



Asia Pacific Spine Society

CALL FOR APPLICATION: APSS GANGA HOSPITAL FELLOWSHIP 2024

Deadline for application: **1 November 2023**

Three (3) fellowships will be awarded. Each fellow will spend 3 weeks at the Spine Surgery Unit of Ganga Hospital, Coimbatore, India, which is headed by Professor S Rajasekaran. The next fellowship period shall be within the year 2024.

Fellows may propose the fellowship dates in 2024, and the final dates are to be finalised after discussing with the host. This is a unique opportunity to interact with and learn from the spine team in the Orthopaedic Surgery Department of Ganga Hospital, the first centre in Asia to become a member of the International Society of Orthopaedic Centre (ISOC).

Award

The fellowship recipients will receive the following benefits:

- Economy air travel (round trip) to Coimbatore
- Airport transfer arrangements in Coimbatore
- Accommodation will be provided for the entire duration of the fellowship programme

APSS and its hosts will cover and arrange the items listed above. APSS aim to ensure that the recipients can focus entirely on their training and learning experience during their stay in Coimbatore. However, the fellow is responsible for obtaining the visa(s) as well as health and travel insurance.

APSS will **not reimburse visa fees, health and travel insurance, and COVID-19-related expenses.**

Kindly note that **APSS does not reimburse any meal expenses that are incurred during the duration of the fellowship.**

Guidelines and Criteria for Application

- APSS member (previously known as “a member of Spine Section of the APOA”). **Please submit proof of payment for the APOA membership + Spine Section membership if you are not a member yet.**
- APSS member who has maintained an active, paid-up membership for **at least 3 years**▼.
- Preference given to current APSS Life Members
- Age 45 years or less.
- Must communicate effectively in **English** and have a legal status to go abroad.
- Have a university postgraduate level of degree or country equivalent.
- Applicant when submitting this application **MUST** be at this point to be active in spine practice (at least 50% workload should be on spine surgery).
- Not a previous recipient of the APSS Fellowship.

▼Notes:

- *Example 1: Applicant A is a member of APSS with annual subscription since 2022. He has paid his membership for 2022-2025. Therefore, he is eligible to apply for the programme,*
- *Example 2: Applicant B is a new member of APSS who joined in June 2023. He has paid for annual subscription for 2023-2026. Therefore, he is eligible to apply for the programme*
- *Example 3: Applicant C is a life member of APSS. Therefore, he is eligible to apply for the programme*



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Documents Required for Application

An online application form will be made available on the [APSS website](#).

When submitting the application, the following documents are required to be uploaded:

1. Fellowship application form - The form is available on APSS Website.
2. Brief curriculum vitae (not more than 4 pages) specifying: -
 - a. Qualifications (including degree(s), institution (s) and years)
 - i. Basic Medical Degree
 - ii. Postgraduate Orthopaedic Education (e.g. FRCS Orth, MS Orth and etc.)
 - iii. Spine Fellowship/ Attachment(s) - date and duration
 - b. Present appointment(s)
 - c. Publication/ Oral presentation/ Poster and etc.
 - d. Duration of experience in spine surgery
3. Scanned copies of certificates and qualifications.
4. Recommended letter from 2 referees (APSS council members, Heads of Departments (of Spine or Orthopaedics), and Presidents of Local Spine and Orthopaedic Societies).
5. Scanned passport size photograph in JPEG file.
6. Scanned copy of passport - with at least 6 months validity.
7. 1 abstract related to spine of not more than 300 words. This abstract will be used for presentation in our next APSS meeting as well as during the fellowship.
8. Application Criteria form
9. 2022/2023 Spine logbook

Only complete applications submitted by the deadline (1 November 2023) will be reviewed and qualified for selection. Late submissions and non-compliant applications will not be accepted.

Kindly complete your application online and ensure all required documents as stated above are uploaded accordingly.

The **closing date** to receive the completed application is **1 November 2023**.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

As a recipient of a highly regarded fellowship, it is imperative that one adheres to the guidelines, terms, and conditions stipulated by the programme. It is advised, with the utmost gravity, that:

- a **cancellation or withdrawal** from the programme without a justifiable reason and within **two months before** the expected date of commencement will result in the **recipient reimbursing any expenses incurred by APSS** and the host; and
- a **failure** to comply with the regulations set forth by the host or due to misconduct which resulted in any **costs incurred/penalties imposed by the host country shall be borne by the recipient**.

Therefore, we **strongly urge you to meticulously peruse and fulfil your obligations as delineated** in the fellowship programme guidelines to ensure a successful and mutually beneficial experience. It is of paramount importance that one maintains a professional demeanour and upholds their responsibilities with diligence and unwavering commitment.

For more information, please visit www.apssonline.org

For any enquires you may email us:

Email: spine.secretariat3@gmail.com and spine@apssonline.org

Correspondence hours: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm (GMT +8.00 for Malaysia)