

# Research Fellowship

## 1. Extent of the support

Recipients will be supported with a grant of € 50,000, which will be paid to the host institution. The grant shall cover the fellow's salary, insurance and taxes (no overhead costs to the hosting institution).

The fellowship will start within 6 months after the fellowship is awarded and last 12 months, without substantial interruption. Applications for shorter projects will not be considered. The participant should get the chance to:

- conduct research under the guidance of a PI
- participate in research meetings
- improve their scientific skills (data collection and analysis, scientific writing, statistics, etc.)
- be included among the authors of the manuscript derived from the project in which the fellow is involved. We encourage the candidate to publish at least one manuscript as first author.

**NOTE:** The main purpose of this fellowship is to support the development of a basic or clinical research project and not the development of clinical skills.

After successful completion of the fellowship, the participant will receive free registration to the subsequent UEG Week and is expected to present the findings of the project and to encourage other candidates to apply.

Participants are not insured by UEG either for medical expenses or for accidents that may occur during travel to and from the hosting institution and their place of residence, or during their stay. It is within the PI's and the fellow's responsibility to fulfil all legal requirements set forth by the laws applicable, in particular with respect to labour law and the obligations against the institutions of the social welfare system. Accommodation, visa, travel arrangements, leave of absence and other kinds of insurances is within the fellow's responsibility. Finally, UEG is not liable for the actions, activities, health or safety of the fellows. Further, UEG does not cover any costs of accommodation, and travel expenses.

## 2. Application criteria

The grant is open to both basic and clinical researchers, and to both medical and non-medical graduates.

At the time of submission, applicants for the programme must:

- be clinical or basic researchers specialised in digestive diseases according to their track record (publications, abstract presentations)
- have completed their PhD no longer than five years ago (add two years per child for main carer) **OR**  
be in gastroenterology/hepatology/surgery training, or have completed it within the last five years (add two years per child for main carer)
- have significant research experience (have published at least one original paper as first author in a journal being within the top 10% of the ISI rank for the relevant subject area or at least three original papers as second author in a journal being within the top 30% of the ISI rank for the relevant subject area)

**NOTE:** Conference abstracts will not be considered as original papers.

- be fluent in English
- reside in Europe or the Mediterranean area (countries that are bordering the

Mediterranean Sea)

The grant will be awarded to the same recipient only once.

Hosting principal investigators must:

- be located in Europe or the Mediterranean area (countries that are bordering the Mediterranean Sea)
- not be located in the fellow's current country of residence
- be able to provide research training to a fellow for a period of 12 months
- be willing to provide organisational assistance to the fellow (e.g. support in finding accommodation)

**NOTE:** We encourage applicants to contact possible hosting PIs during the UEG Week.

**Applications that do not adhere to these criteria or late submissions will not be accepted.**

### **3. Application process & selection**

Candidates must approach a PI who would host them and submit an application that includes:

- **Project outline** (max. 3 pages):
  - abstract – 250 words
  - background, aims, methodology, relevance
  - reasons for the selection of the hosting PI, and why the fellow cannot work on the project in their home institution
- **Curriculum Vitae** (max. 2 pages):
  - articles published in relevant indexed journals
  - specification of language skills
- **Research environment** (max. 1 page; information provided by PI):
  - how the PI can create an environment in which the fellow can work on a specific project
  - confirmation of willingness to host
  - confirmation to provide space, cover consumables and other research-related cost
- **Motivation letter** (max 1 page):
  - specification of already existing research skills
  - what specific experience is sought and how this would fit into the applicant's career development
  - how the acquired knowledge and skills will be used in the home institute, what challenges does the candidate face in their career/current work place
- **Agreement with UEG's terms and conditions** (template, signed by hosting PI):
  - confirmation that no overheads are charged and that the fellowship will cover only the fellow's salary, insurance and taxes (no overhead costs to the hosting PI)
- **Letter of support from the head of the home department** (max 1 page):
  - candidate's research experience
  - confirming that the applicant will be allowed to leave for 12 months
- **Confirmation of child care responsibilities** (template, signed by candidate)

**Deadline for application: November 27, 2019**

All applications will be pre-reviewed by the Young Talent Group (YTG) and reviewed by the Research Committee (RC). The project proposal's scientific merits, impact on the fellow's career, the fellow's previous research, their motivation, the suitability of the particular PI and the overall quality of the application will be taken into consideration. The criteria have no absolute delimitations and certainly no legal weight.

The final selection will be made by the RC and the YTG.

RC members applying as hosting PIs will be excluded from the review process.

All candidates will be informed about the status of their application by February 28, 2020.

#### **4. Reporting**

The fellow must provide:

- 6 months after the start of the fellowship: Short interim report.
- 1 month after conclusion of the fellowship: Completed feedback form.
- 3 months after conclusion of the fellowship: Scientific report (max. 3 A4 pages) including results and future research plan.
- 1 year after conclusion of the fellowship: Addendum to the final report (brief update, particularly on outputs (publications etc.)).

The hosting PI must provide:

- 1 month after the end of the fellowship: Completed feedback form.
- Financial reporting (cost items for which the payment was used).

The fellow must:

- publish the results of their project, acknowledging that it was supported by UEG.
- submit a review article related to the topic of their research to the UEG Journal which will be considered for publication.
- submit an abstract to UEG Week.
- present their project at UEG Week.
- participate in a dedicated session in the Young GI Lounge at UEG Week.
- give recommendations to applicants of the programme.
- write a report for the UEG Journal News or other UEG publications.

Once these documents are fully submitted, the candidates will receive free registration to the subsequent UEG Week.