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The American Committee of Medical Entomology (ACME) works to promote medical entomology within the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH) and in organizations whose scopes of activities include the area of human diseases transmitted by arthropods. We seek opportunities to emphasize and expand the contributions of medical entomology to tropical medicine and also to appropriately recognize outstanding contributions by next-generation medical entomologists.

The Frank H. Collins Eck Institute – ACME/ASTMH Travel Award is a competitive award offered annually to fund travel for one African PhD student or postdoctoral researcher working on malaria vectors within the African continent in relation to malaria transmission and control to attend the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene Annual Meeting. Applicants must be citizens of a country within the African continent and be based and registered as students (trainee for postdocs) at an African institution.

This Travel Award is co-sponsored by ACME and the Eck Institute for Global Health at the University of Notre Dame in honor of Frank Collins, professor emeritus (deceased), University of Notre Dame. Collins was a leading researcher in vector biology who joined the faculty at Notre Dame after 14 years at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), where he served as chief of the Vector Genetics Section in the Center for Parasitic Diseases. He performed genome-level studies of arthropod vectors of human pathogens and completed field and laboratory research on the mosquito *Anopheles gambiae*, the primary vector of malaria parasites in sub-Saharan Africa. In 2019, ASTMH awarded Collins the Harry Hoogstraal Medal for Outstanding Achievement in Medical Entomology. Additional information on Collins can be found [here](#).

One awardee will receive *up to* \$2,250 to support travel, accommodation, and registration costs to attend the ASTMH Annual Meeting in person to present his or her research. The award will be presented during the ACME Annual Business Meeting. Awardees should prepare a 1-min overview of their work to present during the ACME Annual Business Meeting.

Application Instructions:

- All applicants will complete the application form found [here](#). (<https://forms.gle/bBF4uHHAPXD8Kz5X6>).
- Items 1 to 6 listed in the Application Material section below will be submitted as a single PDF, using the following naming convention: First Name_Last Name_Collins Travel Award. Item 7 (headshot) will be uploaded separately to the application form, using the following naming convention: First Name_Last Name_Headshot.



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Application Materials:

1. Cover letter describing the applicant's current research focused on malaria vectors in Africa, with a focus on transmission and control. (One page maximum)
2. Complete Curriculum Vitae (CV)
3. Description of financial need to attend the Annual Meeting and how the applicant will benefit from the Frank H Collins Eck Institute – ACME/ASTMH Travel Award. (One page maximum)
4. A copy of the applicant's ASTMH Annual Meeting abstract, with the abstract number assigned by the ASTMH. For example: 26-A-1234-ASTMH.
NOTE: Late-Breaker Abstracts will not be accepted.
5. Two (2) letters of support from mentors on the applicant's capability to perform the research and the level of anticipated impact of findings on the field of malaria vectors in Africa.
6. One (1) letter from a mentor, advisor, or educational institution official that confirms the applicant is registered as a student (or trainee for Postdocs) at an African educational institution. *This confirmation letter can come from a mentor who wrote a letter of support (item 5).*
7. 2-inch x 2-inch high-resolution headshot photo (.jpg) for use on signage at the ASTMH Annual Meeting.

Timeline:

- **Application form open:** June 22, 2026, to July 20, 2026
- **Deadline for applications:** July 20, 2026, 11:59 PM EDT
- **Award Notification:** By September 15, 2026

Questions? Contact: apply-collins-award@nd.edu