



## IFSO-EC SCHOLARSHIPS GUIDELINES 2018

One of the main activities of IFSO-EC is the organization of the biennial European Chapter Congress and the biennial European Chapter Symposium, which provide a forum to exchange knowledge on surgical treatment of severely obese patients, to present new techniques, research and concepts, and to meet the experts in the field.

In support of this aim, IFSO-EC offers every year **3 Scholarships** to young members from countries whose Bariatric Surgery Societies are **members of IFSO-EC** and who show strong interests, initial accomplishments and potential for future career development in bariatric surgery and/or other obesity related specialties.

The principal purpose of the Scholarship is to support attendance at the IFSO-EC biennial congress or IFSO-EC Symposium. If an applicant wishes to use it to attend a different conference he/she will also be considered, provided the focus of the meeting is clearly obesity/bariatric/metabolic.

Each Scholarship offers a stipend of: **1.000,00 Euros** + the registration at the IFSO-EC Congress or IFSO-EC Symposium. Registration fees at other conferences or meetings will **not be supported unless** the conference enjoys **IFSO** endorsement. Public recognition of the Award will be made at the IFSO-EC or IFSO-EC Symposium.

The applications must be sent in writing to IFSO Secretariat ([info@ifso.com](mailto:info@ifso.com)) usually 60 days before the congress (**March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018**), or as decided by the Executive Council according to the date of the congress.

### **Regulations:**

- 1) Applicants must be **IFSO-EC members in good standing and not over 40 years of age** at the date of the Congress
- 2) Applicants must be graduates of schools of medicine and/or other associated disciplines.
- 3) Applicants must demonstrate interest in bariatric surgery and/or other allied health disciplines.
- 4) Applications will be accepted only when the applicants have been in surgical or other specialist practice for a minimum of one year at their intended permanent location, or be on a nationally recognized specialist training program (excluding *freestanding* fellowships/other scholarships).
- 5) Applicants whose careers are in the development stage are deemed more suitable than those who are serving in senior appointments.
- 6) Applications must be supported by the documents listed below under "Requirements for Application".
- 7) Successful applicants are expected to provide a written report within 2 months of completing the Scholarship

The Presidents of the member Societies are kindly requested to inform their members about the availability of Scholarships and about the regulations and requirements for applications. The applications must be sent to the IFSO secretariat: [info@ifso.com](mailto:info@ifso.com) along with the requested documentation.

Applications received by the deadline will be graded according to an objective system by an *ad hoc* "Scholarship Committee", which will award the 3 Scholarships after first informing the Executive Council. The Committee will ordinarily be composed of: President, President elect, Executive Director and two co-opted members from National Societies who should not be members of Executive Council. The Secretariat will inform all applicants of the result in a timely way by email and will request their bank details for the bank transfer.

## **Requirements for Application**

Applicants should apply in writing to IFSO-EC secretariat. All applications must be supported by the following 4 documents:

### **1. A structured 1 page CV giving**

- Name
- date of birth
- demographic data & personal details
- qualifications
- training
- employment history
- current post
- anything else relevant that will fit on this single page

The CV should not include title pages or photos.

### **2. A 1 page (only) list of principal publications or presentations**

Listing should separate:

- bariatric
- other

### **3. A 150 word (maximum) statement by the Applicant covering:**

- Overall future career aim in bariatric surgery
- What is the next step in career development
- Why the scholarship will help the Applicant in this
- How the scholarship will help contribute to the development of bariatric surgery in the Applicant's home country / institute

### **4. A letter from the Head of Department or professional mentor describing the Applicant's**

- ability,
- current level of training
- proposed career development

IFSO-EC Secretariat

Dear Presidents of IFSO-EC National Societies,

As you may know, IFSO-EC Executive Board will be renewing some of its members as of the next IFSO-EC Congress, which will take place in Athens next May.

More specifically, I shall retire as the current President and Prof Gerhard Prager, Austria, will take over the presidency. The General Council will have to design the next President-elect who will be part of the Executive Board as of after Athens. Dr. Alberic Fiennes, our current Past-President, will retire.

We also will have to propose a list of potential candidates for the position of member at large, who represents the Chapter within the World IFSO Executive Board, as our current MAL is approaching the end of his term.

I am therefore asking you whether your Society would suggest a candidate for one or both of these positions. The candidates should be an active surgeon who has been active within IFSO and the European Chapter over the past few years, who has a interest in its organization and who is willing to work within IFSO-EC Executive Board in a constructive manner, as well as within World IFSO EB representing and defending the interests of the Chapter, its members, and certainly our patients.

Applications are to be submitted exclusively by the President of the National Societies with a brief letter stating why the candidates are being considered and what their role has been within his/her National Society over the past few years. They must also be accompanied by a brief CV of the candidates.

The deadline for proposals is March 1<sup>st</sup>, and will not be extended. The candidates will be evaluated and discussed within IFSO-EC EB, who will make its recommendations, and the General Council will vote during the General Council meeting that will take place during the IFSO-EC congress in Athens.

With my warmest regards

Prof Michel Suter

President IFSO-EC

Dear Presidents of the IFSO-EC National Societies

As you know, IFSO-EC is organizing its next biennial congress in Athens next May 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>. Our organization committee and our scientific committee are working together to put up an interesting and varied program that will include plenary sessions, video sessions, debates, paper sessions.

I am pleased to let you know that IFSO-EC has decided once again to give three (3) scholarships for this congress. These scholarships (1000 Euros) are designed for young surgeons with a special interest in bariatric surgery who are willing to present a paper during the congress (who have submitted an abstract). Applications will be reviewed by members of IFSO-EC Executive board as well as by two independent experts nominated by European National Societies. I am therefore asking for your help in two ways:

1. I would be grateful to you to let your members know about these scholarships so that they can recommend one or more of their young colleagues for application. You will find attached the detailed instruction on how to apply for an IFSO-EC scholarship. Applicants have to follow the instructions precisely if they want their application to be considered, as non conforming applications will not be considered. The deadline for application is March 1<sup>st</sup>, and will not be extended. Applicants will be informed before the end of March whether their application has been accepted or not.
2. I would also be grateful if you could suggest one member of your Society who would be willing to review the applications and rate them during the early days of March. For this specific task, I would appreciate to have an answer by February 15<sup>th</sup>, so that we can then organize things in a smooth way and distribute applications rapidly once the deadline is over.

I hope to have your full support for this matter and I am looking forward to seeing many applications.

With my warmest regards

Prof Michel Suter

President IFSO-EC