

APAGE/JGH Foundation Clinician-Scientist Training Fellowship

Aims and Conditions

Purpose

This Fellowship, sponsored by the Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology (APAGE), and supported by the JGH Foundation, is to assist a medical graduate who wishes to obtain training as a Clinician Scientist in the broad field of gastroenterology and hepatology and related disorders in an APAGE member country other than his/her own country. The intention is to help train leaders in the field who have obtained grounding in laboratory or clinical scientific methods or both, and who will be able to contribute to research in the field during their subsequent career. It is recognized that a 12-month period will not be sufficient to complete a research doctorate or other qualification. However, some recipients may wish and have the opportunity to continue their research to complete such a qualification after the Fellowship has completed; others may return immediately to clinical practice, but with research skills they did not possess before. It is the wish of APAGE and the JGH Foundation that the Fellows will return to their home countries on completion of the Fellowship (or any extension of time they might negotiate in the host country to complete a further qualification or extended project). The candidate is also required to present his/her work/project (preferably oral presentation) at the APDW meeting the following year or upon completion of the project and the research project to be written up as a full-length article to be submitted to the JGH for consideration for publication.

Value and period of tenure

The Fellowship will be for a duration of 12 months' period of training. It will provide a stipend of USD40,000 to be paid in two equal instalments to the applicant account – the first at the commencement of the Fellowship (upon receiving an ink-signed proof of commencement of the Fellowship from the supervisor also stipulating the date of commencement of the Fellowship), and the second at the mid-point in the Fellowship (upon receipt of supervisor's and applicant's interim report).

A stipend of USD10,000 will be paid to the host institution (supervisor's account) at the commencement of the Fellowship (upon receiving an ink-signed proof of commencement of the Fellowship from the supervisor also stipulating the date of commencement of the Fellowship) as a token of support to the training expenses incurred by the applicant during the Fellowship.

The Association will not be able to pay any additional amount for travel and relocation of the Fellow and her/his family, but the Fellow may use part of the stipend for this purpose if he/she wishes.

Leave during the Fellowship

An applicant will be entitled to recreational leave not exceeding four weeks during the year. Sick leave may also be taken without reduction in stipend, with the approval of the host supervisor.

No other allowances are available.

Superannuation

The Association does not contribute to superannuation, loadings or continuation of service.

Additional Earnings

An applicant shall be entitled to engage in paid professional work by the host institution during the period of the Fellowship, providing that the paid work is approved in writing by the applicant's supervisor. The holding of another source of support (for example a national travel scholarship) will not disqualify applicants but must be disclosed at the time of application if such support has already been granted.

Application closing date for 2024

The closing date for submission of applications is on 30th June 2024. The successful candidate will be notified by email by the APAGE secretariat. A certificate will be awarded during the award ceremony at the APDW 2024 in November 2024 in Bali, Indonesia. The successful candidate is required to be present at the award ceremony and this is mandatory. Instructions for completing the application form are provided on the form itself, and on the separate instruction page.

A successful candidate is only eligible to apply for the Fellowship once.

Commencement

The Fellowship may commence at any time during the calendar year after its award.

Eligibility

An applicant is required to:

- Be in the final 12 months of a training program in gastroenterology and/or hepatology in a member country of the Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology, *or not more than three years beyond the date of completion of training, at the closing date for applications, and*
- Correctly fill in the application form and lodge with attachments prior to the closing date, *and*
- Be recommended by the current supervisor and endorsed by the national society of gastroenterology, *and*
- Identify a training centre in a member country of his/her choice and apply directly to the training institute/hospital. Both APAGE and JGH Foundation are not involved in the application process of the applicant. An applicant is only eligible to apply for the Fellowship once he/she has secured a training post.

Reporting

Both the candidate and supervisor must submit an interim report halfway through the training. On completion of the Fellowship, a written report of between 500 and 1000 words must again be sent to the secretariat of APAGE by both parties, not later than three months after the completion of the Fellowship. Late or non-submission of the report by the applicant will be publicized in the APAGE newsletter (APDNews).

The Council of APAGE shall have the right to publish or use in such a manner as they see fit, any such report, in whole or in part, providing due acknowledgement of the source is made.

Instructions for completing the application

1. Directly into the MS Word files using a word-processor:
 - a. Applications can be prepared using Microsoft Word, entering information directly into the three files with .doc extensions (APAGE Fell_Main.doc, APAGE Fell_curr sup.doc and APAGE Fell_proposed sup.doc).
 - b. When completed, the main application form (sections 1 to 11) must be printed in order to add the signatures of the applicant, the proposed training supervisor, the head of the intended department, and the head of the administering institution. The completed and signed form should then be sent to reach the APAGE secretariat at the address below by the closing date. (It will be satisfactory if a legible scanned copy in PDF format is received by the closing date):

Secretariat
Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology
Email: apage@apage.org

Sections 12 and 13, the confidential reports of the current (or most recent) supervisor and the proposed training supervisor, may also be completed electronically. These need not be printed for signature unless the supervisors wish. The supervisors may simply forward them to the APAGE secretariat as a file attached to a covering email in which they certify that they have completed the attached report. For reasons of confidentiality, these must not be sent via the applicant, but must be sent directly to APAGE. The APAGE email address is apage@apage.org.

2. By printing this complete Adobe Acrobat document (APAGE Fellowship) then completing most sections in ink using **capital letters** or using a typewriter or word-processor to print within the area of the form for sections 7, 10, 12 and 13. In this case, the completed main document, and the separate supervisors' reports should be sent by mail as indicated in method 1 above.