

Supplementary Terms and conditions for the Giordano Fellowship Research Programme

Principles of the GFR

Recognising the needs in supporting early career pathology professionals not only in diagnostics but also for offering to them the necessary training tools for their first impactful research, the ESP has launched an add-on of the Giordano Fellowship Programme: the Giordano Fellowship Research (GFR).

GFR will be offered via ESP-ATCs who confirmed their participation and are thus mentioned in the respective list.

The available GFR slots are considerably fewer than those of the GF, with the exact numbers for each been confirmed annually by the ESP Executive Committee.

Eligibility criteria for the GFR

Applicants for the GFR must meet **all** the criteria described for the GF Programme and, in addition, meet the below:

- Their CV must already demonstrate interest in research.
- To have published at least one peer-reviewed paper as first author.

Application process and required documents

The application procedure for the GFR follows the same conditions, deadlines and process as those of the GF. Applicants for the GFR should provide the same documents (in pdf) as described for the GF. However, the following adaptations should be considered:

- 1) The CV may be two pages long, instead of one describing past research projects and relevant publications.
- 2) The invitation letter from the ESP-ATC must clearly state that the confirms that the applicant may be considered for the **GFR** programme.

Terms and Conditions for the GFR

Applicants for the GFR, as well as the selected awardees, must follow the terms and conditions of the GF and, in addition, comply with the below:

- The scheduled research project must be within the scope of the ESP-ATC appointed subject.
- The expected stay at the ESP-ATC must be at least **4 months**, to allow time for both training and conducting a research project. ESP will be supporting for a period of 4 to 6 months, as per GF SOPs.
- The duration of the GFR must include, in addition to conducting a research project, the diagnostic and/or technique training offered at the ESP-ATC for the GF. It is recommended that the first weeks ~~to~~ primarily focus on diagnostics and/or techniques and then shift focus to research. The time ratio for this should be 30% on diagnostic/techniques to 70% research.
- The training at the GFR is preferred to be at one-go with no breaks. If a break is required, then this should be agreed in advance with the ESP-ATC, it must be no longer than one week and be covered by an equal time later on. The actual stay at the ESP-ATC must be the one the Fellow has been awarded for. For unexpected events, the Fellow must liaise with both the ESP-ATC and ESP HQ.

Submission of a Progress Report

One year after completion of the fellowship, the Giordano Fellow is required to submit a progress report to the ESP HQ, admin@esp-pathology.org. It is the responsibility of the Giordano Fellow to write the narrative, describing his/her progress, how the gained knowledge has been used and disseminated among colleagues of the home institution (or multiple institutions of the home country of the fellow).

GFR awardees need to mention in the report the number of publications (full paper or abstracts) achieved. Abstracts should be presented at international congresses and full papers to peer-reviewed scientific journals. This should at least include submissions, as the review process may take long time to be completed.

GFR awardees are encouraged to submit their work as ECP abstracts and/or scientific paper publications in the Virchows Archiv, the official scientific journal of ESP.