might have been covered by another grant, qualify for speaker benefits or not even attend the congress – or didn't apply for a grant in time. Occasionally, somebody with similar credentials, or who hasn't received a grant in previous years, has been identified and received support.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you would like to explore how educational grants can support your business objectives, please reach out to:

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