



## Rules and Regulations of the European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging (EACVI) Research Grant Programme

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### ■ Purpose of the Grant Programme

To provide an opportunity for specialised research in the field of non-invasive imaging modalities (Echocardiography, Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance, Nuclear Cardiology and Cardiac Computed Tomography), in order to help doctors to achieve experience and skills in a high standard clinical centre or University with a large domain expertise within an **ESC Member country** other than their own.

This programme can be considered as a valorisation of the geographical mobility as well as cultural exchanges and professional practice in the field of cardiology.

### ■ Eligibility

Please note the following two rules when applying:

- **Only 1 candidate per hosting institution** is allowed **per year** (should more than one candidate apply for the same institution, and should they be in the final top scorers, only one - the highest scorer will be selected for that institution).
- A hosting institution that has been selected in the winning candidates' application form cannot be chosen again for the following year (i.e. an institution cannot be selected two years in a row). Please check the winning institutions for last year on the **past winners web page**. If in doubt, please contact the EACVI team for cross-verification.
- A candidate who has been awarded a grant from the ESC or one of its constituent bodies cannot apply for an EACVI Research Grant for the same year.

Eligible applicants for the Grant are those who are:

- Under **40 years old** on the day of the application deadline **AND**
- Members of the EACVI Silver level on the application submittal day
- Citizens or residents for tax purposes of a country which is a regular **ESC Member country** or an **ESC Affiliated Member Country** (Please see **Annexe - Residence eligibility for EACVI Research Grant** for full details)
- Medical graduates at any stage in their career
- In agreement with a host institution
  - **outside their own country** or the country in which they followed their initial medicine training (if it is a regular **ESC Member country**)
  - which not only offers good research opportunities but is also the most appropriate for the particular research subject.

**IMPORTANT:** The final validation of the application will be subject to visa acceptance (if necessary).

**NOTE:** Applicants who are in doubt about their eligibility are advised to contact the EACVI prior to submitting an application. Applicants are advised to read the explanatory notes carefully before submitting an application.

### ■ Tenure

- The Grant covers a period of **12 months**. The research period must start after completion of the whole application process (after receiving formal confirmation from the EACVI). If necessary, the length of the research period may be extended, in which case the extra costs can be covered from other sources (e.g. candidate's institution, personal funds, industry etc). The potential extra costs should not come from other ESC or EACVI grants.
- The research period must start after completion of the whole application process (after receiving formal confirmation from the EACVI) and before the end of the calendar year of the programme. If necessary, the length of the research period may be extended, in which case the host institution will bear the costs. Research period shorter than 12 months will **not be accepted**.

### ■ Project

Submitted proposals must correspond to the field of non-invasive imaging modalities (Echocardiography, Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance, Nuclear Cardiology and Cardiac Computed Tomography).





### ■ Level of support

EACVI Research Grant recipients will receive a sum of **30 000 Euros for 1 year** to cover his/her living expenses. An agreement will be signed between the Host Institution and the Grant recipient.

The convention/agreement should specify the status of the Grant recipient during the period spent in the host institution.

If for any reason the Grant recipient has to stop their research period, the refund of the Grant may be required pro rata.

EACVI Research Grants are not meant to provide extension for a stay in a foreign country for those scientists who are already doing research there supported by another Grant.

### ■ EACVI Research Grant Application process

- Application is done via an online form exclusively. Applications by email will not be accepted. Paper applications will not be accepted.
- For the competition, the **opening** of application starts on **31 March**; the **closing date** to receive the application is **30 September**.
- The **link to the application online form** can be found on the **EACVI Research Grants web page** (<https://www.escardio.org/Research/Research-Funding/EACVI-research-grants>)
- The applicant will be required to fill an online form and to download an application document (Word format). This document has two parts and should be completed and submitted via the dedicated form.
  - The application document has two parts (A & B):
    - **Part A:** Applicant's profile & project proposal (to be filled in by the applicant)
    - **Part B:** Host institution (to be filled in by the host institution supervisor)
  - The applicant has to submit the completed **Part A** form and his/her CV to the Head of the Department (HOD) and to the proposed supervisor where the research would be held, with the request to complete **Part B**. The host institution will send back **Part B** to the applicant.
  - All (two) parts need to be uploaded in the online application form by the applicant.
  - Additionally, the applicant must provide a **CV in a European format**.
- The completed application has to be submitted no later than the **30 September**.
- Applications that are received after the closing date and/or that are incomplete will not be accepted.
- Applications will be submitted for consideration exactly as received by the office. Applicants are therefore urged not to submit incomplete forms and take the responsibility that they may be rejected if this is the case.
- Candidates should read carefully the present Rules and Regulations for EACVI Research Grants. An application which is not in accordance with these rules will not be considered. Submission of an application will be taken to imply acceptance of these conditions.
- Applications must conform to the accepted lay-out in the electronic forms and provide the necessary information as requested in the form. Please make a careful selection of your documentation.
- Grant recipients whose projects require the use of radioactive substances in man, includes clinical trials and/or involves human subjects (whether patients or normal), should enclose evidence that the necessary approval has been sought / obtained.
- Applicants are asked to clarify with the Head of Department or Supervisor of the proposed host centre the necessary **language requirements** for the research period and should declare whether they are fluent enough in the requested language(s) in the application form.
- A candidate who already has a grant (irrespective of who is sponsoring him/her) **cannot** apply for an EACVI as **no overlapping is accepted**.
- Re-application

A candidate can re-apply for an EACVI Research Grant in the following year based on the below criteria:

- If they have not already been awarded an EACVI Research grant
- If they have not been awarded a grant from the ESC or one of its constituent bodies during the same year

This new application will be judged on an equal basis with other applicants.





## ■ Conditions and regulations

### 1. Scope of the Programme

#### 1.1. Legal and financial provisions

- The Research Grant is made under the legal and scientific responsibility of the host institution
- The EACVI financial support of **30 000 Euros for 1 year** to the Grant recipient in connection with the agreement to be arranged between the candidate and the selected centre (host institution)
- Candidates have to discuss the cost of their proposed research programme with the host department before submitting the Grant application to ensure that the department is in a position:
  - To set up a contract (employment, training...) with the recipient **and**
  - To meet any expenditure exceeding this amount

#### 1.2. Selection of the host institution

- The research period may be undertaken in a suitable university hospital or similar institution within a country which is a regular **ESC Member Country**.
- Applications for Research Grant are made on the understanding that the host institution, the Supervisor and the Grant recipient agree to accept the regulations related to the programme.
- To obtain the signed approval of the host institution representatives is the key task for the candidate before he/she submits the application to the EACVI. The EACVI intends the programme to be operated flexibly and to waive any rule, subject to the need to ensure that the funds are properly expended.
- The EACVI is unable to provide assistance with transfer or household removal expenses incurred by Grant recipients on taking up a Grant.
- The EACVI is unable to provide assistance with any visa formalities or expenses that would be required.
- Persons benefiting from the recognition of professional qualifications shall have knowledge of the necessary languages for practicing the profession in the host Member State (Directive 2005/36/EC of The European Parliament and of The Council of 7 September 2005 on the recognition of professional qualifications). The official language of the programme is English and all official documents must be submitted in **English**.

#### 1.3. Subject of Research

- The application and proposal for Research must obviously result from discussion between the Grant applicant and the Supervisor however the Grant applicant should personally submit composed proposals for research.
- The application form has been designed to make it clear that the appointed Head of Department is willing to receive the candidate and provide the necessary facilities.

### 2. Standard Regulations

#### 2.1. Agreement

- An agreement between the Grant recipient and the host institution should specify the status of the Grant recipient during the period spent in the host institution. The host institution should confirm its agreement on this process.
- The European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging has no responsibility and holds no liability in this process.

#### 2.2. Status of Grant recipients

- A Grant under these regulations will normally be administered through the medium of a convention/agreement for the period of the Grant, entered into between the Grant recipient and the host institution.

#### 2.3. Insurance and tax

- The Grant applicant is responsible for the set-up of his own personal and professional insurance and for compliance with taxation rules according to the local fiscal regulations.
- The receiving institution is responsible for the setup of the legal framework of the trainee in accordance of the local regulations.
- The receiving institution is responsible for ensuring that the candidate complies with the immigration requirements and if necessary the local work legislation.
- The host institution will be requested to provide a statement to the EACVI confirming the compliance of the candidate with the above regulations as well as a certificate of presence of the candidate in the centre.

#### 2.4. Conditions

##### 2.4.1. Restrictions

- It is a condition of any award that Grant recipients do not engage in private practice for personal gain. The Research Grant is intended to be awarded for full time research.





#### 2.4.2. Sick leave or cancellation of Grant tenure

- Grant recipients will be subject to the normal conditions of service of the host institution so far as sick leave is concerned.
- For illness or other unexpected reasons leading to Grant interruption for periods longer than 1 month, the EACVI should be notified.
- If for any reason a Grant recipient has to stop his/her research period before completing 80% of the length of the programme, the refund of the whole amount of the grant may be requested. In exceptional circumstances the EACVI Education Committee will evaluate the situation and decide whether to apply or not this rule. In any case, the refund of the amount paid in advance will be requested.

#### 2.4.3. Honorary clinical contracts

- Medically qualified grant recipients who undertake, as part of their training Grant programme, work with a direct interaction with patients are reminded that they should be in possession of an honorary clinical contract from the appropriate health authority.
- Responsibility for seeking such a contract will lie with the Head of Department in which the Grant recipient is working, following the usual practice of the local Medical School.

#### 2.4.4. Local regulations

- Grant recipients will be subject to the terms of employment of their host institution.

### 2.5. Change of Project or Supervisor

- Any changes in a Grant recipient's research programme or supervisor, that were originally approved by the EACVI, will **require the EACVI's prior consent.**

### 2.6. Final Report

- Grant winners are **required** to submit a final report in English at the end of the research period on the undertaken work and to inform the EACVI of their proposed appointment upon conclusion of the research period.
- Grant winners are encouraged to take this opportunity to put forward any comments they may have on the Research programme. The report must be sent to the EACVI ([eacvi@escardio.org](mailto:eacvi@escardio.org)) within one month of completing the Research period signed by both, the Grant winner and the host centre.
- Research Grant recipients are encouraged to submit their results as original abstract(s) for EACVI, EuroEcho, EuroCMR or ICNC congresses and/or paper(s) to the European Heart Journal of Cardiovascular Imaging, acknowledging the EACVI Research Grant as source of funding.
- Grants winners are required to acknowledge the EACVI in any publications during the tenure of the Grant or related to the subject for which the grant was awarded, as follows: "[Awardee name] received funding from the European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging (EACVI Research Grant [Application Reference])". The application reference can be found in the Grants area of the candidate's My ESC account, and it will also be communicated with the result letter.

### 2.7. Intellectual property

- All copyright in any publications, presentations or educational materials which embody the data and the results of the research/training shall be jointly owned by the EACVI, the host institution and the Grant recipient.

### 2.8. Governing Law

- The present rules and regulations of the EACVI Research Grant Programme are governed by French Laws.

## 3. Special Regulations - Human subjects

- 3.1. Local Ethical Committee approval is required for research that includes clinical trials and/or involves human subjects (whether patients or normal), and appropriate evidence of such approval must be incorporated in the application. The EACVI expects all such work to be undertaken in accordance with the highest standards.
- 3.2. Regulations concerning the control of experiments will be those existing in the local institution. This applies to medical records, radioactivity, use of human materials, genetic manipulations, animal experiments and licenses for appropriate procedures.



## ■ Annexe - Residence eligibility for EACVI Research Grant

1. These rules will apply to a winner of an EACVI Research Grant
2. Subject to the following provisions of these rules a candidate must at the date of application for an award:
  - (a) be citizen or permanent resident in a country, which is an **ESC Member Country** or **ESC Affiliated Member Country**
  - (b) has been ordinarily resident in such a country for the period of 3 years immediately preceding the date of application
3. Any candidate who is the child of a citizen of a national of an **ESC Member Country** or **ESC Affiliated Member Country** will be eligible for a grant if at the date of application:
  - (a) he/she is resident in an **ESC Member Country** or **ESC Affiliated Member Country** and
  - (b) his/her parent, being such a citizen, is employed in such a country or if not, was previously last so employed or has been so employed for an aggregate period of 1 year during the period of 3 years immediately preceding the date of application, and
  - (c) he/she has been ordinarily resident in **ESC Member Country** or **ESC Affiliated Member Country** for the 3 years immediately preceding the date of application.
4. A candidate who is a refugee or the spouse or child of a refugee will be eligible for a grant if at the date of application the refugee:
  - (a) is ordinarily resident of an **ESC Member Country** or **ESC Affiliated Member Country** and
  - (b) has not been ordinarily resident outside such a country since being recognised as a refugee or granted asylum.
5. For the purpose of these rules:
  - (a) A candidate who has been resident in an **ESC Member Country** or **ESC Affiliated Member Country** fully or mainly for the purposes of receiving full-time education (even if not resident for tax purposes) will be considered as eligible.
  - (b) A period of ordinary residence will not be treated as being interrupted by an absence which is caused:
    - (I) by the temporary employment abroad of the candidate, his/her spouse or his/her parents, or
    - (II) the temporary full-time education abroad of the candidate or his/her spouse.

## ■ Notes

List of ESC Member countries:

<http://www.escardio.org/The-ESC/About/National-Cardiac-Societies/ESC-National-Cardiac-Societies>

List of ESC Affiliated Member countries:

<http://www.escardio.org/The-ESC/About/Affiliated-Cardiac-Societies>

