

# ESSM – SMSNA Joint Travel Fellowship T&C

---

## European Society for Sexual Medicine (ESSM) and Sexual Medicine Society of North America (SMSNA)

### Terms and Conditions for Joint Travel Fellowships

#### A. INTRODUCTION

- 1) European Society for Sexual Medicine (ESSM) is a registered charity (charity registration number 1109885) with the aim of the advancement and improvement of public awareness, education and research in the field of Sexual Medicine and the diffusion of knowledge of new and improved methods of teaching and practicing Sexual Medicine.
- 2) Sexual Medicine Society of North America (SMSNA) is an organisation with an objective to promote, encourage, and support the highest standards of practice, research, education, and ethics in the study of the anatomy, physiology, pathophysiology, diagnosis, and treatment of human sexual function and dysfunction.
- 3) To further these aims ESSM and SMSNA support scientists in the field of Sexual Medicine to advance the basic understanding of human sexual physiology and psychology, to translate fundamental research findings to clinical use, to develop and adopt new medicines, technologies and methods for the treatment of sexual dysfunctions and for the improvement of human sexual health.
- 4) ESSM and SMSNA have agreed to jointly fund one research fellow each year. One fellow will travel from Europe to North America or North America to Europe to spend ~3-6 months in a host institute. It is envisaged that the fellows will gain research experience and skills during this period which will further their own research as they return their home country.
- 5) The fellowship consists of \$5,000 from SMSNA and €5,000 from ESSM for each awardee. The regulations and conditions related to the joint travel fellowship are given in this document.

#### B. WHO CAN APPLY?

- 1) The applicant must be an ESSM or SMSNA member for at least 2 years prior to the application, in perfect order with the fulfilment of the membership fee payments. Or the applicant should be mentored/supervised in a laboratory or clinical research centre by a scientist or clinician who has been a member of the ESSM or SMSNA for at least two years in good standing.
- 2) The applicant should have already identified a host institute which is active in research in Sexual Medicine. Preference will be given to applicants whose proposed host institute has members from ESSM/SMSNA.
- 3) Applicants can be either from basic science and/or clinical research fields. Due to short duration of the fellowship, it will not be feasible to start a new clinical research project. Therefore basic research projects which can be undertaken in this short period will be considered. However, creative and novel clinical research projects with established investigators in an ongoing active clinical research programme will be allowed. Applicants will be required to justify the feasibility of their projects within the limited time period in their applications.

## ESSM – SMSNA Joint Travel Fellowship T&C

---

- 4) Applicants can be undergraduate students (medical or another degree relevant to Sexual Medicine), postgraduate students (PhD, MSc, MD), post-doctoral research assistants or surgeons/clinicians/psychologists in training.
- 5) Applicants who already have an academic or clinical tenure position are not eligible.

### **C. ELIGIBLE COSTS:**

- 1) Economy class travel between North America and Europe.
- 2) Accommodation costs at the host country.
- 3) Subsistence allowance for the applicant incurred during the stay at the host country.

### **D. INELIGIBLE COSTS:**

- 1) Travel or subsistence allowance for the dependants or accompanying person(s)
- 2) Visa application fees and costs
- 3) Travel insurance
- 4) Research materials and consumables
- 5) Direct, indirect, estate costs
- 6) University tuition fees
- 7) Rent of a laboratory or clinical space
- 8) Part or full salary or time of staff who have permanent contracts
- 9) Time of student supervisors
- 10) Sub-contractor fees
- 11) Consultancy fees
- 12) Membership fees to learned societies including ESSM/SMSNA
- 13) Application fees to ethics committees or regulatory bodies
- 14) Stationary, office costs or secretarial assistance unless directly incurred by the project
- 15) Prescription costs
- 16) Publication costs
- 17) Costs of managing, protecting and exploiting the intellectual property
- 18) Maternity/paternity leave/cover
- 19) Sick leave
- 20) Local taxes
- 21) Employer's contribution to national insurance or pension scheme
- 22) Animals and their maintenance
- 23) Patient recruitment costs
- 24) Purchase of equipment
- 25) Any clinical trial insurance, indemnity or sponsorship costs
- 26) Any other costs not listed in the eligible costs list

### **E. APPLICATION, REVIEW AND AWARD PROCEDURE:**

- 1) Invitation to submit for the joint travel fellowships is advertised at the ESSM / SMSNA websites.
- 2) The application forms can be downloaded from the ESSM / SMSNA websites.
- 3) Completed application forms must be submitted by the deadline as advertised on the website. Late applications will not be accepted.

## ESSM – SMSNA Joint Travel Fellowship T&C

---

- 4) The applicant should submit a support letter from his/her supervisor/academic or clinical lead at the home institute.
- 5) The applicant should submit a support letter from his/her proposed supervisor at the host institute.
- 6) The applicant should also include an up-to-date CV.
- 7) The application form should be signed by the applicant, head of department and administrative authority at the host institute.
- 8) The applications will be reviewed and scored by ESSM and SMSNA Grant Committee Chairmen. Final decision will be given jointly by the ESSM Executive Committee and SMSNA Board of Directors.
- 9) The awardees will be notified by their corresponding societies. The awardees will receive the payments by cheques in advance of their travel.
- 10) The awardees will be responsible for their own travel, accommodation, visa and insurance arrangements.

### F. START/END DATES AND REPORTING:

- 1) The fellowship should start within 6 months after receiving the grant award letter.
- 2) The start date is the date when the awardee starts his/her fellowship at the host institute. It is the awardee's responsibility to inform ESSM/SMSNA about the start date.
- 3) The end date of the project will be minimum 3 with a maximum 6 calendar months after the start date unless agreed otherwise.
- 4) The awardees will be responsible for submitting a short report to ESSM/SMSNA summarising the results, outcomes, achievements and publications of the project within 6 months after the end date.
- 5) ESSM and SMSNA reserve the right to request the repayment of part or full of the award from the awardee if the report is not received within 12 months after the end date.

### G. PUBLICATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

- 1) Awardees are strongly encouraged and must make best endeavours to publish their research. All oral and written presentations and any other publications arising from ESSM-SMSNA funded research projects must include an acknowledgement of this support, using the following phrase: ***"This research project was partly/fully funded by the European Society for Sexual Medicine Research Grant and the Sexual Medicine Society of North America"***. A reprint of such presentations and publications must be sent to the ESSM and SMSNA within two months of publication.
- 2) The awardees of this travel fellowship will be invited by the ESSM / SMSNA to present their findings at the next available ESSM / SMSNA Annual Conference after completion of the project. The registration fee of the awardee will be waived.

### H. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY:

- 1) It is the responsibility of the awardee and the host institute, and all engaged in the research, to make every reasonable effort to ensure that the intellectual assets obtained in the course of the research, whether protected by intellectual property rights or not, are used to the public benefit. Research outcomes should be disseminated to both research and public audiences – for example to inform potential users and beneficiaries of the research.

## ESSM – SMSNA Joint Travel Fellowship T&C

---

- 2) Unless agreed otherwise, the ownership of all intellectual assets, including intellectual property, and responsibility for their application, rests with the host institute.

### **I. LIABILITY, TERMINATION AND STATUS:**

- 1) The ESSM and SMSNA accept no liability, financial or otherwise, for expenditure or liability arising from the travel or research funded by the fellowship.
- 2) The ESSM and SMSNA do not accept liability for any failure in the host institute's duty of care, or any negligence on the part of its employees.
- 3) The ESSM and SMSNA reserve the right to terminate the fellowship at any time, when a contravention to any of the terms and conditions as set in this document occurs; where repayment of part or the entire award may be requested.