

RULES and REGULATIONS

for

**The European Association of
Percutaneous Cardiovascular Interventions
(EAPCI)**

A branch of the ESC

EDUCATION & TRAINING GRANTS PROGRAMME 2021-2022

EAPCI Education and Training Grants Programme
Updated rules valid from 1 March 2021
Application for period 2021-2022

Purpose of the Education and Training Grant Programme

To provide an opportunity for clinical training in the field of interventional cardiology in an **Institutional Members Countries of the ESC** other than their own country of citizenship, permanent residence or country of work/training for medical graduates having completed the major part of their cardiology training but before obtaining a “permanent”, “senior staff” or “consultant” position.

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.

Training in fields directly related to cardiology may also be considered. The goal of this grant is to help young candidates attain clinical competence and acquire experience of high quality cardiological practice which enable them to contribute to improving academic and clinical standards upon return to their own country.

Exceptionally and due to the current pandemic situation, it was decided to allow for a temporary deviation (if required) from the traditional programme abroad (which is to be restored once the travel restrictions are lifted) and to open the programme both at the international (within ESC Member Countries) but also at national level (i.e. in the same country as the applicant, but not in his/her institution) to help young candidates attain clinical competence and acquire experience of high-quality cardiology practice which enable them to contribute to improving academic and clinical standards upon return to their own institution / centre.

Eligibility

Applicants eligible for the Education and Training Grant Programme are those who meet all the below requirements:

- Are citizen or permanent resident from an Institutional Members Countries of the ESC, **AND**, whose ‘country of work/training at the time of application’ is among Institutional Members Countries of the ESC. *(Please refer to the Appendix 1 at the end of this document for additional information).*
- Are medical graduate providing they have already proved some research potential by

publishing in medical journals **OR** are science graduate holding a PhD or DPhil degree or equivalent or have submitted a thesis before starting the training period relating to the grant

- Are **under 40 years of age at the day of application deadline** (30 April 2021)
- Are members of the European Association of Percutaneous Cardiovascular Interventions (EAPCI)

IMPORTANT:

-Final validation of the application will be subject to visa acceptance (when needed) and compliance to European Union regulations 36-2005.

NOTE:

- Applicants who are in doubt about their eligibility are advised to contact the EAPCI prior to submitting an application.
- Applicants are advised to read the explanatory notes carefully before submitting an application.
- In order to promote interventional cardiology towards women and encourage them to choose interventional cardiology as a sub-specialty, the objective is that 50% of the grants are allocated to women in line with candidates' meritocracy and gender equity.
Note: The successful female grant applicants will be selected because of merit and scientific achievement and not purely based on gender

Selection criteria

- **INDIVIDUALS**

Criteria for selection include career and scientific achievements to date, motivation, plans for the Grant period, career goals after the grant period, impact of the grant, experience in interventional cardiology (structural, coronaries).

Preference will be given to candidates who have not received a previous competitive award or Grant, and those who have not received other grants (eg. from the European Society of Cardiology).

Candidates are not asked to have a pre-agreement with a centre before applying (but they can make some proposals and express their preference in a country and/or centre).

The Committee will not select more than 2 candidates from the same country to ensure optimal geographical spread.

- **HOSTING TRAINING CENTRES**

Preference will be given to centres that have active training Grant programmes and fulfill the minimum criteria below **(PLEASE NOTE: NOT ALL CRITERIA NEED FULFILLMENT TO APPLY AS A TRAINING HOSTING CENTRE)**

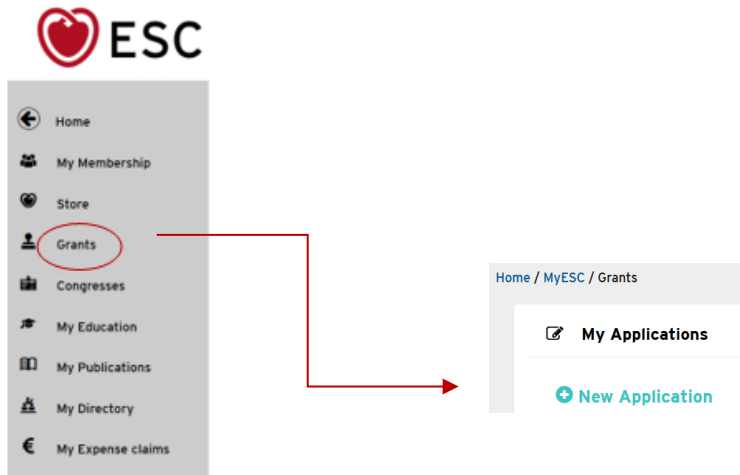
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|---|----------|
| • PCI procedures | 600/year |
| • TAVI procedures: | 50/year |
| • Mitral valve interventions: | 30/year |
| • Structural heart disease interventions: | 100/year |
| • Number of IVUS procedures: | 100/year |
| • Number of OCT procedures: | 50/year |
| • Number of FFR procedures: | 200/year |

In addition, there should be:

- At least one dedicated cath Lab
- At least 2 qualified interventional cardiologists in the department
- Availability of 3D ECHO
- Minimum of one procedure performed daily
- Current active Grant programme
- Fluent English and/or other local language

HOW TO APPLY ?

- To access the application online form please log in to your "**My ESC**" account from the website : <https://www.escardio.org/>
- Once you are logged in, go to 'Grants' and select "New Application" :

**IMPORTANT :**

- The applicant will be required to apply online and download an application document (part A) (Word format). **Once completed, part A will need to be uploaded from the online application form by the applicant.**
- **Applicants are strongly encouraged to save their form in PDF before uploading them online.**
- The completed application form including CV in a European format and recommendation letter must be submitted no later than **30 April 2021**.

NOTE : Applications are made exclusively via an online form. Applications by email or paper applications will not be accepted.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS 30 APRIL 2021

Tenure/Period of support

- The grant covers a period of 12 months. Grants for shorter periods will not be considered.
- The training period must start after completion of the whole application process (after receiving formal confirmation from the EAPCI) – i.e. between September/October and 31 December 2021 (with 6 months flexibility if required due to COVID-19 situation).

Level of support

The grant recipient will receive a sum of € 25,000 to cover his/her living expenses.

The amount will be paid in three steps, i.e. 45% at the beginning, 45% after 6 months and the remaining 10% upon reception of the final report.

Once the hosting institution has been confirmed by the EAPCI Fellowship Committee, 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 his/her education or training period, the refund of the grant may be required *pro rata*. In exceptional circumstances, the EAPCI Fellowship Committee will evaluate the situation and decide whether or not to apply this rule.

NOTES ON APPLYING FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING GRANTS

1. Applications received after the closing date will not be accepted.
2. Candidates are requested to carefully read and make sure they understand the Rules for EAPCI Education & Training Grants Programme. Submission of an application will be taken to imply acceptance of all the conditions. Any application which is not in accordance with these rules will not be considered.
3. Applications will be submitted to the EAPCI Fellowship Committee for consideration as received by the office; applicants are therefore urged not to submit incomplete forms and to arrange for the forms **to be completed in clear typescript** to ensure good quality reproduction. Incomplete or illegible forms will be rejected.
4. Applications must conform to the pre-defined layout and provide the necessary information within the space(s) provided in the form; only in exceptional cases additional sheets may be accepted (e.g. list of publications), so careful selection of the documentation should be made by the candidate.
5. Part A should be completed by the applicant. Candidates are asked to note that it remains their responsibility to request a recommendation letter to a person of their choice and upload it

online. Failure to return all documents before the closing date will be considered as incomplete application - as such the entire application will be rejected.

6. The EAPCI Fellowship Committee will propose one or more centre(s) to the candidate, in line with his training plans and expectations. Discussions will be held between the candidate, the hosting centre and the Fellowship Committee for all parties to be comfortable and aligned with the “matching”. Once agreed, the decision is final and indisputable.
7. Grant recipients whose projects require the use of radioactive substances in man should enclose evidence that the necessary approval has been sought/obtained (see paragraph 3.2 of the regulations).
8. Scientifically qualified candidates who have not yet obtained their doctorate must have submitted a thesis before taking up a grant.
9. Re-application :
A candidate who submits an unsuccessful application is entitled to re-apply in subsequent years. A new application will be judged on an equal basis with other new applications. However, under no circumstances will a candidate awarded a grant by the ESC or one of its Associations be considered for an EAPCI grant.

EAPCI EDUCATION AND TRAINING GRANTS PROGRAMME

CONDITIONS AND REGULATIONS

Part 1 - Scope of the Programme

Part 2 - Standard regulations

Part 3 - Special regulations

Appendix I - Residence eligibility regulations

PART 1. SCOPE OF THE PROGRAMME

1.1 Legal and financial provisions

- **The Education and Training grant is made under the legal and scientific responsibility of the training hosting centre.**
- **The Education and Training Grant provides financial support of 25,000 Euros per annum to the grant recipient** in connection with the agreement to be arranged with the selected centre (hosting institution).

- **Grant recipients are urged to discuss the cost of their proposed programme of work with the host department** so as 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 Training hosting centre

- Individuals allocation in training hosting centres will be made following discussions between the candidate, the hosting centre and the EAPCI Fellowship Committee.
- Training periods may be held in a suitable university hospital or similar institution within a country, which is an Institutional Members Countries of the ESC.
- The EAPCI 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 EAPCI is unable to provide assistance with transfer or household removal expenses incurred by grant recipients on taking up a grant.
- Persons benefiting from the recognition of professional qualifications shall have knowledge of languages necessary 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 EAPCI Fellowship Committee will take a special look at the language spoken by the candidate and will try to take this into account when making the individual placement decision. However, it cannot be considered liable in case the candidate's language level is deemed as not sufficient by the centre or the hosting country.
- The official language of the EAPCI Education & Training Grant programme is English and all official documents must be submitted in **English**.

1.3 Subject of training period

The application form for the centre has been designed to make it clear that the head of the proposed department is willing to receive candidates and provide the necessary facilities.

PART 2. STANDARD REGULATIONS

2.1 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.

2.2 Insurance and tax

- The grant recipient 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 set-up of the legal framework of the grant recipient in accordance of the local regulations.
- The receiving institution is responsible for ensuring that the grant recipient complies with the immigration requirements and if necessary, with the local work legislation.
- The training hosting centre will be requested to provide a statement to the EAPCI confirming the compliance of the grant recipient with the above regulations as well as a certificate of presence of the grant recipient in the centre.

2.3 Conditions

2.3.1 Restrictions

- It will be a condition of any grant that grant recipients do not engage in private practice for personal gain unless validated in advance by the EAPCI Fellowship Committee under exceptional circumstances.
- The Education and Training grant is intended to be awarded for full time training in the scope covered by the grant.

2.3.2 Sick leave

- Grant recipients will be subject to the normal conditions of service of the training hosting centre so far as sick leave is concerned.
- Grant recipients are obliged to have health insurance either provided by the host institution or sourced by themselves.

2.3.3 Honorary clinical contracts

- Medically qualified grant recipients who undertake, as part of their Grant programme, work concerned with the care of 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 the department in which the grant recipient is working, following the usual practice of the local Medical School.

2.3.4 Local regulations

- Grant recipients will be subject to the terms of employment of their training hosting institution.
- Centres are held responsible for mentioning all the specific requirements for their country and centre in their application form. In order to comply with the new EU Regulation 36-2005 the candidate might be subject to take a language test. According to this regulation any foreign person should justify he/she has the technical qualification and speaks the language of the training hosting centre and, if non-EU citizen that there is a public interest to recruit. The Fellowship Committee will take a special look at the language spoken by the candidate and would try to take this into account when making the individual placement decision.
- Note that in the majority of countries, a B2 level in the national language is required.
- All paperworks (visa, language certificate...) should be completed within 4 months after accepting the grant otherwise the grant will be allocated to another person.

2.3.5 ESC Privacy and Data Security Policy

The ESC complies with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 2016/679 and the data protection laws in France and takes all reasonable care to prevent any unauthorised access to your personal data. Please refer to www.escardio.org/privacy

2.4 Change of project or supervisor

Any changes in a grant recipient's training programme or supervisor from those originally approved the EAPCI will require the EAPCI's prior consent.

2.5 Reports

Grant winners are required to submit 2 reports (in English):

- One interim report after 6 months
- A final report at the end of the training period on the work undertaken and to inform the EAPCI of their proposed appointment upon conclusion of the training period. Grant winners are encouraged to take this opportunity to put forward any comments they may have on the Education and Training Grant Programme. The report must be sent to the EAPCI@escardio.org within one month of completing the training period signed by both, the grant winner and the training hosting centre.

These reports will be shared with the 2020-2022 and/or 2022-2024 EAPCI Fellowship grants Committee Chairs and members, the relevant ESC Staff, the host centre welcoming you during the duration of the EAPCI Fellowship grants programme, the grant programme's industry sponsor centre, for welcoming the candidates and the industry sponsor supporting the candidate.

2.6 Publications

The results of a grant recipient's project may be published in the usual way at the discretion of the supervisor or head of department, but this is highly recommended that the final results are submitted for publication to the European Heart Journal or EuroIntervention Journal. The EAPCI expects that the grant will be acknowledged in any publication dealing with the work carried out during the tenure of an Education and Training Grant. **One off-print of each publication should be sent to the EAPCI@escardio.org.**

As part of the Programme and if applicable, the training hosting centre will be requested to publish documents in EUROINTERVENTION and/or to submit one abstract at the EAPCI official congress (EUROPCR).

2.7 Intellectual property

All copyright in any publications, presentations or educational materials which embody the data and the results of the training shall be jointly owned by the EAPCI, the host institution and the grant recipient.

PART 3. SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Human subjects

3.1 The grant is intended to be awarded for education & training in interventional cardiology. Any other allocation of the grant time allocation will be down the responsibility of the candidate (such as securing approval from the centre, Local Ethical Committee approval for research projects...).

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.

Appendix 1

RESIDENCE ELIGIBILITY FOR EAPCI EDUCATION AND TRAINING GRANTS

1. These rules will apply to any grant provided by the EAPCI.
2. Candidates must be, at the date of application for an award:
 - a) Citizen or permanent resident from an Institutional Members Countries of the ESC, **and**
 - b) His/her 'country of work/training at the time of application' should be among an Institutional Members Countries of the ESC.

Note : For the term "Permanent Resident" please refer to the definition of the European Commission here : https://europa.eu/youreurope/citizens/residence/documents-formalities/eu-nationals-permanent-residence/index_en.htm

3. For the purpose of these rules, training hosting country for the 12-months programme should be different from the applicant's country of citizenship or permanent resident from an Institutional Members Countries of the ESC **AND** from his/her 'country of work/training at the time of application'.

Please see the list of Institutional Members Countries of the ESC here:
<http://www.escardio.org/The-ESC/Member-National-Cardiac-Societies>