
ECCO Travel Award Fact Sheet

The European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation (ECCO) offers Travel Awards as an Opportunity for Young Investigators to visit different Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) Centres in Europe, to learn scientific techniques or to be a clinical observer.

In order to be eligible, the candidate must:

- Not be older than 40 years at the time of application.
- ECCO Travel Award applicants and their host supervisors need to be ECCO Members (at the time of application).
- ECCO Travel Award applicants are not limited to the ECCO Member Countries and can apply from non-European countries; however the impact of the project for the IBD Community has to be clearly stated.
- To encourage applications from Central and Eastern Europe, three travel awards will be offered in the spring through ECCO National Representatives to three specific countries. The list will be kept in the ECCO Office. For the purposes of this proposal, Central and Eastern Europe is defined as Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey, and Ukraine. If the offer is not accepted by May, then that award will be open to other applications. Applicants from every country have an opportunity and are encouraged to apply for one of the open travel awards each year.
- Travel Awards aim to enhance the opportunity for IBD trainees and specialists to visit European IBD Centres. They are not designed to support travel to congresses or meetings.
- The principal purpose of the Travel Awards is to promote innovative scientific research in the area of Inflammatory Bowel Diseases. Exceptional circumstances such as an applicant from an ECCO Member Country travelling to a non-member country will be considered, but such an application is likely to receive a lower priority than an applicant from a non-member country visiting an ECCO Member Country.
- Members of ECCO Committees are excluded from applying.

Terms of submission

1. A total amount of EUR 1.500 will be awarded per ECCO Travel Award.
2. The duration of the award is short term, maximum 3 months. SciCom needs to be informed about the duration of the stay.
3. Send an application to SciCom **by June 3**
 - CV of the Travel Award candidate (incl. name, full contact details, ECCO Membership ID number)
 - Provide a letter of permission from the Head of Department of the hosting centre.
 - The scientific purpose for travelling to a country needs to be stated in detail (incl. time and duration of the visit). A scientific project does not need to be attached to the application; however, it will likely raise the overall score.

4. SciCom selects up to 4 candidates per year. Applicants will be notified of the outcome in **October**.
5. Only one proposal may be submitted per applicant by the submission date.
6. Payment will be made after acceptance of the Award and signing of the ECCO Travel Award form prior to **December 31**.
7. On completion and no later than 12 months after granting of the award, the applicant will submit a short report (150 words), signed by the awardee & the hosting institution, to SciCom for potential publication in ECCO News.

Applications should be sent to the head of the Scientific Committee of ECCO at the following address:*

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION ONLY

ECCO Office
Att. Chair of SciCom
Ungargasse 6/13
1030 Vienna, Austria
ecco@ecco-ibd.eu

***Data processing consent and retention:**

By sending an application by email to ecco@ecco-ibd.eu in reply to this open call, you agree to the data processing for the above described project:

ECCO Office stores applicants' personal data of this application for the project timeframe. ECCO Office will delete data securely after the end of this project.

In addition, the scientific review process generates a review result for the applicants which will be stored with your data in line with the requirements of scientific review archiving. You have the right to object at any time at ecco@ecco-ibd.eu.

Review Process

1. All projects will be reviewed and scored by the members of the ECCO Scientific Committee based on the following criteria:
 - Relevance of topic
 - Personal development opportunity
 - Importance of the project in the field of IBD
 - Available expertise of the applicant and host site
2. The ECCO Scientific Committee makes the selection and seeks approval from the ECCO Governing Board.

Scoring System

The following procedure for the scoring system for Travel Awards has been agreed on:

1. *Review by SciCom:* Each Travel Award application will be reviewed by 2 members of SciCom. They will score their assigned applications according to the four evaluation criteria and comment on each application.
2. *Ranking:* Applications are ranked according to their overall average scores.
3. *Final approval:* by the Governing Board of ECCO
4. *Acceptance/rejection letters:* Candidates will be informed of their application outcome by ECCO