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## ECCO-AOCC Visiting Travel Grant

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In 2021, 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 (ECCO Members) to visit Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) Centres in Asia or for Asian investigators (AOCC Member) 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 2021. In order to be eligible, the candidate must:

- Not be older than 40 years at the time of application.
- Provide a letter of confirmation from the Head of Department of the host centre.
- The applicant and the host have to be members at the different societies (ECCO & AOCC, respectively) at the time of application. E.g., a European ECCO Member can apply to visit an Asian institute under host supervision of an AOCC Member and vice versa:
  - ➔ **Award 1:** AOCC Member goes to ECCO Member centre in Europe
  - ➔ **Award 2:** ECCO Member goes to AOCC Member centre in Asia
- 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.
- 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.
- Members of ECCO or AOCC committees are excluded from applying.
- Only one application per host institution is allowed. That is, one specific host institute can only support/invite one candidate.
- **Send your application** by email to the AOCC Office [aocc\\_office@aocc-ibd.jp](mailto:aocc_office@aocc-ibd.jp) by **August 2** (name, full contact details, ECCO or AOCC member ID, purpose and time of the visit, copy of confirmation 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 in your application.
- Only one proposal may be submitted by the submission date per applicant.
- Send your application **by August 2** including the following documents:
  - CV of the ECCO-AOCC Visiting Travel Grant applicant
  - Approval of the host institute
  - The scientific purpose of the visit
- Applicants will be notified of the outcome in **October**.



European  
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Organisation



- 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 (max. 150 words), signed by the awardee & the hosting institution, to the Scientific Committee of ECCO and the Grant Review Committee of AOCC for publication in ECCO News and Intestinal Research.

Applications should be sent to the Chair of the Educational Committee of AOCC at the following address:\*

**ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION ONLY**  
AOCC Office  
Att. Chair of Educational Committee  
[aocc\\_office@aocc-ibd.jp](mailto:aocc_office@aocc-ibd.jp)

\*Data processing consent and retention:

By sending an application by email to [aocc\\_office@aocc-ibd.jp](mailto:aocc_office@aocc-ibd.jp) in reply to this open call, you agree to the data processing for the above described project:

AOCC Office stores applicants' personal data of this application for the project timeframe. AOCC Office will delete data securely after the end of this project.

In addition, the scientific review process generates a review result for the applicants which will be stored with your data in line with the requirements of scientific review archiving.

You have the right to object at any time at [aocc\\_office@aocc-ibd.jp](mailto: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:
  - Relevance of topic
  - Personal development opportunity
  - Impact for the IBD Community
  - 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 the 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 will be ranked according to their overall average scores.
3. *Final selection:* By ECCO and AOCC.
4. *Acceptance/rejection letters:* Applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application by e-mail.