RCGP/SAPC ELECTIVE PRIZE
Application Criteria

An annual prize of £500 is awarded to the medical student who submits the best proposal for an elective based in Primary Care/General Practice. Proposals may take a variety of forms, including a relevant 'think piece', research project, quality improvement initiative, innovation, invention, evaluation or clinical audit.

The different types of proposals are defined as follows:

- **Think piece:** A thought-provoking and exploratory piece of writing, primarily comprising background information, personal perspectives and critical analysis. It may explore ideas, challenge existing thinking or stimulate discussion.
- **Reserach:** A project that addresses a clearly defined question using a systematic scientific methodology, with the aim of generating robust evidence and, where possible, contributing new knowledge or insights.
- **Improvement:** An initiative that seeks to enhance an existing process, service or practice by doing something better.
- **Innovation:** The application of a new or adapted idea, approach or method to achieve a better or different outcome.
- **Invention:** The creation of an entirely new idea, approach, tool or method.
- **Evaluation**: A systematic assessment designed to establish what standard has been achieved, how effectively an initiative or service has perfomed, or what outcomes have been delivered.
- **Audit:** A systematic assessment or practice against an established standard or benchmark, to determine whether the expected standard has been achieved.

ELIGIBILITY, CRITERIA AND HOW TO ENTER

An annual prize of £500 is jointly awarded by the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) and the Society for Academic Primary Care (SAPC).

The RCGP/SAPC Elective Prize is normally awarded in advance of the elective to the medical student whose proposed elective in Primary Care/General Practice is judged by an adjudication panel to be the best.

How to apply

1. Applications must be submitted via the RCGP Awards Portal (Award Force) using the attached application form. The completed application form must include a supporting reference and the signature of a medical school supervisor. This would normally be a member of an academic department of General Practice or Primary Care.

2. No additional documents, including CVs, as these will not be considered by the adjudication panel.

Data protection

Information provided in the application will be used solely for the purpose of administering the RCGP awards and supporting their objectives. All personal data will be processed in accordance with applicable data protection legislation (Data Protection Act 2018)

Adjudication

Applications will be assessed by an adjudication panel comprising representatives from the RCGP and SAPC.

The same piece of work may only receive one RCGP or SAPC award within any three-year period.

Conditions of the award

The successful applicant is required to submit a final report of approximately 500 words outlining the outcomes of their elective proposal. This report must be submitted within six months of completing the elective.

The prize winner will normally be invited to present their report as a poster at the Society for Academic Primary Care (SAPC) Annual Scientific Meeting.

Following adjudication and notification of the results, the decision of the panel will be final. No further correspondence regarding the adjudication process will be entered into.

Closing date: 1 February 2027

RCGP/SAPC ELECTIVE PRIZE APPLICATION FORM		
YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION		
Forms can only be accepted in typed format. The information given on these forms will be used solely for the purpose of supporting the objectives of the RCGP in the administration of its Awards.		
FIRST NAME:		
SURNAME:		
ADDRESS:		
	POST CODE:	**E-MAIL:**
	TEL NO:	
PROPOSAL DETAILS **Please give brief details and expand if necessary in the supporting statement**		
TITLE OF PROPOSAL:		
WHERE WILL YOUR ELECTIVE TAKE PLACE?		

PROPOSAL OUTLINE:
Please give details of your proposal (including rationale, methods, expected outcomes and resources needed. (Limit 250 words)

EXPECTED STARTING DATE:	DURATION OF STUDY:
HOW WILL THIS PROPOSAL BENEFIT EITHER THE UK OR THE AREA YOU ARE VISITING? (Limit 100 words)	
HOW WILL THIS PROPOSAL HELP YOUR PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND/OR HELP YOU FOLLOW A CAREER IN GENERAL PRACTICE? (Limit 100 words)	
I confirm that if I win, the prize will be used for the purposes of the award only	□ **Please indicate here**

Supporting reference from medical school

This reference should normally be provided by a Senior, Lecturer, Reader or Professor in General Practice/Primary Care (or equivalent) at your medical school who has approved your proposal.

Name and address of Referee	Name & Post Held	
	POST CODE:	**E-MAIL:**
	TEL NO:	

Supporting comments

Supporting comments cont.
Signature of Referee:

PLEASE INDICATE WHERE YOU FIRST HEARD OF THE RCGP/SAPC ELECTIVE PRIZE (THIS INFORMATION HELPS US TO PUBLICISE THE AWARD AS WIDELY AS POSSIBLE)		
□ RCGP Journal	**□ Medical School Literature (Please specify)**	**□ Through a College Faculty (Please specify)**
Other: (Please specify)		
Would you like to see this Elective Prize advertised elsewhere? **Please specify:**		
Signature of applicant:	**Date:**	

Submit Application via Award Force by 1 February 2027