



APLAR-EULAR Exchange Program

The purpose of the APLAR-EULAR Exchange Program is to promote the international exchange of clinical and research skills, expertise and knowledge within rheumatology. The program recognises outstanding rheumatology professional faculty in both laboratory and clinic-based research and provides exposure to the exciting work being done by colleagues overseas. This exchange program allows candidates to share knowledge and experience and creates opportunities for collaboration.

The program supports young academic rheumatologists to travel from Asia Pacific to Europe to experience the EULAR Annual Congress, engage in a half-day exchange program with European colleagues at the Annual Congress and participate in a subsequent site visit at a local institution.

Travel grant will be awarded upon completion of the program.

APLAR is inviting AYR members who are Rheumatologists or Senior Residents in Rheumatology to apply for the program. Successful candidates will receive a complimentary registration to the EULAR Annual Congress and a travel grant of 2'000 EUR. In addition, there will be an optional one-week attachment to a EULAR Center of Excellence, for selected candidates to be given an additional travel grant of 1'000 EUR.

Applicants need to fulfil the following requirements:

- To hold a non-tenured faculty appointment or Senior Rheumatology Resident, or equivalent position (below the level of professor), at an academic center in an APLAR or a EULAR member country or as determined by the APLAR Education Committee.
- Applicants should have a doctoral degree (MD, PhD, DSc, or equivalent) in a field/area relevant to rheumatology.
- Demonstrate a firm commitment to academic medicine.
- Must be 40 years of age or under at time of application.

Note: Applicants who do not meet all eligibility criteria listed above will not be considered.

APPLICATION FORM

Candidate Particulars

Name : _____

Email Address : _____

Place of Work
(Name of Institution/Organization) : _____

Please indicate your interest for 1 week visit to EULAR Centre of Excellence
(if not interested please leave blank)

A personal statement outlining how participation in the 2020 APLAR-EULAR exchange program will benefit their research career and how they can contribute to the program

Documents for submission with this application:

- Current curriculum vitae (PDF format - please include **publications** in your CV) – to include:
 - Summary of teaching activities undertaken as a rheumatologist and mentoring/supervision activities (e.g. medical student projects, other PhD students, educational supervision (incl. date of activity), if applicable
 - Your publications
- Letter of recommendation from a senior academician within rheumatology (PDF format)
- Letter of support from Chief of Rheumatology (PDF format)
- An abstract for submission to EULAR 2020
- AYR membership certification

Closing date to submit application: 25 November 2019

Applicant Compliance Agreement

Applicants agree to comply with the APLAR-EULAR reporting requirements, including an experience report to be sent to APLAR after completion of the exchange.

Applicants agree to participate in the 2020 APLAR-EULAR Exchange Programme that will take place in Frankfurt, Germany from 3-6 June 2020 which including a mandatory institution visit and half day workshop. Applicants shall certify to be in possession of a passport valid for these dates and extending beyond the return date as required by the EU government and their own country.

Applicants understand that they are responsible for all costs over and above the travel stipend provided as well as any costs related to spouse travel, accommodations, and incidentals.

Funding for this program is made possible by contributions from the European League against Rheumatism (EULAR) and APLAR.

Reimbursement Process & Post Program

APLAR will reimburse the selected candidates the exchange travel grant (2000 €) after the completion of the exchange program. APLAR hold the rights not to reimburse candidates if they do not attend the exchange program as agreed.

Upon completion of the program, candidates are expected to submit a summary report of what they have learnt and experienced during the exchange program period. Reports will be reviewed before funds disbursement to the candidates.

Documentation for reimbursement

- Complimentary congress registration confirmation
- Proof of Abstract Submission from the congress
- Letter of certification for the half day exchange programme workshop and the one-day site visit
- Copies of Travel and lodging receipts to be reimbursed at cost up to EUR 2000
- Letter of certification from the Center of Excellence for the 1-week visit (if selected)
- Training report summary at Center of Excellence for lump sum of EUR 1,000

The Program Prior to EULAR Congress

EULAR Congress always starts on a Wednesday afternoon. So, the exchange programme always starts the day before (Tuesday). Candidates are required to fly in on Monday in order to have enough time to settle in and get ready.

Tuesday is always a full day programme (8am – 6pm), with opportunities to learn about:

- Congress country's healthcare system
- Candidates research presentation opportunities
- Feedback from EULAR fellow buddy
- Networking lunch
- Center of Excellence of Congress country site visit

In addition, EULAR always organised a few networking events in the evening where exchange candidates are invited for free to attend.

Wednesday is a half day programme (8am – 12.30pm), where

- Continuity of candidates' research presentation
- Feedback from EULAR fellow buddy
- EULAR's introduction & EMEUNET involvement presentation

Then the candidates will be sent off to the Congress after the programme. At the Congress, they will have all the flexibility to choose the sessions and talks they want to attend.

For enquiry and completed application form submission, please email secretariat@aplar.org.