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Purpose:	This rubric is for assessing conference bursary applications from library and information science students and Irish library staff.
Total Points:	20 points maximum (10 points per criterion)
Reviewers:	Each application should be assessed by 2 independent reviewers

Criterion 1: Reasons for Attending

Score Range	Description	Indicators
9-10 points (Excellent)	Compelling, specific reasons clearly aligned with professional development goals. Strong connection to Irish library context. Engagement with conference themes.	• Specific learning objectives stated • Clear career/professional development link • Demonstrates understanding of conference content • Relevant to Irish library sector
7-8 points (Very Good)	Clear reasons for attending with good professional relevance. Shows engagement with conference themes.	• Good professional rationale • Demonstrates interest in key topics • Some connection to career goals • Relevant to library work
5-6 points (Good)	Adequate reasons provided. Shows general interest but lacks specificity or clear connection to professional development.	• General interest in conference • Basic professional relevance • Limited detail on specific goals • Some vague statements
3-4 points (Fair)	Vague or generic reasons. Minimal connection to professional development or conference content.	• Generic statements only • Unclear professional benefit • Limited engagement with themes • Mostly generic content

0-2 points (Poor)	Insufficient, irrelevant, or no clear reasons provided.	• No clear reasons • Irrelevant to conference • No professional connection • Extremely brief/inadequate

Criterion 2: Interest in Conference Themes		
Score Range	Description	Indicators
9-10 points (Excellent)	Demonstrates deep, specific interest in conference themes with clear understanding of their relevance to Irish librarianship.	• Identifies specific themes/topics • Shows understanding of theme content • Explains personal/professional relevance • Connects to current library issues
7-8 points (Very Good)	Shows strong interest in conference themes with good understanding of content and relevance.	• Mentions specific themes • Shows genuine engagement • Good awareness of relevance • Makes relevant connections
5-6 points (Good)	Demonstrates general interest in themes but lacks depth or specificity in explanation.	• General theme awareness • Basic relevance explained • Limited specific examples • Some engagement shown
3-4 points (Fair)	Minimal engagement with conference themes. Vague or superficial interest expressed.	• Very general statements • Limited theme knowledge • Weak connections made • Superficial engagement
0-2 points (Poor)	No meaningful engagement with conference themes. Generic or no response.	• No specific themes mentioned • No understanding shown • Generic/irrelevant response • Inadequate content