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## N-ECCO Research Grant Fact Sheet

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The European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation (ECCO) offers Research Grants for IBD nurses to promote innovative scientific research in the area of IBD nursing across Europe.

The N-ECCO Research Grants aim to enhance the opportunity for IBD nurses to be involved in international research projects across Europe. The aim is to engage IBD nurses who are less experienced in research to do research, mentored by senior researchers.

The N-ECCO Research Grants are designed to support international IBD nursing research. Typically, research for N-ECCO Grant projects is coordinated by a senior researcher and conducted by IBD nurses in a number of other centres in ECCO Member Countries. The coordinator acts as the principal investigator and will be responsible for the accomplishment of the study.

### **In order to be eligible, the candidate must:**

1. Submit an original research project using the "N-ECCO Research Grants Technical Annex". Applications exceeding the word count will not be evaluated.
2. The principal investigator of the N-ECCO Research Grant application needs to be an ECCO Member (at the time of application).
3. N-ECCO Research Grant applicants are not limited to the ECCO Member Countries and can apply from non-member countries; however the impact of the project for the IBD community has to be clearly stated.
4. If your institute holds a current N-ECCO Research Grant, then another application for this period is not possible. Therefore, an institute cannot apply for two grants in consecutive years.

### **Terms of submission:**

1. A total amount of **EUR 20.000,-** will be awarded this year. The amount can be given to one big project, or split and given to two smaller projects. The Grants are not intended to provide a part of the salary for the candidate. If the N-ECCO Grant candidates succeed in receiving additional funding for the project, this is likely to be regarded as an "add-on" and not a conflict with ECCO, although ECCO will expect to be informed.
2. The duration of the Grant is one year.
3. Only one proposal may be submitted by the submission date per applicant.
4. All applicants should submit a proposal for a research project using the "N-ECCO Research Grants Technical Annex". The proposal should be written in Word format (Font: Verdana, Size: 11, line spacing 1) and should contain the following headings:
  - Project title and PI
  - Name, full address, affiliations, academic degree, ECCO Membership ID number
  - Summary of the proposal (max. 300 words)

- Introduction (max. 900 words)
- Objectives (max. 450 words)
- Methodology and working plan (max. 1200 words)
- Significance and impact (max. 250 words)
- Background of the applicant/group (max. 450 words)
- Research training aspects (max. 450 words)
- Budget

As well as the following documents:

- CV of the applicant
  - Approval of the institution (e.g. necessary equipment will be made available; confirming the employment of the applicant; scientific and administration support)
5. The annual deadline for submission for a N-ECCO Research Grant is **September 1**.
  6. Evaluation of applications is made according to six criteria (see review process, below) by European IBD specialists. Applications will be discussed by the N-ECCO Committee and SciCom in autumn and applicants informed in **November**.
  7. Payment is processed before **December 31**, contingent upon the ECCO Grant Agreement signed between the Grant applicant, the research institution and ECCO.
  8. Successful applicants will receive the Grant at the annual Congress of ECCO and are expected to be present.
  9. A 300 word synopsis of the project for ECCO News should be submitted within 4 months of receiving the award. After 12 months, an update of one page has to be submitted to ECCO. The final report (a synopsis of 300 words) is due within 6 months of the project end and should be submitted to ECCO for publication on the ECCO Website and/or ECCO News.
  10. N-ECCO Research Grant holders are required to inform ECCO of all abstracts and publications of the project. In case this is not paid attention to, ECCO reserves the right to not review further Grant applications of the principal investigator.
  11. When presenting or publishing results of the project, ECCO shall be acknowledged on all printed matter as contributing to their funding. Please contact the ECCO Office at [ecco@ecco-ibd.eu](mailto: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 Grant applications of the principal investigator.
  12. ECCO encourages Grant awardees to offer the paper to JCC for publication.
  13. Applications should be sent to the head of the N-ECCO Committee of ECCO at the following address:

**ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION ONLY**

ECCO Office  
Att. Chair of N-ECCO  
Ungargasse 6/13  
1030 Vienna, Austria  
[ecco@ecco-ibd.eu](mailto:ecco@ecco-ibd.eu)

### **Review Process:**

1. All projects will be reviewed and scored by the members of N-ECCO and SciCom, with external review requested and expected, based on the following criteria:
  1. Originality and innovative nature of the proposal
  2. Methodology
  3. Feasibility of research project and budget
  4. Grade of involvement of IBD nurses in research
  5. Importance of the project in the field of IBD Nursing
  6. Formal criteria (no indication of copy/paste application, compliance with word/page limits, justified budget, IRB approval)
2. The N-ECCO Committee makes the final selection and seeks approval from the ECCO Governing Board
3. The award of the N-ECCO Research Grant will be made during the next ECCO Congress

### **Scoring System:**

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

1. *Review by the N-ECCO Committee, SciCom & external reviewers:* Each Grant application will be reviewed by 1 member of the N-ECCO Committee, 1 member of SciCom and 2 external reviewers. They will score their assigned applications according to the six 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

### **Reviewers:**

Reviewers for the Grants will be requested according to individual expertise and selected from the following candidates:

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