
ECCO Fellowship Fact Sheet

The European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation (ECCO) offers Research Fellowships to encourage and support young individuals in their career and promote innovative scientific research in the area of Inflammatory Bowel Diseases (IBD) in Europe.

ECCO Research Fellowships aim to enhance the opportunity for IBD Trainees to work in European centres other than their own.

These awards are offered to young and enthusiastic basic and/or clinical scientists. Individuals with a well-established career in the field of IBD Research are not considered eligible for ECCO Fellowships.

Up to two ECCO Fellowships may be given each year.

In order to be eligible, the candidate must:

1. Not be older than 40 years or still in training at the time of application.
2. Submit an original research project using the [ECCO Fellowships and Grants Online Submission Pages](#). Incomplete applications will not be evaluated.
3. Provide a confirmation from the host institute stating that the applicant is accepted for a Fellowship, and will be under the supervision of a designated host. Both the host institute and the fellow are responsible for the successful outcome of the Fellowship.
4. At the time of the application as well as prior to the commencement of the Fellowship the candidate cannot be involved/work in any research project at the future host institute.
5. If your host institute holds a current ECCO Fellowship, then another application for this period is not possible. Therefore, an institute cannot apply for two ECCO Fellowships in consecutive years.
6. Both the applicant and the host supervisor need to be ECCO Members at the time of application.
7. ECCO Fellowships are not limited to applicants from ECCO Member countries. Applicants from non-European countries have to clearly state the impact of the proposed project on the IBD Community.
8. Fellowships aim to enhance the opportunity for IBD Trainees to work in European centres. 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 member/non-member country visiting an ECCO Member Country.
9. Applicants can apply for one ECCO Award category only per annual application round.
10. Recipients who were awarded an ECCO Fellowship in the past cannot reapply.

Terms of submission:

1. A total of **EUR 60.000** will be awarded per ECCO Fellowship. The Fellowship award has to be used to cover the applicant's salary. At the end of the Fellowship period, an official statement has to be signed by the Recipient and the host institute to confirm that the full prize amount was used as salary for the Recipient.

If, after the award of an ECCO Fellowship, a separate application for funding the project is successful, then the host is required to inform SciCom. This is to allow appropriate discussion of a separate funding body providing the salary of the individual and recognition of ECCO support.

2. The duration of the award is one year.
3. Only one proposal may be submitted per applicant and per host institute by the official submission date.
4. Members of ECCO Governing Board and SciCom are excluded from applying.
5. All applicants should submit a proposal for the research project using the [ECCO Fellowships and Grants Online Submission Pages](#) that should contain the following information:
 - Project title
 - Name, full address, affiliation(s), ECCO Member ID of the applicant
 - Name and full address of the host institute
 - Name and ECCO Member ID of the host supervisor
 - Summary of the proposal (max. 300 words)
 - Introduction (max. 900 words)
 - Objectives (max. 450 words)
 - Methodology and working plan (including chronogram) (max. 1350 words)
 - Significance and impact (max. 225 words)
 - Background of the group (max. 450 words)
 - Training capacity of the project and the group (max. 450 words)

As well as the following documents:

- CV of the applicant
 - Approval of the host institute, including a statement that the host centre will cover consumables and the full salary of the candidate of up to 12 months.
 - IRB approval (clinical/experimental) of the project
6. The annual deadline for submission-of ECCO Fellowship applications is **August 1**.
 7. Applications are scored by IBD Specialists according to seven criteria (see review process below). The Scientific Committee of ECCO (SciCom) reviews applications in autumn, and applicants are notified of the results in **October**.
 8. Payment is processed before **December 31**, contingent upon the ECCO Fellowship Agreement signed between the Fellow, the host institute, and ECCO.
 9. Successful applicants will receive an ECCO Fellowship certificate at the ECCO Congress and are expected to be present to receive it.
 10. A 300-word synopsis of the project is to be submitted within 4 months of receiving the award. Additionally, a final report (a synopsis of 300 words) is due within 6 months of the project-end date. Both reports should be submitted to the ECCO Office for publication in ECCO News. For report templates, please contact the ECCO Office at ecco@ecco-ibd.eu.
 11. One year after receipt of the award, successful applicants are expected to submit the results of their work by submitting an abstract at the annual Congress of ECCO.



12. ECCO Fellowship holders are required to inform SciCom, via the ECCO Office (ecco@ecco-ibd.eu), of any publications resulting from the project funded. If this is not withheld, ECCO reserves the right to not review further applications of the Fellowship holder.
13. When presenting or publishing results of the project, ECCO is to be acknowledged on all printed matter as contributing to the funding. Please contact the ECCO Office at ecco@ecco-ibd.eu to request the ECCO logo for slide presentations. In case this is not paid attention to, ECCO reserves the right to not review further applications of the Fellowship holder.
14. ECCO encourages Fellowship awardees to submit the project outcome to JCC for publication.

Review Process:

1. All applications are reviewed and scored by ECCO Committees Members and external IBD Specialists, based on the following criteria:
 - Originality and innovative nature of the proposal
 - Methodology
 - Feasibility of research project and budget
 - International scientific level of the research team
 - CV of the applicant
 - Importance of the project in the field of IBD
 - Formal criteria (no indication of plagiarism, compliance with word limits, justified budget, IRB approval)
2. The ECCO Scientific Committee makes the selection and seeks approval from the ECCO Governing Board.
3. The award of the ECCO Fellowships will be made during the next ECCO Congress.

Scoring System:

The following procedure for the scoring system for Fellowships will apply:

1. *Review by ECCO Officers & external reviewers:* Each Fellowship application will be reviewed by a minimum of one member of an ECCO Committee and two external reviewers. The applications will be scored according to the official evaluation criteria and comments will be left 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:* the ECCO Office will inform all Fellowship applicants of the outcome of their applications

Reviewers:

Fellowship Reviewers are invited according to their area of expertise and are selected from the following:

- ECCO Officers
- Former ECCO Congress speakers
- Acknowledged experts
- Successful candidates of Fellowships/Grants