



FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Last updated: 29 April 2018

“Club 30” of The Polish Cardiac Society

SPECIALIZED RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP IN A CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

To obtain research experience in a high standard academic center

Topics: basic science/translational medicine, clinical cardiology, cardiovascular imaging, invasive and interventional cardiology, cardiovascular surgery, grants, fellowships

Thanks to financial support from Industries, Club 30 of the Polish Cardiac Society (PCS) is proud to offer a unique opportunity for **individuals** below 36 years old to undertake specialized cardiovascular research, in an ESC Member Country center of excellence. After receiving the applications, the Steering Committee of the program will match the selected applicant with the corresponding center.

1. PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM

The Specialized Research Fellowship (SRF) is designed to enhance leadership and professional skills of young polish researchers working in the field of cardiovascular medicine. The first aim of this initiative is to build long-lasting, sustainable partnerships between polish and foreign cardiovascular centers. Program participants are placed in intensive 5-6 month fellowships in the leading cardiovascular centers located in an ESC Member Country for an individually tailored professional development experience. Secondly, the program gives an outstanding opportunity to build a broad network with other program participant colleagues.

2. BRIEF DESCRIPTION

The Club 30 of the PCS initiates the research grant to provide an opportunity for a specialized research in an ESC Member Country in the cardiology field. The Specialized Research Fellowship (SRF) program provides fellowships for research and education for future professionals to obtain research experience in a high standard academic center.

3. DEADLINE, TENURE & TIMELINES

Deadline: 15 July 2018

Tenure: 5-6 months

Research designed for longer periods will not be considered. Applications will be considered by the Steering Committee SRF within 10 weeks. The SRF program starts within 6 months after the positive decision.



4. HOST INSTITUTION

Qualified centers of excellence in the field of cardiovascular medicine located in an ESC Member Country. Centers involved in the program host the trainee for research on a specialized topic, for instance:

- Interventional cardiology (coronary interventions, structural heart disease interventions)
- Cardio surgery
- Clinical cardiology
- Heart failure
- Arrhythmology & electrophysiology
- Cardiac imaging
- Basic science & experimental cardiology

5. CLINICAL INVOLVEMENT

Medically qualified fellows who undertake, as part of their Research program, work concerned with the care of patients are reminded that they should be in possession of an honorary clinical contract from the appropriate health authority. Responsibility for seeking such a contract will lie with the head of the department in which the fellow is working.

6. LEVEL OF SUPPORT

Recipients will receive a lump sum, up to a maximum of 10 000 Euros. The granted amount will be calculated pro rata, according to the length of the research period. For periods of time less than 6 months the grant will be reduced pro rata.

7. SCHOLARSHIP VALUE / INCLUSIONS

The SRF program is intended to supplement the salary that the fellow should continue to receive during the fellowship period. The allowance is a contribution towards the costs of living, travel, and insurance. If applicable, the fellowship holder is expected to cover the difference between the actual costs and the amount of the personal SRF allowances.

8. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible you:

- 1) must be a citizen and resident for tax purposes in Poland;
- 2) must be medical graduates and researchers at any stage in their careers
- 3) must have already proved some research potential by publishing in medical journals
- 4) must be under 36y. of age at the day of application deadline, i.e., 15 July 2018
- 5) are a member of the *Club 30* (**join us if You are not a member!**)
- 6) are a member of the Polish Cardiac Society for minimum 12 months prior to submission
- 7) must not receive more than one fellowship for courses that take place at the same time;



9. APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Proposals must be submitted for a specialized research. Applicants are advised to seek a center in another Country than the country of their current residence. The host institution should not only offer good research opportunities but the expertise of the center should be in line with the topic of the application. Only applications in English will be accepted. The application must be sent to the Steering Committee of SRF program (*contact see below*)

The following documents are required to be completed and uploaded with the application:

- 1) your Curriculum Vitae, with the following information:
 - a) postgraduate career including present employment
 - b) research experience
 - c) academic record
 - d) publications in referred journals relevant to this application;
- 2) letter of support completed by the Head of Your Department/Supervisor with the following information:
 - a) applicant's clinical ability and suitability for a Fellowship, the primary purpose of which is to support for a period of research
 - b) appropriateness of proposed training and centre;
- 3) letter of support completed by the proposed future Supervisor with the following information:
 - a) length of time you have known the candidate
 - b) whether the amount granted by the SRF covers the running expenses, i.e. including daily subsistence of the fellow and possible sources from which will the deficit be made up
 - c) the contribution of the applicant in the proposed research project
 - d) comments on candidate's ability and suitability for SRF
 - e) confirmation that an applicant would be accepted in the Department in accordance with the regulations and terms of employment for SRF;
- 4) letter of support completed by an independent referee with the following information:
 - a) length of time you have known the candidate
 - b) comments on the candidate's ability and suitability for SRF;
- 5) brief consideration that led you to choose the center where the grant will be held
- 6) abstract of research to be undertaken
- 7) career intentions after the grant period
- 8) a detailed research proposal prepared jointly with the proposed supervisor, including appropriate references
- 9) if needed, the appropriate evidence of the local Ethical Committee approval or a statement that the approval will be obtained before the beginning of the program.

Before submission, the applicant must clarify with the supervisor of the host institution the language requirements needed for the SRF.

10. FINAL REPORT

Fellows must submit a report at the end of the program period on the work undertaken and are encouraged to submit an abstract for the PSC at Congress following the end of the research period. The Steering Committee expects that the award will be acknowledged in any publication dealing with the work carried out during the tenure of a SRF. The publication must be sent together with a report to the Steering Committee (*contact see below*).



11. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A fixed term contract of employment will be signed between the host institution and the SRF recipient. The host institution should confirm its agreement on this process, and a copy of the contract has to be provided to the Steering Committee of the program (*see below*). Host institution (head of the department) must ensure that the department is in a position to meet any expenditure exceeding the amount granted by the SRF program. The applicant is responsible for the set-up of his own personal and professional insurance as well as for compliance with taxation rules according to the local fiscal regulations. Fellows are awarded for full-time research training, and the approval from the Steering Committee must be sought before any other work is carried out within normal working hours.

Payment: 95% of the amount will be paid 2 weeks before the starting date, the remaining 5% of the amount will be provided to the awardee once the Research report has been provided to the Steering Committee.

12. STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE SRF PROGRAM

Steering Committee of the SRF program consists of:

- 1) two permanent members (Initiators of the SRF program, i.e. Chairman and Co-Chairman)
- 2) 2 members selected by the board of the *Club 30* of PCS
- 3) current President of the PCS or one representative from the Board of PCS
- 4) one sponsor representative

13. FINAL NOTES

The research proposal must be submitted personally by the applicant. Please be aware that only complete applications will be considered. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered by the Committee. The candidates will be informed by email about the results within 10 weeks after deadline. Host institution must offer high-level research opportunities and is the most appropriate for the particular research they wish to undertake. Signed approval obtained by the host institution representative (i.e. head of the department) is the key task for the candidate before submitting an application to the Committee. Applicants must clarify with the supervisor of the host institution the language requirements needed for fellowship. The supervisor from the Host institution and an applicant take the responsibility for the preparation of the research proposal and final research report. Last but not least, the local Ethical Committee must approve the research project that includes clinical trials and/or involves human subjects (IF not the statement that approval will be obtained before the beginning of the program). The appropriate evidence of such approval must be incorporated in the application. The Steering Committee of the SRF program expects all work to be undertaken in accordance with the highest standards.

Please visit the official website of **Club 30** of the Polish Cardiac Society (*link found below*) for detailed information on how to apply for this fellowship.



14. CONTACT

Board of the Club 30 PCS

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Steering Committee of the SRF program

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