
ECCO-AOCC Visiting Travel Grant

In 2018, the Asian Organization for Crohn's and Colitis (AOCC) and the European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation (ECCO) offer two collaborative ECCO-AOCC Visiting Travel Grants.

The aim is to offer an opportunity for European investigators to visit an Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) centre in Asia or for Asian investigators to visit an IBD centre in Europe (ECCO Member Countries), to learn about advanced endoscopy related to IBD or to be a clinical observer as an IBD specialist.

Two ECCO-AOCC Visiting Travel Grants may be given in 2018. In order to be eligible, the candidate must:

- Not be older than 40 years at the time of application.
- Provide a letter of permission from the Head of Department of the hosting centre.
- Show that the ECCO-AOCC Visiting Travel Grant applicant and their host are ECCO or AOCC Members respectively (at the time of application).
- State the scientific purpose for travelling to the selected hosting centre. If a scientific project is attached to the application, it makes it more likely that this application is scored higher than others, but it is not essential.
- Note that the Travel Awards aim to enhance the opportunity for IBD trainees and specialists to visit either European IBD centres or Asian IBD centres. They are not designed to support travel to congresses or meetings.
- Note that Members of ECCO or AOCC committees are excluded from applying.
- **Send an application** by email to the AOCC Office aocc_office@aocc-ibd.jp by **September 1, 2018** (name, full contacts, ECCO or AOCC member ID, purpose and time of the visit, copy of approval form from the hosting centre, CV).

Terms of submission

A total amount of **EUR 10,000** will be awarded per ECCO-AOCC Visiting Travel Grant.

- The duration of the award is short term, 1-2 months. Please indicate the duration of the stay.
- Only one proposal may be submitted by the submission date per applicant.
- Send an application **by September 1** containing the following documents:
 - CV of the ECCO-AOCC Visiting Travel Grant candidate
 - Approval of the hosting institution
 - The scientific purpose of the visit
- Applicants will be notified of the outcome in **November**.
- Payment will be made after acceptance of the Award and signing of the ECCO-AOCC Visiting Travel Grant form prior to **December 31**.
- On completion and no later than 12 months after granting of the award, the applicant will submit a short report (150 words), signed by the awardee & the hosting institution, to the Scientific Committee of ECCO and the Grant Review Committee of AOCC for potential publication in ECCO News/Intestinal Research.

Applications should be sent to the Chair of the Scientific Committee of ECCO at the following address:

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION ONLY
AOCC Office
Att. Chair of the Educational Committee
aocc_office@aocc-ibd.jp

Review Process

1. All projects will be reviewed and scored by the members of the ECCO Scientific Committee as well as the AOCC Review Committee based on the following criteria:
 - o Relevance of topic
 - o Personal development opportunity
 - o Impact for the IBD community
 - o Available expertise of the applicant and host site
2. The ECCO Scientific Committee/ECCO Governing Board and the AOCC review committee/AOCC Governing Board will make a joint selection.

Scoring System

The following procedure for the scoring system for Travel Awards has been agreed on:

1. *Review by SciCom & AOCC:* Each ECCO-AOCC Visiting Travel Grant application will be reviewed by 2 members of Scientific Committee of ECCO & 2 members of AOCC Grant Review Committee. They will score their assigned applications according to the 4 evaluation criteria above and comment on each application.
2. *Ranking:* Applications are ranked according to their overall average scores.
3. *Final selection:* by ECCO and AOCC.
4. *Acceptance/rejection letters:* candidates will be informed of their application outcomes by mail.