

CALL FOR APPLICATION:
APSS FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAMME 2019
Deadline for application: **1st January 2019**

The following fellowship programmes offer a unique opportunity to interact with and learn from renowned spine surgeons in the Asia Pacific region.

APSS DePuy Synthes Clinical Fellowship 2019

Three (3) fellowships will be awarded. Each fellow will spend **3 weeks** in a spine center of excellence in the Asia Pacific Region, commencing on **13th March to 2nd April 2019**. The end of this fellowship will coincide with the APSS-APPOS 2019 Combined Meeting in Incheon, Korea, from 4th to 6th April 2018.

APSS DePuy Synthes Travelling Fellowship & APSS SICOT Spine Fellowship 2019

Eight (8) fellowships will be awarded. The fellows will be divided into 2 groups. Each group will visit spine centres of excellence in 3 countries in the Asia Pacific Region. The duration of the Fellowship will be **3 weeks**, commencing on **13th March to 2nd April 2019**. The end of this fellowship will coincide with the APSS-APPOS 2019 Combined Meeting in Incheon, Korea, from 4th to 6th April 2019.

The top **two (2) fellows** from APSS DePuy Synthes Travelling Fellowship will be screened and selected by the Board to be offered the opportunity to participate in the exchange programme of **APSS SICOT Spine Fellowship**. The duration of the Fellowship will be **3 weeks**, set between the host and fellow between **September and October 2019**.

APSS Medtronic Fellowship 2019

Four (4) fellowships will be awarded. Each fellow will spend **3 months** in a spine centre of excellence in the Asia Pacific Region. This is a unique opportunity to interact with and learn from renowned spine surgeons in the Asia Pacific region. Fellows may propose the fellowship dates in 2019, and the final dates are to be finalised after discussing with the hosts.

APSS-Ganga Hospital Fellowship 2019

Two (2) fellowships will be awarded. Each fellow will spend **3 weeks** at **Spine Surgery Unit of Ganga Hospital, Coimbatore, India** that is headed by **Professor S Rajasekaran**. Fellows may propose the fellowship dates in 2019, 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, which is the first centre in Asia that became a member of International Society of Orthopaedic Centre (ISOC).

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.**
- 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.

Documents Required for Application

When submitting your application, please include:

1. **Fellowship application form**
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. **Selection criteria form**
9. **2017 Spine logbook**

Economy air travel (round trip), accommodation, and airport transfer at host centres will be covered by APSS. Allowance is only provided for APSS DePuy Synthes Clinical and Travelling Fellowship, APSS SICOT Spine Fellowship, and APSS Medtronic Fellowship. The fellow is responsible for obtaining and payment of visa and visa fee respectively, as well as for their health and travel insurance. APSS will not reimburse visa fee, health and travel insurance.

Kindly submit your complete application to spine@apsonline.org by filling up the application form & selection criteria form, and submitting the required documents stated. For more information, please visit www.apsonline.org .

The **closing date** for receipt of completed application is **1st January 2019**.

SELECTION PROCESS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

1. All applicants would **compete equally** based on the **selection criteria scores** as well as the **complete documents** submitted. The selection will be made by the Education Committee of APSS.
2. **APSS DePuy Synthes Clinical, Travelling & SICOT Spine Fellowships**
 - a) **Two (2) applicants** with the **highest scores** would be selected for **APSS DePuy Synthes Clinical Fellowship**.
 - b) **Six (6) applicants** with the **highest scores** would be selected for **APSS DePuy Synthes Travelling Fellowship**. The **top two (2) fellows** will be screened and selected by the APSS Council to be offered the opportunity to participate in the **exchange programme of APSS SICOT Spine Fellowship**.
 - c) The remaining **two (2) spots of APSS DePuy Synthes Travelling Fellowship**; and **one (1) spot of APSS DePuy Synthes Clinical Fellowship** would be offered to **applicants from developing chapters**.
3. **APSS Medtronic Fellowship**
 - a) **Three (3) applicants** with the **highest scores** would be selected for **APSS Medtronic Fellowship**.
 - b) Remaining one spot would be offered to **applicant from developing chapters**.
4. **APSS-Ganga Hospital Fellowship**
 - a) **Two (2) applicants** with the **highest scores** would be selected for **APSS-Ganga Hospital Fellowship**.
 - b) One of the spots would be offered to **applicant from developing chapters**.
5. **Successful applicants from unique (non-repeating) country or chapter** will be selected for each fellowship awards.
6. The rule of not awarding the fellowship to more than one applicant from the same chapter applies for each fellowship selection. One-time selection will be made for the fellowship programmes to benefit more applicants from different chapters of APSS.
7. Applicant's order of preference in the application form will also determine the type of fellowship offered.
8. Applicants will be eligible for **only one** fellowship award from the applied programmes.