

## **2021 ASE FOUNDATION RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM**

### **GRANT DESCRIPTION**

The Association for Surgical Education Foundation (ASEF) recognizes the importance of advancing education research in the surgical fields and the difficult financial climate due to the on-going Covid pandemic. Therefore, we are pleased to offer a series of education research grants to start July 1, 2021. Grant proposals that focus on the theme of virtual (either synchronous or asynchronous) instruction or assessment topics will receive special priority. The amounts of the ASEF grants are divided into four levels (gold, diamond, platinum, robotic) as illustrated in Figure 1.

ASE Foundation Gold level grants are \$500 USD each and ideally suited to fund small surgery education projects such as survey research projects. The timeline for these projects should be within one academic year. These funds must be used for direct costs of the research project and cannot be used for indirect costs, administrative or travel costs, publication costs, or salary support for the Principal Investigator, Co-PIs, or collaborators. The ASEF will award up to ten of the Gold level grants.

ASE Foundation Diamond level grants are \$2500 USD each and are well-suited for mixed methods surgery education projects. The timeline for these projects should be within one to two academic years. Funds must be used for direct costs or to support a research assistant, statistician, or other study staff. Funds cannot be used for indirect costs, administrative or travel costs, publication costs, or salary support for the Principal Investigator, Co-PIs, or collaborators. The ASEF will award up to two of the Diamond level grants.

The ASE Foundation Platinum level grant is \$10,000 USD and designed to support multi-institutional research projects. The timeline for these projects should be two academic years. Funds must be used for direct costs or to support a research assistant, statistician, or other study staff. Funds cannot be used for indirect costs, administrative or travel costs, publication costs, or salary support for the Principal Investigator, Co-PIs, or collaborators. The ASEF will award only one Platinum level grant.

The ASE Foundation Giant Robot grant is \$25,000 USD and designed to support research projects that focus on robotic surgery research questions including curriculum design, training programs, assessment metrics, and patient outcomes. Research projects that focus on other technological applications to surgical education including electronic health records and machine learning are also welcome in this category. The timeline for these projects should be two academic years. Funds must be used for direct costs or to support a research assistant, statistician, or other study staff. Funds cannot be used for indirect costs, administrative or travel costs, publication costs, or salary support for the Principal Investigator, Co-PIs, or collaborators. The ASEF will award only one Giant Robot level grant.

## Levels of Grant Funding

**ROBOTIC - \$25,000**

**PLATINUM - \$10,000**  
(multi-institutional RCTs)  
1 grant

**DIAMOND - \$2500**  
(mixed method studies)  
2 grants

**GOLD - \$500**  
(survey research projects)  
10 grants