

# ERS Clinical Training Fellowships 2020 Application Guidelines

1. INTRODUCTION	3
2. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS	3
2.1 ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS	
2.2 Age & Career	
2.3 ERS MEMBERSHIP	
2.4 Fellowship mobility	4
2.5 Home institution	4
2.6 REQUIREMENTS FOR THE HOME INSTITUTION AND SUPERVISOR	4
2.7 Host institution	4
2.8 REQUIREMENTS FOR THE HOST INSTITUTION AND SUPERVISOR	4
2.9 Schedule and duration	5
2.10 Previous ERS fellowship(s)	5
2.11 EXTENSION OF A PREVIOUS PROJECT SUPPORTED BY OTHER FUNDS	5
2.12 UNEXPECTED EVENTS AND ISSUES	5
3. FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMMES	5
3.1 Standard	6
3.2 Scientifically Developing Countries	6
4. ONLINE APPLICATION	6
4.1 Online platform completion	6
4.2. Work Plan description	7
4.3 Candidate's learning path	7
4.4 ERS Hermes examination	7
4.5 Area of research	7
4.6 Home & Host Supervisors' files	8
4.7 Applicant's personal files*	8
4.8 ETHICS, COMPLIANCE AND INTEGRITY	8
4.9 Use of animals in research and training	9
5. SELECTION PROCESS	9
6. FELLOWSHIP GRANT CALCULATION	10
6.1 CALCULATION	
6.2 The living stipend	
6.3 Child allowance	
6.4 TRAVEL GRANT	
6.5 Subsistence and child allowance rates	
7. HOME AND HOST SALARY	11
8. INSURANCES, TAXES AND VISA	11
9. OTHER FELLOWSHIPS AND FUNDING SCHEMES	
10. REPORTING, PUBLICATIONS & POST-FELLOWSHIP	

10.1 Fellowship reporting	
10.2 Publications	
11. CLINICAL TRAINING FELLOWSHIP SCHEMES	
11.1 ERS/Indian Chest Society (ICS)	
11.2 ERS/ERN-LUNG JOINT FELLOWSHIP	

# 1. Introduction

- a. ERS Clinical Training Fellowship (CTF) programmes aim to:
  - Promote training, techniques and methods in respiratory medicine for all health care providers with patients suffering from respiratory diseases.
  - Contribute to the transfer and implementation of new techniques or methodologies.
  - Stimulate fellowship recipients' career development.
  - Foster knowledge and collaboration between institutions in different countries by sponsoring mobility.
  - Support and build knowledge in countries where there is a training gap.
- b. ERS Clinical Training Fellowships (CTF) are intended to enable members in the early stages of their career in respiratory medicine to visit a host institution in a European country other than their own, with the aim of learning a skill or procedure not available in their current home institution. The medical training should benefit the home institution when the applicant returns there, and ultimately where possible the fellowship recipient should try and incorporate the newly acquired skill or procedure back into daily practice.
- c. ERS fellowships are not granted for undergraduate studies, workshops, courses, lectures, meetings, conferences, congresses or for visiting institutions.
- d. ERS Clinical Training Fellowships are from 1 months to 6 months.
- e. Applicants are awarded based on scientific merit, but ERS also strives to maintain a fair gender balance, geographical spread in the profile of the selected applicants, and diversity within the respiratory fields of the selected projects.
- f. No distinction will be made between candidates based on gender, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, religious or political beliefs.

# 2. Eligibility requirements

#### 2.1 Academic qualifications

- a. Candidates should be actively engaged or must have experience in the respiratory field.
- b. Applicants should be qualified clinicians or healthcare professionals working in respiratory health/medicine (nurses, physiotherapists, respiratory function technologists, allied respiratory professionals, etc.). At a minimum, applicants should hold an MD, MSc or equivalent at the time of application.
- c. Postgraduate scientists such as immunologists, biologists, geneticists, pharmacologists, biophysicists, chemists, etc. involved in respiratory science, are entitled to apply for the ERS Long-Term Fellowships. At a minimum, applicants should hold an MD or MSc at the time of application.
- d. Candidates should have adequate fluency in the language spoken at the host institution.

#### 2.2 Age & Career

There is no age limit and applications from candidates having undertaken a career break (e.g. parental leave, period working outside training, unemployment etc.) are encouraged.

## 2.3 ERS membership

ERS membership is required when applying for an ERS Clinical Training Fellowship.

- a. Candidates must be ERS members.
- b. Candidates with a national or regional society membership can obtain a joint membership with ERS through their respective national or regional society if the ERS has a membership agreement with this society. To proceed candidates should contact their national or regional society who will do the necessary and coordinate the joint affiliation with the ERS directly.
- c. The list of societies the ERS has an agreement with can be found on the ERS website: <u>https://www.ersnet.org/the-society/membership/ers-partnerships-with-national-societies</u>
- d. Candidates with no membership and no possibility of applying for a joint membership must subscribe to an ERS membership online. Please go online on MyERS <u>https://my.ersnet.org/</u> for further information.

#### 2.4 Fellowship mobility

- a. ERS fellowships promote training in Europe and internationally. All nationalities, European and non-European based candidates are allowed to submit a project proposal.
- b. Mobility is crucial as ERS fellowships promote knowledge sharing between countries, therefore exchanges between two institutions within the same country are not allowed.
- c. Applicants who, at the time of the deadline, have been in their host institution for more than 6 months are not eligible.
- d. Applicants already at the host institution for less than 6 months and applying for the same host institution (extension, continuation) will be considered, if the fellowship is intended to support exchange of knowledge (mobility component).
- e. All programmes include a mandatory return to the Home institution. Return plans should be included in the project description accordingly.

#### 2.5 Home institution

- a. The home supervisor refers to the applicant's current supervisor at the centre where she/he is currently based. However, it is also possible for the applicant to put forward one of her/his past supervisors (e.g. PhD supervisor, etc) provided that the person can act as a referee and comment on the candidate's work, in relation to the proposed work plan.
- b. Candidates with a clear formal connection/link to their home institution will be prioritised.
- c. It is up to the applicant to identify the most relevant person for this application and to contact them.

#### 2.6 Requirements for the home institution and supervisor

The home supervisor is required to read, complete and sign the Home Release Form Acceptance (form available on ERS online application platform). The information in the Home Release Form must match the information included in the online application.

#### 2.7 Host institution

- a. The host supervisor refers to the individual that will employ, supervise and train the fellow throughout the fellowship. The host centre and host supervisor will be the main contact/reference and will have the overall responsibility to ensure compliance and the smooth running of the whole fellowship.
- b. It is crucial to select a host supervisor based on his/her competences, knowledge and expertise linked to the area of the training plan. The host institution's facilities, machinery, equipment and resources should be available for the applicant to carry out the training.
- c. The choice of host centre is an important criterion that will be assessed by ERS experts during the selection process, application without appropriate justification will not be considered.
- d. It is up to the applicant to identify the most relevant institution and supervisor for the application. Applicants must contact potential Hosts on their own time and ERS will not provide any assistance in the search of a host centre.

#### 2.8 Requirements for the host institution and supervisor

- a. Several candidates may apply to the same Host institution, however no more than one candidate within the same Host institution will be selected.
- b. The host supervisor is required to read, complete and sign the Host Acceptance Form (form available on ERS online application platform). The information in the Host Acceptance Form must match the information included in the online application.
- c. The host supervisor is required to provide the applicant with his/her relevant publications related to the project proposal. These publications will be included in the online application.
- d. The host institution should provide administrative support for all practicalities before, during and at the beginning of the fellowship (housing, safety induction, etc.).
- e. The Host supervisor should provide scientific support during the fellowship (regular meetings and evaluations) and at the end of the fellowship (end of project report).

#### 2.9 Schedule and duration

#### Start date

- a. **1 April 2020 round:** ERS will notify successful candidates in July 2020. Fellowships can start from August 2020. The last date for starting a fellowship must be early June 2021.
- b. **1 October 2020 round:** ERS will notify successful candidates mid-February 2021. Fellowships could start from March 2021. The last date for starting a fellowship should be early February 2022.
- c. Between the notification date and the start of the fellowship, successful candidates should complete travel, visa, passport, housing formalities, insurances, etc. To achieve this, they should engage with their host and home institutions and related authorities ahead of time.

#### Duration

- d. ERS Clinical Training Fellowships' duration is between 1 and 6 months maximum.
- The work plan is to be carried out on a full-time basis (100%) and cannot be split nor reduced. Should candidates be potentially interested in working part-time for family or personal reasons, this will need to be requested and agreed with the host centre(s) and ERS. If approved, all the allowances will be calculated pro-rata (30-day month). Kindly note that it may not always be feasible to have such arrangements and applicants must ensure that by working part-time they will be eligible for a visa for the duration of their fellowship in the selected Host country.

## 2.10 Previous ERS fellowship(s)

a. Applicants who have already been awarded an ERS Long-Term Fellowship, a Respire 1/2/3 Fellowship, an ERS Short-Term Fellowship or one Clinical Training Fellowship in the past are not eligible.

#### 2.11 Extension of a previous project supported by other funds

- a. Applications for the extension of a previous training plan supported from other sources will be considered in competition as any other applications based on scientific merit.
- b. Applicants should inform the ERS about the success or challenges/failures of the earlier training. A description of the new added value in terms of skills, techniques, methods should be included.

#### 2.12 Unexpected events and issues

- a. The implementation of the training plan should be carried out as described in the application. Any change should be notified to ERS prior to implementation. This includes the start date and end date of the fellowship. The ERS should be notified by email at the earliest when a change is foreseen, for approval.
- b. Any event or circumstance which might affect the implementation of the fellowship or are likely to have an effect on the performance of the fellowship need to be notified to the ERS at the earliest.
- c. Applicants who wish to terminate their Fellowship prematurely should notify ERS immediately. Necessary steps will be taken to receive confirmation from the Host. The reimbursement of the unused Fellowship grant or reduction of the amount still due by ERS will be managed by the ERS office. An end-of-project report will be due (see 10.1).

## 3. Fellowship programmes

ERS office will evaluate applicants' eligibility in terms of academic and professional requirements, training plan and mobility. Candidates are categorised under ERS programmes (please refer to *Table 1*) or joint fellowship schemes (please refer to Chapter 11, *Table 4*) that have been established between ERS, national Respiratory Societies or research organisations. It is mandatory for candidates to comply with at least one of the mobility requirements in *Table 1*. For further details concerning the joint fellowships schemes, refer to the Chapter 11, *Table 4*.

ERS Fellowship programmes	Mobility requirement	Eligibility requirements
Standard	<ul> <li>From Europe to Europe</li> <li>From overseas to Europe</li> <li>Mandatory return Home</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Candidates should be scientists, physicians or qualified allied health professional (non-MD) with MD, MSc, PhD, MD-PhD, PhD-Student related to</li> </ul>
Scientifically Developing Countries (SDC)	<ul> <li>From Europe or overseas (country with a scientific respiratory gap and or low income) to Europe (EU/EEA)</li> <li>Mandatory return Home</li> </ul>	the respiratory field

Table 1

Europe is defined according to the <u>World Health Organization</u> definition.

## 3.1 Standard

- a. Candidates should be nationals or residents in a country in Europe, going to another country in Europe or should be based overseas and going to Europe.
- b. A return to the home institution is mandatory upon fellowship completion. The aim is to transfer and implement the acquired skills at the home institution level. The project description should detail activities, timing, and resources for transferring knowledge at the home institution level.

#### 3.2 Scientifically Developing Countries

- a. Applicants should be based in a scientifically developing country (source <u>World Bank</u>) and going to Europe, or should be based in a country in Europe with a scientific gap in the respiratory field going to another country in Europe.
- b. This programme is for applicants with no or little opportunity to get education or training in the respiratory field in their home country and with respiratory research gaps and needs, which can be considered as developing from a scientific perspective.
- c. Applicants must explain the respiratory gaps and needs in the home country/institution and why it is essential to go to Europe. Data as well as other key documents (e.g. policy papers, etc) should support the gap statement.
- d. Candidates should explain how the acquired skills/experience will benefit their home country/institution and how they propose to share/disseminate the knowledge gained upon return.
- e. A return to the home institution is mandatory upon fellowship completion. The aim is to transfer and to implement the acquired skills at the home institution level. The project description should detail activities, timing, and resources for transferring knowledge at the home institution level.

# 4. Online application

#### 4.1 Online platform completion

- a. There are two rounds per year with two separate deadlines, the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 and the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020. There are no extensions. The online application will open beginning of February 2020 for the first round and beginning of August 2020 for the second round.
- b. The online application must be completed, and all supporting documents must be uploaded via the ERS online application platform. We advise applicants to prepare them in advance before the deadline.
- c. Once your application is submitted, applicants have a read-only access and cannot make any further changes. ERS office will not accept requests to modify or update the application once submitted. Applications with missing files or documents that do not comply with the set limitations will not be processed for selection or will be cut to fit the set requirements.
- d. An automated transcript will be issued from the candidates' online application submission and the reviewers will base their evaluation on the provided information.
- e. The required supporting documents must be uploaded via the online application platform and submitted along with the completed online application form.

## 4.2. Work Plan description

#### a. Required format:

- 2 pages maximum (including references)
- Font size 12pts Times New Roman or Arial
- Margins min. 1cm top and bottom and min.1.5 cm left and right

If the document exceeds the given limitations, only the first 2 pages will be submitted. If the document does not comply with the restrictions, it will not be submitted.

b. The two pages should provide a clear and realistic work plan with a scope achievable within the set timeframe.

The work plan should be explained, with evidence of facilities and resources available at the host to support the training. The value of the training for career development and for the home institution (where applicable) should be stated, as well as how the obtained knowledge could add value to the respiratory area. The project should demonstrate the needs/gaps in respiratory techniques/methods at their home institution and outline how they intend to address them. Plans for transferring knowledge, as well as for implementing gained knowledge at the home institution should be included. The work plan should be prepared by the applicant with the contribution and approval of the host supervisors.

#### 4.3 Candidate's learning path

- a. Required format:
  - 2 pages maximum (including references)
  - Font size 12pts Times New Roman or Arial
  - Margins min. 1cm top and bottom and min.1.5 cm left and right

If the document exceeds the given limitations, only the first 2 pages will be submitted. If the document does not comply with the restrictions, it will not be submitted.

b. The learning path must detail the postgraduate courses and activities planned after the fellowship. It should explain how the fellowship would fit as a practical implementation of the learning path.

#### 4.4 ERS HERMES examination

- a. The ERS HERMES examinations in respiratory medicine are developed and organised by the European Respiratory Society (ERS). These written, multiple-choice question examinations are based on respective European syllabi and are the main European-level examinations in respiratory medicine. The aim of the exams is to set a common, high standard of knowledge amongst respiratory specialists and trainees within Europe - establishing the ERS HERMES European Diploma examinations as a key additional quality stamp, which certifies excellence of respiratory specialists within Europe and around the world.
- b. It is not mandatory to have sat the HERMES examination to be considered eligible for the Clinical Training Fellowship. However, candidates who have sat one of the examinations will be considered as priority.
- c. If a candidate successfully obtains the Clinical Training Fellowship, although he/she did not pass the HERMES examination, we would encourage the candidate to sit the examination during the Fellowship.

#### 4.5 Area of research

Candidates must indicate the main areas of the application by selecting 1 to 3 keywords within the below table. The selection of keywords is crucial to the reviewing process of the submitted application. Applications will be sorted and categorized into Groups according to the area of the proposed work plan. Reviewers will be allocated and matched to the Groups, based on their expertise and the main area of the Group.

Keywords		
Acute Lung Injury	Lung cancer	
Asthma	Lung transplantation	
Biomarkers	Microbiology	

Bronchiectasis	Molecular biology
Bronchoscopy	Occupational medicine/lung diseases
Cell biology	Oncology
COPD	Paediatrics
Cough	Pharmacology
Cystic fibrosis	Physical activity
Environmental medicine/lung diseases	Pulmonary Embolism
Epidemiology	Pulmonary hypertension
Epigenetics	Pulmonary Rehabilitation
Epithelial cell	Sleep disorders
Exercise Test	Smoking
Fibrosis	Spirometry
Genetics	Surgery
Immunology	Thoracic ultrasound / EBUS
Infection	Thoracoscopy
Intensive care	Tuberculosis
Interstitial lung disease	Ventilation
Long term ventilation	
Table 2	

Table 2

#### 4.6 Home & Host Supervisors' files

- a. Templates are available to download on the online application platform. Both Home and Host supervisors must complete and sign their respective forms, the information in both forms must accurately match the information included in the online application concerning the Home and Host.
- b. For candidates to be considered eligible, the Home and Host supervisor must accept all terms and conditions mentioned in the forms.

#### 4.7 Applicant's personal files\*

- a. A scanned copy of the candidate's highest degree (PhD, MD, MSc, etc.) in English or with an official translation.
- b. A scanned copy of the applicant's ID card or passport.
- c. For children under 18 years of age under the applicant's responsibility, the applicant must upload a scanned copy of child/children's birth certificate(s) or family record book in English or with an official translation.
- d. If the applicant will be receiving a salary from either his Home or Host institution during the period of the Fellowship, the applicant must upload a salary confirmation letter (from either Home or Host, depending which institution will be providing the salary). The letter must be written on the institution's letterhead, with institution's stamp stating the exact NET amount the candidate will receive in EURO per month.

\*Please note that these documents are kept strictly confidential within the European Respiratory Society and will not be shared with reviewers. They are used exclusively to determine the applicant's eligibility for the programme and to assess the fellowship grant cost calculation.

#### 4.8 Ethics, compliance and integrity

ERS strongly suggest that applicants and their host institution start all necessary requests for ethical permission/any permission required by the regulatory body/bodies (license to practice, local ethic committees) before the start of the fellowship. The host and the applicant should target to receive the formal permission for the start date of the fellowship. Failure to do this has severely impacted previous funding projects and the ERS will not accept any delay on the project caused by this matter.

a. Applicants will have to provide detailed information regarding their ethical permission application and any ethical considerations for their application proposal.

#### 4.9 Use of animals in research and training

- a. ERS promotes research and training with the use of alternatives and supports 3Rs guiding principles for ethical use of animal testing (replacement, reduction and refinement).
- b. Applicants should integrate a 3Rs strategy and a plan, and demonstrate the use of replacement, reduction and refinement techniques in their proposal involving animals, where applicable.
- c. Further information and definitions are available on the following websites.:
  - ARRIVE Guidelines <u>www.nc3rs.org.uk/arrive-guidelines</u>
  - 3Rs approach <u>http://www.understandinganimalresearch.org.uk/how/the-three-Rs</u>
  - 3Rs approach <u>https://www.nc3rs.org.uk/the-3rs</u>

## 5. Selection process

- a. ERS Clinical Training Fellowship programmes are under the responsibility of the ERS Education Council, which is under the accountability of the ERS Executive Committee. The latter is responsible for the final endorsement following recommendations made by the Education Council. In order to keep a high standard of applications and quality of the proposed projects, ERS is strictly enforcing these management rules.
- b. Fellowships are awarded based on scientific merit. To achieve this, selection is made in two steps:
  - 1. A peer-review process with in-depth evaluations of the applications and supported documents, with scoring and shortlisting by ERS College of Experts members.
  - 2. A teleconference to discuss the final ranking list among all reviewers of the round. The final selection is passed on to ERS Education Council for validation and the final endorsement is be made by ERS Executive Committee.
- c. The College of Experts' task and responsibility are to assess the work plan and supporting documents based on criteria provided below:
  - Work plan 50%

Relevance to the respiratory area; Potential impact (e.g. patient related outcomes, translational potential, policy-making); Relevance of the training and added value for the Home institution; Novelty & innovation potential; Adequacy of approach, methodology and work plan; Feasibility and quality of the work plan, including back up-plan; Ethical processes

• Quality and potential of candidate 40%

Quality of CV (qualifications, training, previous background); Overall potential to carry out the work plan successfully; Quality and feasibility of Career Development Plan; Potential of fellowship and training to enhance and advance the fellow's skills

• Training Environment 10%

Scientific/technical competence and expertise of host centre, in relation to specific candidate and required expertise/training; Potential of fellowship to lead to new international collaborations; Opportunity for suitable interactions with co-workers

d. The College of Experts grade each criterion as following:

10	Excellent, should be automatically funded
9	Very good, should be funded with highest priority
8	Very good, should be funded with priority
7	Good, should be funded with priority
6	Good, should be funded
5	Good, could be funded with lesser priority. Put on reserve list
4	Average, put on the reserve list
3	Average, probably not funded
2	Poor, probably not funded
1	Poor, should not be funded

The median is calculated on the score provided by each expert. The initial ranking order is established based on the candidates' average grade. The College of Experts can view the ranking list and the other reviewers scoring (anonymously). They can provide comments and justify why they think one (or several) candidate(s) should be ranked higher or lower. Based on the ranking list and comments of the College of Experts a teleconference is organised with all reviewers of the round to make a final decision on the selected candidates. The final ranking list is submitted to ERS leadership for endorsement.

- e. Assessments are strictly confidential and will not be shared outside of ERS.
- f. Appeals are not considered unless formal mistakes have been made by the ERS.

# 6. Fellowship grant calculation

#### 6.1 Calculation

ERS Clinical Training Fellowships include a living stipend, a child allowance and a travel grant. The travel grant is paid one month before the start date of the scheduled fellowship. The fellowship grant payment is issued in one instalment once the applicant has arrived at the Host institution. ERS office requests a confirmation of arrival to transfer the payment. Fellowship instalments are in EURO, no matter of the location of the home and host countries.

#### The living stipend

- a. The living stipend covers costs related to food, accommodation, transportation, etc in the host country. The monthly rate varies per host country (see subsistence rates in *Table 3* below).
- b. The living stipend is not intended for covering costs in the home country during the fellowship. Fellowship recipients are responsible for making separate arrangements to manage expenses in their home country during their fellowship abroad (rent, mortgage, taxes, insurances, etc.).

#### Child allowance

a. Child allowance is provided per child under the age of 18 years old, based on birth certificate provided in the application form. The child allowance varies per host country (see the subsistence rate in *Table 3* below).

#### Travel grant

- a. A one-off travel lump sum grant is given to each fellowship recipient for covering travel costs between the home and host institutions:
  - 200€ are granted for distances between host and home institutions below 5'000km.
  - 700€ are granted for distances over 5'000km.
  - For applicants coming from scientifically developing countries to Europe, the one-off lump sum is of 400€ for distances between host and home institutions below 5'000 km. For distances over 5'000 km the lump sum is of 1'200€.
- a. There is no travel support for family members or accompanying people (wife, husband, partner, children, etc.).
- b. When the fellowship recipient is already at the host institution or in the host country, only half of the travel support is granted for the return.

#### 6.2 Subsistence and child allowance rates

The subsistence and child allowance rates depend on the cost of living in the host country. These rates are subject to change every year. The figures here below show the 2020 subsistence and child allowance rates.

Host country	Subsistence monthly rate (EURO)	Child allowance (EURO)
Australia	3400	380
Austria	2800	390

3200	360
2900	380
2000	200
3400	385
2800	348
2800	363
2800	380
2380	353
2000	300
3000	375
2750	380
3400	360
2850	370
3400	385
2500	360
3200	380
4300	490
3000	380
3000	400
	2900 2000 3400 2800 2800 2800 2380 2000 3000 2750 3400 2850 3400 2850 3400 2500 3200 4300 3000

Table 3

## 7. Home and Host salary

a. Candidates that continue to receive in part or in totality a monthly salary from their home or host institution during the ERS fellowship, must report the figure of the exact monthly NET amount (salary after deductions, such as income taxes and social security, etc.) received in EURO in the online application.

In this case, candidates will also be requested to provide an official letter from either the home or host institution (depending on who will be providing the salary) (see 4.5.d for details).

- b. The salary will be deducted from the ERS fellowship grant. The Fellowship may not be granted at all if the financial support by the home or host institute is equal or higher than the ERS fellowship living/subsistence stipend.
- c. Exceptions are granted for financial support provided by the home/host institution or other funding source for covering obligatory health and safety insurances, legal and social security insurances, pension schemes and child support. In this case, the ERS fellowships will be paid in full, no deductions.
- d. Successful applicants are encouraged to engage in teaching, discussion and similar activities at the institution they visit. They may not, however, engage in paid or salaried activities, without prior agreement from the ERS office and their Host institution.

#### 8. Insurances, taxes and visa

- a. Fellowship recipients are neither agents nor employees of ERS. ERS accepts no liability for fellowship recipient's wrongdoing actions or activities in respect to health or safety, insurances, and taxes.
- b. It is the fellowship recipient and the home/host supervisor's responsibility to find a mutual agreement on aspects cited within the Application Guidelines on the fellowship recipient's status and other national requirements for the duration of the fellowship at the host institution.
- c. ERS can provide a Visa letter to help the visa application process, nevertheless, it is the fellowship recipient's responsibility to plan the application ahead of time. We encourage applicants to apply for the visa immediately once received confirmation of the fellowship. Visa applications can take time and we suggest applicants to take it into consideration when scheduling their initial start date.

- d. The fellowship recipient is fully responsible to ensure that he/she and the accompanying family members staying at the host country for the duration of the fellowship are covered with social security, medical, accident schemes and other necessary schemes where applicable, and are provided with the adequate level of protection. As a suggestion, the fellowship recipient could look at the coverage provided for local researchers holding a similar position.
- e. ERS is a not-for-profit organisation. ERS fellowships have no tax privileges. It is the responsibility of the fellowship recipient to pay any tax which may be levied upon him/her by the appropriate national authority.

# 9. Other fellowships and funding schemes

- a. ERS Fellowships cannot run concurrently with other fellowships or similar funding schemes received during the same period. ERS will not grant a Fellowship to an applicant who has been selected for another fellowship or funding scheme during the same period as the proposed project proposal submitted to ERS.
- b. Applicants may apply for funding from external sources; however, this funding should be used solely to help support financial and logistical requirements related to the work plan (purchase of equipment, Ethics Committee related fees etc.). This information must be declared in the online application, you will be required to include which organisation you applied to, the total amount of funding in EURO received and how/for what will it be used to cover in your work plan. Any change during the fellowship has to be reported to ERS immediately.

# 10. Reporting, Publications & Post-fellowship

#### 10.1 Fellowship reporting

Both the fellowship recipient and the host supervisor are required to submit an end of project report and a completed questionnaire 3 months after the start of the fellowship in order to assess the project's progress. In case of significant deviation from the initial application that has not been notified to ERS, ERS reserves to withhold further payments.

#### **10.2** Publications

b. Publications in the official journals of the society, in particular in the European Respiratory Journal, are encouraged. Both the fellowship recipient and the host supervisor should acknowledge ERS support in any publication or outcome related to the fellowship. The ERS Fellowships should be acknowledged by including the following sentence in the acknowledgement section of the publication in the following way "We acknowledge the support of the European Respiratory Society Fellowship Clinical Training Fellowship 2020". Should the fellowship be cofounded with another organisation, the acknowledgement should have ERS and the cofounding partner.

Any infringement of the Application Guidelines 2020 conditions, rules and regulations can result in the withdrawal of an application from the selection process or the cancellation of a fellowship already granted.

# 11. Clinical Training Fellowship schemes

ERS has established Clinical Training Fellowship scheme agreements with national respiratory societies and research organisations. In order to be considered for one of the below programmes, candidates must comply with the set requirements in terms of research scope, mobility and academic level. Candidates must include (via the online application) if they have a membership with one our co-funding national society partners. ERS will conduct the eligibility check and will assess which candidates are suitable for which programmes.

N.B: Candidates applications may be submitted to the national societies or organisations mentioned here below for their review.

Fellowship programme	Candidate profile and or training area	Mobility requirements	Required university degree
ERS/ICS Joint Fellowship	Science, research and training techniques in the respiratory field	- From India to Europe Mandatory return Home	MD, MSc, PhD, MD-PhD, PhD- Student or equivalent
ERS/ERN-Lung Joint Fellowship	Rare lung disease	<ul> <li>From Europe to Europe*</li> <li>From overseas to Europe*</li> <li>Mandatory return Home</li> </ul>	Qualified clinicians or healthcare professionals currently employed in respiratory medical practice, with specific experience in rare respiratory disease

\*Please refer to point 11.2 for further details concerning the requirements for the Home and Host centre

#### 11.1 ERS/Indian Chest Society (ICS)

- a. Candidates should be scientists, physicians with MD, MSc, PhD, MD-PhD or qualified allied health professional (non-MD) in a filed related to the respiratory field.
- b. It is designed for candidates based in India to do a research at a host unit in another European country.
- c. A return to the home unit in India is mandatory upon fellowship completion.
- d. Applicants should hold an active ERS membership.

#### 11.2 ERS/ERN-Lung Joint Fellowship

- a. Candidates should be qualified clinicians or healthcare professionals currently employed in respiratory medical practice. They must possess appropriate scientific, medical and/or professional qualifications and experience.
- b. Candidates must have a specific experience in rare respiratory disease.
- c. The Home institution should be a Lung Centre (hospital or hospital department for respiratory diseases) with a specific interest and activity in the field of rare diseases of the respiratory system. Since this program aims at increasing the coverage of ERN-LUNG in Europe, institutions from all European countries are welcome except those where Members of ERN-LUNG or Affiliated Partners of ERN-LUNG have been accepted (actual list can be found on the ERN-LUNG website).
- d. A return to the home unit is mandatory upon fellowship completion.
- e. Applicants should hold an active ERS membership.