

The status of an ESP Advanced Training Centre (ESP- ATC) is a recognition that the centre offers advanced training in specialised fields and that can provide it to international fellows. This status reflects the dedication of the Faculty to Education. The title of ESP-ATC is awarded to the institute as a whole.

There are two parallel ways of applying for ESP-ATC status:

- A) The centres may nominate themselves
- B) ESP Working Groups (WGs) can approach and propose internationally established centres

ESP-ATCs must fulfil certain general conditions. Such conditions are mainly revolved around the training of international Fellows and education in general.

They must:

- Offer trainee positions - the number of places per year should be specified
- Offer a one-month minimum stay, usually 3 to 6 months
- Specify the period of the year for training (or 365/365)
- Not charge for training
- Assist in finding low-cost accommodation
- Assist in obtaining the necessary visa, insurance, or other documents
- Provide trainees with a detailed certificate describing their work after completion of their training.
- Agree upon the duration and aim of training beforehand
- Send the applicant a Letter of invitation in order for the application to be provided to ESP

The application of the centre should the following key information:

- Name of the centre, address
- Chair of the centre
- Head of the training programme
- Details about specific areas in which training can be offered (particular method, field of subspecialty – e.g. kidney transplantation)
- Number of positions offered for each year, expected duration of the training
- Specific periods of the year when the visit may be realised (should be defined in direct contact between the centre of excellence and the applicant)
- Contact address for requesting details by the applicant

Applications should be sent to ESP HQ at admin@esp-pathology.org

ESP reviews the status of ESP-ATCs on annual basis. Critical appraisal will be set on mid-term where the performance of the centre and number of GFs will be evaluated. If a centre has not received GFs for 5 consecutive years or does not comply with the programme regulations, ESP recognition as ESP-ATC may be revoked.