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## D-ECCO Travel Award Fact Sheet

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The [European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation](#) (ECCO) offers D-ECCO Travel Awards as an opportunity for dietitians in IBD to visit different Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) Centres in Europe, and to observe and learn about diet and nutrition in IBD. They are not designed to support travel to congresses or meetings.

Dietitians in IBD have the possibility to:

- visit a centre in another country OR
- visit a different centre located in their own country

D-ECCO Travel Awards are not limited to applicants from [ECCO Member Countries](#). However, the applications from [ECCO Member Countries](#) will be given preference.

One D-ECCO Travel Award may be awarded in 2024.

### Eligibility

In order to be eligible, the applicant must meet the following criteria:

1. Both the D-ECCO Travel Award applicant and their host supervisor need to be [ECCO Members](#) at the submission deadline.
2. The applicant and host supervisor should have a reasonable command of the English language (written and oral).
3. The principal purpose of the D-ECCO Travel Awards is to enhance the fabric of ECCO. 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](#).
4. The applicant can apply for only one ECCO Award category per call.
5. Recipients that have been awarded a D-ECCO Travel Award in the past cannot reapply.
6. Members of [ECCO Governing Board](#) and [ECCO Committees](#) are excluded from applying.

### Terms of Submission

1. A total of **EUR 1.500** will be awarded per D-ECCO Travel Award.
2. The duration of the award is a minimum of 2 weeks and a maximum of 3 months. The D-ECCO Committee needs to be informed about the duration of the stay.
3. A department may support one application per ECCO Award per annual call.
4. Applicants should submit a proposal using the [ECCO Fellowships and Grants Online Submission Pages](#) containing the following information:
  - CV of the applicant
  - A confirmation letter from the Head of Department of the host institution

- A confirmation letter from the Head of Department of the home institution
  - The purpose of the visit needs to be stated in detail (incl. time/dates, place and duration of the visit) and clear learning objectives are to be provided (short personal introduction, aim of the visit and expectations in relation to the enhancement of patient care). (max. 450 words)
5. The annual deadline for submission for D-ECCO Travel Award applications is **May 1, 2023**.
  6. Applications are reviewed by D-ECCO Committee Members and one application is selected. Applicants are notified of the results in **October**.
  7. Payment of the Award funds is contingent upon signing of the D-ECCO Travel Award ECCO form. The payment is made before **December 31, 2023**.
  8. The selected applicant receives the D-ECCO Travel Award certificate by e-mail.
  9. On completion and no later than twelve months after granting of the D-ECCO Travel Award, a synopsis of max. 150 words (including short summary of the centre visited, the goals achieved, the impact of the visit, knowledge gained, and skills enhanced) is to be submitted for publication in ECCO News at [ecco@ecco-ibd.eu](mailto:ecco@ecco-ibd.eu). Additionally, the D-ECCO Travel awardee can be asked to give a short presentation about the D-ECCO Travel Award experience at the annual D-ECCO Educational Workshop at the ECCO Congress.
  10. ECCO reserves the right to request a return of unused funds in the case of a serious impediment to travel such as a significant delay or if the host supervisor is unable to host the awardee, the awardee moves to a different field or similar disruption.

## Review Process

1. All applications are reviewed and scored by D-ECCO Committee Members based on the following criteria:
  1. Relevance of topic
  2. Personal development opportunity
  3. Impact for ECCO
2. Applications need to fulfil the formal criteria: no indication of plagiarism, compliance with word limits.
3. Reviewing: Each D-ECCO Travel Award application will be reviewed by at least two members of D-ECCO Committee. They will score their assigned applications according to the three evaluation criteria above and comment on each application.
4. Ranking: Applications are ranked according to their average scores.
5. Selection: The D-ECCO Committee makes the final selection and seeks approval from SciCom and the ECCO Governing Board.
6. Notification: Applicants are notified of the results in **October**.