

Information summary

For further details please refer to the complete ERS Visiting Professorships Rules & Regulations 2010.

Aims

The ERS is funding Visiting Professorships with the aims of stimulating the spread of knowledge, techniques and new ideas in respiratory medicine in Europe:

- The grant will support a short-time visit of a senior scientist or clinician in an institution that is seeking to develop new areas of research and/or clinical expertise.
- The Visiting Professor should provide a clear scientific and educational benefit for the Host Institute.

The Visiting Professorship is accordingly intended to be carried out by an established senior academic and aims to support the transfer of knowledge to the receiving Host Unit. The task of the Visiting Professor is to share advanced experience and expertise with the Host Institute.

It is a mandatory requirement that the project/programme of the Visiting Professorship includes major “research components”. Accordingly, the Visit should lead to research activities and developments during and after the Visiting Professorship. The Visiting Professorships are not granted for purely clinical and educative teaching activities.

Duration: The period of the visit is expected to be at least one week but no more than one month, in a foreign country in Europe.

Conditions

- **The Host Coordinator and the Visiting Professor candidate must have been ERS members for at least one year, in order to be entitled to apply for an ERS Visiting Professorship.** The ERS does not apply a lower age-limit on Visiting Professor candidates as an eligibility criterion.
- All applications must be initiated and **submitted by a Host Coordinator representing the receiving Host Institute, which invites and receives the Visiting Professor for a short period of time.** It is the Host Coordinator’s responsibility to contact a Visiting Professor candidate in adequacy with the Host Institution’s needs and to work out the Visit’s programme with the contribution of the selected Visiting Professor.
- Since the Visiting Professorship aims to foster research dissemination and developments of relevance in respiratory medicine **benefitting the receiving Host Institution, it is a restrictive condition that the transmitted knowledge and know-how is not already available in the Home Institution.**
- **The Visiting Professorship is accordingly intended to be carried out by an established senior academic and aims to support the transfer of knowledge to the receiving Host Unit. The task of the Visiting Professor is to share advanced experience and expertise with the Host Institute.**

- The proposal should elaborate on how the partnership between the Host Institute and the Visiting Professor candidate will be developed to take full advantage of the facilities, faculty, resources, and materials available in their respective countries.
- **The Visiting Professors should be well-established experts or senior professors.** They are expected to present an outstanding track record in their career and to be of high international ranking in their respective fields.
- **The programme is open to both Europeans and non-Europeans. The Host Institutions must however be in Europe.**
- **The start date of the Professorship cannot be set earlier than August 2010 for applications submitted in April since a granting decision can only be expected in July 2010. For applications submitted in October the start date of the Professorship cannot be set earlier than January 2011 since a granting decision can only be expected in December 2010. The Professorships are not granted in retrospect for already fully or partly carried out projects. They need to be started within 1 year of the notification date at the latest.**

Application process

- The allocation of the Visiting Professorship grant is based on a complete and detailed project description (including work plan & timelines) and application files to be submitted by the Host Coordinator and the suggested Visiting Professor.
- **Submission closing dates for applications are normally 1 April and 1 October 2010.** You can expect a decision as from the second week of July for the VP submitted in April and as from the second week of December for the VP submitted in October.
- **Submission is to be made online by the Host Coordinator** by completing the application form under the following link: www.ersnet.org/visiting-professorships. It is accompanied with supporting documents from both the Host Coordinator and the Visiting Professor candidate. **The project is developed together with the suggested Visiting Professor.**
- **Application files to be uploaded online:**
 1. Project description, 5 pages max. including references (font size 12pts Times Roman /Arial)
 2. Host Coordinator's short curriculum vitae (2 pages maximum)
 3. Host Coordinator's list of publications (with the 10 most significant original publications listed first, abstracts should not be included)
 4. Invited Visiting Professor's short curriculum vitae (2 pages maximum)
 5. Invited Visiting Professor's list of publications (with the 10 most significant original publications listed first, abstracts should not be included)
 6. Invited Visiting Professor's photo (in high resolution: > 300 dpi, portrait, identity-type format)
- **Supporting documents to be downloaded online to be then uploaded in the online system.**
 - Host Coordinator Application Form:
to be completed by the Host Coordinator applying online with the mandatory signature. Please then upload the Host Coordinator form and the application files online.
 - Visiting Professor Candidate Agreement Form:
to be sent to the suggested Visiting Professor for completion. Please request that he/she completes the form, provides his/her mandatory signature and sends it back to you with his/her mandatory supporting documents. Please then upload the Visiting Professor's form and the supporting documents online.

- **Optional documents.**

If the evaluation of the proposal requires additional background, such material may be submitted by email at fellowships@ersnet.org in electronic format.

- **This project description is together with the merits of the suggested Visiting Professor the most important component of the application.** It should be prepared by the Host Coordinator together with the suggested Visiting Professor, as they will indicate it in their respective forms. **The project description must clearly describe which activities are planned and why these are suggested.**

The description must not exceed 5 pages (font size 12pts Times Roman or Arial) including references:

- **The first page should be a synopsis of the project/programme which is planned for the Visit,** addressing its aim in one sentence, then listing the activities which are planned (Visit's work-plan), addressing the reasons for selecting the Visiting Professor and the value of the project/programme for the Host Institution. **It must be made clear why this person is selected as Visiting Professor, what the benefits are to the Host Institution and if there are plans for continued collaboration following the Visit.**
- **The next four pages** may be used to expand on these factors and in particular to provide the scientific rationale for the project/programme addressing research activities and developments during the Visit, as well as scientific and educational benefits during and after the Visit. It is critical that the Visit's work-plan is clear and supports the fact that the project/programme may be concluded within the projected time frame (1 week to 1 month).

- **The programme of the Visit must be clearly outlined.**

Examples of intended activities are:

- Formal lectures by the Visiting Professor
- Seminars with the Visiting Professor as discussant/reviewer
- Coaching of research fellows, in groups and individually
- Round-table discussions of specific research issues
- Demonstration and implementation of specific techniques
- Performance of specific experiments or analysis of data sets
- Advise to the Host Coordinator on how to develop research programmes and funding
- Strategic review of other activities in respiratory medicine at the Host Institution
- Participation in clinical rounds
- Planning of new long-term collaborations and exchanges of e.g. fellows from the Host Institution to the suggested Visiting Professor's Unit

ERS follow-up requirements

- Once the Visiting Professor has completed the Professorship, both the Visiting Professor and the Host Coordinator are expected to submit within 3 months of the end of the Professorship an administrative and scientific end-of-project report and a completed ERS Visiting Professorship questionnaire. The Visiting Professor only will also be requested to submit a short resumé on the Professorship experience to be posted on the ERS website.
- Both the Visiting Professor and the Host Coordinator will be requested, to separately provide two years and five years after the end of the Professorship, a completed questionnaire and a report on any outcomes related to the Professorship (research opportunities, papers published, grants & awards received, patents, etc.)
- Both the Visiting Professor and the Host Coordinator will ensure that any publication or outcome related to the Professorship will acknowledge the ERS support.
- Both the Visiting Professor and the Host Coordinator will record and update the ERS on any publication activity and other outcome resulting from the Professorship, within two months of the said publication being made public.