

**CALL FOR APPLICATION:  
APSS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMMES 2020**  
Deadline for application: **1<sup>st</sup> January 2020**

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 2020**

**Three (3) fellowships** will be awarded. Each fellow will spend **3 weeks** in a spine centre of excellence in the Asia Pacific Region, commencing on **17<sup>th</sup> May to 5<sup>th</sup> June 2020**. The end of this fellowship will coincide with the APSS 2020 Annual Meeting in Shanghai, China, from 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

**APSS DePuy Synthes Travelling Fellowship 2020**

**Six (6) 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 **17<sup>th</sup> May to 5<sup>th</sup> June 2020**. The end of this fellowship will coincide with the APSS 2020 Annual Meeting in Shanghai, China, from 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

**APSS-SICOT DePuy Synthes Spine Exchange Fellowship 2020**

**Two (2) fellowships** will be awarded. Each fellow will spend **3 weeks** in a spine centre of excellence in Europe, **between August and October 2020**. Fellows may propose the fellowship dates in 2020, and the final dates are to be finalised after discussing with the host.

**APSS-Ganga Hospital Fellowship 2020**

**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 2020, and the final dates are to be finalised after discussing with the host.

**Economy air travel (round trip), accommodation, and airport transfer at host centres** for the fellows will be covered and arranged by APSS and its hosts. Allowance is only provided for APSS DePuy Synthes Clinical Fellowship, APSS DePuy Synthes Travelling Fellowship and APSS-SICOT DePuy Synthes Spine Exchange Fellowship. The fellow is responsible for obtaining the visa(s), as well as the health and travel insurance. APSS **will not reimburse** visa fee, health and travel insurance.

## 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.**
- APSS member who has maintained an active, paid up membership for **at least 3 years**.
- 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.

### \* Notes:

- *Example: Applicant A is a member of APSS with annual subscription since 2018. He has paid his membership for 2018-2020. Therefore, he is eligible to apply for the programme.*
- *Example: Applicant B is a new member of APSS who joined in June 2019. He has paid for annual subscription for 2019-2021. Therefore, he is eligible to apply for the programme.*
- *Example: Applicant C is a life member of APSS. Therefore, he is eligible to apply for the programme.*

## 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. 2018-2019 Spine logbook

Kindly submit your complete application to [spine@apssonline.org](mailto:spine@apssonline.org) by filling up the application form & selection criteria form, and submitting the required documents stated. For more information, please visit [www.apssonline.org](http://www.apssonline.org).

The **closing date** for receipt of completed application is **1<sup>st</sup> January 2020**

## 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 - Fellowship of APSS.
2. **APSS DePuy Synthes Clinical & Travelling Spine Fellowships**
  - a) **Two (2) applicants** with the **highest scores** would be selected for APSS DePuy Synthes Clinical Fellowship.
  - b) **Four (4) applicants** with the **highest scores** would be selected for APSS DePuy Synthes Travelling 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-SICOT DePuy Synthes Spine Exchange Fellowships**
  - a) **Two (2) applicants** with the **highest scores** would be selected for APSS-SICOT DePuy Synthes Spine Exchange Fellowship.
4. **APSS-Ganga Hospital Fellowship**
  - a) The applicant with the **highest scores** would be selected for APSS-Ganga Hospital Fellowship.
  - b) The remaining spot would be offered to an **applicant from developing chapters** with the **highest scores**.
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.