

Selection and operation of ESP-ATCs

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

The available ESP-ATCs are listed on the respective page of the ESP website. A separate list is available for ESP-ATC that participate in the GF Research programme.

As a token of appreciation, ESP will be offering a symbolic financial support to the ESP-ATC (*optional*).

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 Fellows 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 before the deadline for GF/GFR applications

The application of the centre should have the following key information:

- Name and address of the centre
- 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)
- If the centre is available also for the Giordano Fellowship Research extension (additional conditions apply for GFR).
- 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 email 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 any GFs applications for 5 consecutive years or does not comply with the programme regulations, ESP recognition as ESP-ATC may be revoked.

