

Unifying Hearts and Minds

25th Annual SA Heart® Congress 2025
Sandton Convention Centre
17 - 19 October 2025

DELEGATE SPONSORSHIP



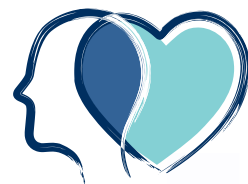
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DELEGATE SPONSORSHIP for SA HEART® CONGRESS 2025



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

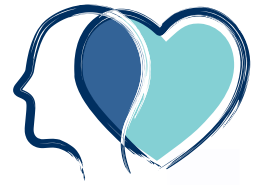
SA Heart® encourages companies – whether bound by MedTech or not – to contribute educational grants to financially support delegates through the general delegate grant pool.

HOW CAN INDUSTRY REMAIN INVOLVED IN SPONSORING DELEGATES?

- Industry partners, including those who are SAMED and MedTech affiliated, may still contribute **educational grants** to organisations (e.g., congress organisers, medical professional organisations like **SA Heart®** and hospital groups) to financially support delegates to attend a conference.
- These grants can be **restricted** (the sponsoring industry 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 SA Heart® members to apply via an **online link on the congress website**. Relevant target groups may also be approached in the case of restricted grants having been received.
- After the application deadline, no further applications will be considered.
- Only applicants who have applied through the official portal before the closing date will be considered.
- Applying for a grant does not guarantee sponsorship for the congress. Financial support for an applicant depends on the amount received in the overall grant pool, the number of applicants, the criteria stipulated and whether those criteria match 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 industry partner/s, 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 are appointed by the Board of SA Heart®** and consist of three senior members of SA Heart® Education & Research Committee. 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.

HOW CAN DELEGATES APPLY?

- 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 industry partner will receive a detailed report of how their grant was allocated and spent.
- Educational grant recipients will receive information of which industry partner/s contributed to their financial support with the option to write a note of thanks to the respective industry partner/s.
- Should an industry partner's legal and compliance guidelines not permit SA Heart® to disclose sponsored applicants or notify grant recipients of where funding was sourced from, this request will be honoured.
- What if 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, an applicant 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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