

## **RULES and REGULATIONS**

**for**

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

A registered branch of the ESC

## **EDUCATION & TRAINING GRANTS PROGRAMME 2017- 2018**



**ESC**

European Society  
of Cardiology

## **EAPCI Education and Training Grants Programme**

### **Updated rules valid from 15 September 2017**

### **Application for period 2017-2018**

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### **Purpose of the Education and Training Grant Programme**

To provide an opportunity for clinical training in the field of interventional cardiology in an **ESC Member country** other than their own 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 contribute to improving academic and clinical standards upon return to their own country.

### **Eligibility**

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

- Are citizen or resident for tax purposes of a country which is a regular ESC Member from geographical Europe (not restricted to members of the European Union) see Appendix I for full details);
- 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 36 years of age at the day of application deadline** (15 January 2017)
- Are members of the European Association of Percutaneous Cardiovascular Interventions (EAPCI)
- Have reached the required language level requested by the relevant host center and/or country (B2 level in the majority of countries).

**IMPORTANT:** final validation of the application will be subject to visa acceptance (when needed).

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.

**Selection criteria**

- **INDIVIDUALS**

Criteria for selection include: scientific quality of the project, clear evidence of the training the candidate is expecting to receive, scientific publications, qualifications and commitment of the applicant.

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

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

- **TRAINING CENTRES**

Preference will be given to centres that are registered on CathGo database, have active training fellowship programmes and fulfill the minimum criteria below **(PLEASE NOTE: NOT ALL CRITERIA NEED FULFILLMENT TO APPLY AS A TRAINING CENTRE)**

- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| • 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 fellowship programme
- Fluent English and/or other local language

### **How to apply?**

- Download the application forms from EAPCI website.
- Fill the application forms.
- Each signer has to send back each part of the application forms (filled in and signed with a digitalized signature) by 15 January 2018 at [EAPCI@escardio.org](mailto:EAPCI@escardio.org) (no need to send a copy by post).

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS 15 JANUARY 2018**

#### **IMPORTANT:**

- The application form has three parts in electronic format (MS-Word) and should be completed and submitted electronically (MS-Word). Paper applications will not be accepted.
- All parts of the application should be returned electronically to the European Association of Percutaneous Cardiovascular Interventions ([EAPCI@escardio.org](mailto:EAPCI@escardio.org)) by the responsible persons who have been requested to complete them in advance of the closing date.
- Applications that are received after the closing date and/or that are incomplete will not be accepted.

### **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 1 June and 31 December 2018.

### **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 two steps, i.e. € 12,500 at the beginning and € 12,500 after 6 months.

Once the host institution has been selected for the candidate 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 then 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**

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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 pass on Parts B and C of the application form to the responsible persons. The candidate himself has to ensure that these parts are addressed to the EAPCI@escardio.org as indicated in Paragraph 1. Failure to return the parts before the closing date will be considered as incomplete application - as such the entire application will be rejected.
6. Part A Section 5. Please indicate the term of your current appointment.
7. Part A Section 11. It is essential to include all pertinent publications.
8. Individuals and Centres who wish to participate in the EAPCI Education and Training Fellowship Programme are invited to submit their applications separately. **The Fellowship Committee will select both - individual candidates and training centres - and will jointly determine the attributions.**

Pre-arrangements between Centres and Individuals **will not be taken into account**, unless they conform to the decision taken by the Committee. The decision of the Committee is final and indisputable.

9. 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).
10. Scientifically-qualified candidates who have not yet obtained their doctorate must have submitted a thesis before taking up a grant.

11. If an applicant has ever had any serious illness which will hinder his or her future clinical career, he or she is asked to inform the EAPCI. *This information may be sent separately addressed to the Chairman of the EAPCI Fellowship Committee.* Refer to section “Level of support” regarding financial provision.

## 12. 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 a second grant in the future.

# EAPCI EDUCATION AND TRAINING GRANTS PROGRAMME

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## 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
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### 1.1 Legal and financial provisions

- **The Education and Training grant is made under the legal and scientific responsibility of the host institution.**
- **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 (host 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 centre

- Individuals allocated in training centres will be decided exclusively by the EAPCI Fellowship Committee.
- Training periods may be held in a suitable university hospital or similar institution within a country, which is a regular ESC Member Country.
- 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.
- The official language of the EAPCI Education & Training fellowship programme is English and all official documents must be submitted in **English**.

### 1.3 Subject of training period

The application form has been designed to make it clear that the head of the proposed department is willing to receive the candidate 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 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 set up 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 with the local work legislation.
- The host institution will be requested to provide a statement to the EAPCI confirming the compliance of the candidate with the above regulations as well as a certificate of presence of the candidate 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.
- 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 host institution so far as sick leave is concerned, but the EAPCI should be notified if a grant recipient is likely to be away through illness **for more than a month**.
- 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 fellowship 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 host 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 host centre + 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 for applicants who wish to go to Germany: the B2 level is required to be allocated in Germany.
- All paperworks (visa, language certificate...) should be completed within 4 months after accepting the grant otherwise the grant will be allocated to another person.

## 2.4 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 Final report

Grant winners are required to submit a final report (in English) 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 Fellowship Programme. The report must be sent to the [EAPCI@escardio.org](mailto:EAPCI@escardio.org) within one month of completing the training period signed by both, the grant winner and the training centre.

## 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](mailto:EAPCI@escardio.org).**

As part of the Programme, the host institution will be requested to publish documents in the 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** 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 EAPCI 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.

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### Appendix 1

## RESIDENCE ELIGIBILITY FOR EAPCI EDUCATION AND TRAINING GRANTS

1. These rules will apply to any grant provided by the EAPCI.
2. Subject to the following provisions of these rules, a candidate must at the date of application for an award:
  - (a) Be citizen for tax purposes in an ESC Member in Europe.
  - (b) Have been resident for tax purposes in such a country for a period of 3 years immediately preceding the date of application.
3. Any candidate who is the child of a national of an ESC country (in Europe) will be eligible for a grant if at the date of application:
  - (a) He is resident for tax purposes in an ESC Member or
  - (b) His/her parent, being such a national, has been resident for tax purposes in an ESC Member for 1 year during the period of 3 years immediately preceding the date of application
4. For the purpose of these rules:
  - (a) A candidate who has been resident in an ESC Member in Europe or
  - (b) A period of residence for tax purposes will not be treated as being interrupted by an absence which is caused:
    - (I) By the temporary employment abroad of the candidate, his spouse or his parents, or
    - (II) The temporary full-time education abroad of the candidate or his spouse.

**List of ESC Member countries:**

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