

## **International visiting scholar programme :-**

### **Guidelines Association of Plastic Surgeons of India – APSICON2012**

#### **Introduction :-**

- The Association of Plastic Surgeons of India (APSI) awards Two International Scholarship per Calendar year to a suitable overseas candidate for visiting Plastic Surgery centers in India to enhance his/her professional and academic career.
- The Fellowship was established in the year 2014 through a generous grant from the proceeds of APSICON2012, the 46th Annual meeting of the Association of Plastic Surgeons of India held at Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, India in the year 2012.
- The Fellowship provides financial support to the tune of Indian Rs. 1,50,000 (One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Only) divided between two fellowships , which is inclusive of the Early Bird Registration for the Annual Meeting of the APSI (APSICON) usually held towards last quarter of calendar year. It will be paid in Indian Rupees to the candidate or to any one of the host institute to be passed on to the scholar.
- The award amount is subject to change as per interest rates and is intended to cover the travel costs and stay in the host institute. It can be used to cover costs for visa, passports, airport taxes etc. The award does not cover medical care, insurances or taxes in the country of the scholar; none of which the APSI will be liable for. They also should not be used to provide support for accompanying dependents.
- The Fellowship is not granted for basic training, courses, lectures, meetings, conferences, congresses, etc. It cannot be granted to candidates who are already physically present at the proposed host institute whilst their applications are under consideration.
- The **period of fellowship in general will be for 3 months**, which can be extended by the Fellow with mutual consent of the host institute for a period not more than another three months. The fellowship amount granted by the APSI will remain the same.
- The original Fellowship cannot be prolonged, or run concurrently with other awards, even those funded by other agencies. These Fellowships may not be financially supplemented by agencies other than the home or host institutes, or the Fellows personally.
- The candidate may choose to visit any center of his/her choice subject to approval from the Executive Committee of the APSI. In case the candidate is unable to find a placement, the association may assist him in the matter.

- The candidate shall be responsible for communicating directly with the centers that he or she wishes to visit and obtaining their approval, which then has to be communicated to the APSI before the application can be considered for approval.
- The candidate shall be responsible for making his or her own travel and lodging arrangements and visa formalities.
- If an individual is selected as an International Scholar and is unable to obtain a visa, APSI is not responsible for continuation of the offer beyond a reasonable date, in which case the offer shall be extended to next candidate in waiting.
- The APSI shall ask the host institute to furnish a letter of acceptance to the fellowship program should the candidate require such a documentation for visa purposes.
- The candidate has to plan his or her itinerary such that he or she should be able to attend the Annual Conference of the Association of Plastic Surgeons of India (APSICON), which is usually held in the last quarter of the calendar year.
- **The fellowship certificate shall be awarded to the candidate at this Annual Conference of the APSI.**
- The fellowship award is inclusive of the Early Bird Registration fee of the candidate for attending the Annual Conference of the APSI following which the candidate shall be eligible to apply for the Overseas Membership of the APSI at prevailing rates.
- Majority funds shall be sent to the candidate or the host institute by APSI on receiving intimation of arrival of the scholar. The remaining remuneration if any shall be awarded to the candidate upon completion of the fellowship.
- The completion report along with a daily log of activity at the centers visited shall be submitted compulsorily to Secretary - APSI, before the award can be completed. The completion report should include details regarding the candidates' experience in India, what objectives were achieved and how the experience will affect their career goals.
- The candidates should, in their report, evaluate the program and the centers they visited and offer suggestions for modification and improvement.
- The report should be submitted preferably at the completion of the Fellowship related to visit of each of the centers.

## **Eligibility :-**

- The candidate has to be a Plastic Surgeon/Surgeon practicing plastic surgery in his/her native country in the early stages of his/her plastic surgical career.
- Candidates who have passed the eligibility exam of their respective country within ten years of the date of application shall be preferred.
- Candidate should be residing outside India.
- Candidate has to be a surgeon of good standing among his peers as attested by the recommendations required by the application process.
- Each applicant should submit a short project summary of the objective of the visit, the reasons for selecting the host supervisor and the way the experience will be utilized after return from India. Hence, preference will be given to candidates who have shown adequate inclination to the sub-specialty they have chosen as well as their future prospects of utilization of the training obtained.
- The candidate has to be in good health and not suffering from any communicable diseases and has to furnish sufficient documentation to the effect.
- Candidate should be able to communicate in English language.
- The APSI or the host centers shall in no way be responsible for any health or safety issues that may arise during the course of the fellowship. The candidate should be suitably insured for the same.

## **Application process:-**

- The application process has to be completed and submitted to the APSI Secretary usually before 30th July of each year (30th October, 2015 for the fellowship commencing in the year 2016) for the fellowship program that begins the next year.
- The application has to be on the prescribed format downloadable from the Association's (APSI) website ([www.apsi.org.in](http://www.apsi.org.in))
- The application has to be bolstered by the necessary documents as mentioned in the concerned section.
- The application has to be submitted electronically to the Secretary of the Association of Plastic Surgeons of India (APSI) at email address specified in the form, and the same to be copied to [singhkarun@hotmail.com](mailto:singhkarun@hotmail.com)
- The candidate may re-apply for a maximum of three years in continuity.

## **Documentation :-**

- Application completed in all respects along with one recent frontal photograph and documents as demanded in application.

- **Two recommendation** – one from the Head/Director/Dean of the Department from where the candidate has passed the eligibility exam and another from the Secretary, President or any office bearer of the National Organization of the candidates specialty. In case there is no association then he may send the recommendation letter or from the association of his basic specialty.