

# ISA 2026-2027 FELLOWSHIPS: REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

The International Society of Amyloidosis is accepting applications for a competitive grant opportunity focused on supporting fellowships at large amyloidosis centers with experience diagnosing and treating high volumes of amyloidosis patients.

Potential fellows and a hosting institution should jointly apply for this opportunity (<u>see program description</u>), negotiating the details between them.

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

**General:** The mentors at the host institutions should be ISA members.

# Fellowship applicant

Must hold an MD degree or equivalent. Preference will be given to those who have completed or are about to complete a relevant fellowship (cardiology, hematology, neurology, etc.). Recent fellows at the host institution will also be considered.

- 1. Should have some clinical experience. Preference will be given to those who have some experience with amyloidosis.
- 2. Must have identified a mentor or mentors at a host institution and obtained the agreement of the mentor(s) and host institution to support the fellow via education, training and collaboration.
- 3. Must articulate how the skills and knowledge they obtain at the host institution will support the home region or another under-served area in a Comprehensive Plan for Sharing Expertise
- 4. Be willing to complete ISA surveys (including program evaluation) six months after the start of their fellowships and at completion of the fellowship.
- 5. Be willing to participate in a peer mentoring program involving periodic virtual meetings with other fellows and take part in other ISA educational efforts as a member of the Committee.

# **Hosting Institution**

- 1. Must be a center specializing in amyloidosis care and be able to demonstrate in the application how it considers itself as such by reporting on:
  - The existence and availability specialists (e.g. at a minimum cardiologist, hematologists) with expertise in diagnosing and treating amyloidosis.
  - Expertise in at least two additional disciplines from the following list is desirable: neurology, pathology, nephrology, radiology, and organ transplantation.



- Their volume of amyloidosis patients such that a fellow would see a mix of types of amyloidosis and at least 15 patients with amyloidosis per week (new and follow-up on an outpatient basis)
- 2. Should have a track record of educating fellows, ideally amyloidosis fellows
- 3. Will develop a detailed plan for the fellowship, including a training plan, an educational curriculum (including local, regional, and national conferences), logistics and financial arrangements. This plan should support the fellow's acquisition of skills that can be leveraged at the home institution upon the fellow's return
- 4. Must provide at least two mentors (a primary and a secondary; both should be ISA members) who can meet with fellow at least twice per month
- 5. Should assure that the fellow time spent in the clinical setting that is supported through grant funds should not be billed as patient care.
- 6. The host institution should have the ability and structure necessary to receive grant funds and apply them to the fellowship program, or identify an institution capable of doing so.

#### **BUDGET FOR INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIPS**

The fellowship grant will be an award of up to US \$125,000 (the amount should take into account cost of living and salaries in host institution's region) including maximum allowable institutional overhead of 8%. The budget may include one year of salary support for the grantee, any malpractice insurance needed, benefits such as health insurance, malpractice insurance, visa status adjustment expenses and a travel allowance. Please note that with overhead and the expenses listed above, fellow salaries are likely to be considerably less than the amount of the total award.

If funded, the fellow will receive a complementary ISA membership for one year.

# **REVIEW CRITERIA AND PROCESS**

Upon receipt of each application, ISA staff will conduct a preliminary review to ensure the application is complete and the applicants are eligible for the grant. If there are questions regarding eligibility of applicants, ISA's Fellowship Committee may be consulted.

After the submission deadline, ISA staff will distribute all eligible applications to ISA Fellowship Committee members for review and evaluation. Evaluation will be based on:

- 1. Need of home institution/region for amyloidosis diagnosis and treatment knowledge
- 2. Strength of fellowship proposal and mentorship and training plan
- 3. Ability of proposed fellow to put into practice advanced clinical science addressing unmet needs in their home region or another under-served area
- 4. Interest and ability of fellow to participate in clinical research



- 5. Preference will be given to centers with a track record of clinical trials, research, and publications in the amyloidosis field
- 6. Clarity of the proposal.

If a member of the Fellowship Committee has a material conflict, they must recuse themselves from evaluating the application in question.

After evaluation is complete, the Committee Chair will present the recommendations to ISA's Board of Directors for review. The Board of Directors will make the final decision on fellowship awards. The Board of Directors' determination is final and non-reviewable unless the Board of Directors in its sole discretion elects to take other or additional action.

### **NOTIFICATION, CONTRACT AND PAYMENT TERMS**

ISA will notify successful and unsuccessful applicants by email after the Board of Directors has completed its review and final decision.

Fellows, the primary mentor at the host institution and the grants officer or authorized signer at the institution that will receive and administer fellowship funds must sign an agreement in a form acceptable to the Society outlining expectations and payments. ISA will pay a maximum of 50% of grant funding to the institution administering the funds upon execution of the contract, with subsequent disbursements subject to delivery of reports and completion of milestones. If the start date is delayed, ISA and all parties will sign a no-cost extension/addendum, in a form acceptable to ISA, with a new fellowship start and finish date. Unless ISA approves an exception in writing, fellowships must be completed by December 31, 2027.

## **EVALUATION AND OUTCOMES**

Fellows are expected to be part of ISA educational efforts and impart their acquired knowledge and experience in diagnosing and managing amyloidosis, all of which should translate into decreased delays in diagnosis, more accurate diagnoses, and improved management of amyloidosis in their home regions or under-served areas.

At a minimum, fellows will be expected to complete surveys about the fellowship experience and the knowledge they acquire and disseminate in their home region or another under-served area. Ideally, fellows will be able to present or publish any research they've had the opportunity to be involved in, as well as participate in periodic virtual peer group meetings to discuss skills acquired, challenges and potential solutions and best practices.

Fellows are expected to serve as active members in the Education Committee and participate as much as possible in educational activities.



As mentioned above, host institutions will be expected to provide final reports on the fellowships as well as official financial expenditure reports upon fellowship completion.

#### PROGRAM UPDATE NOTICE

ISA Fellowship Program is subject to change at the discretion of the Society. ISA reserves the right to modify, update, or amend the program structure, requirements, and any associated policies at any time. These changes may include, but are not limited to, eligibility criteria, application processes, funding amounts, and program duration.

By participating in the fellowship, all applicants and recipients acknowledge and accept that the ISA has the sole discretion to make such changes and that they will be communicated in a timely manner. It is the responsibility of the applicants and recipients to stay informed about any updates or modifications to the program.

# TIMELINE/KEY DATES

Process Step	Date
Request for applications issued	July 2025
Applications due	October 31, 2025
Final decision and notifications	November 30, 2025
Contracts signed	December 2025 – January 2026
First funds disbursement (max. 50%)	Upon execution
Subsequent disbursements	After approval of deliverables and milestones
Final report and financial report	Within 30 days of fellowship completion



#### **OUTLINE FOR SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION**

(All points below must be addressed; please submit documents in a single collated pdf in the order listed below, with this fillable pdf as your first page.)

Fellowship Applicant N	ame:	<u>,                                      </u>	
Fellowship start and end dates:			
	Hosting institution	Home institution	
Primary mentor(s)			
Primary mentor(s)			
Name of institution			

# Table of Contents (Limit 10 pages for items 1-4)

- 1. Goals of program and year of study
- 2. About the fellowship candidate and home institution
  - 2.1. Career status of fellow (description of current position)
  - 2.2. Fellow's goals for fellowship year
  - 2.3. Fellow's comprehensive plan for sharing expertise in home region or another underserved area
- 3. About the hosting institution
  - 3.1. Amyloidosis Center
    - 3.1.1. Multidisciplinary expertise (about the experts)
    - 3.1.2. Patient volumes
    - 3.1.3. Publications
    - 3.1.4. Clinical trials
    - 3.1.5. Other resources and facilities (e.g. databases, registries)
  - 3.2. Educational plan
    - 3.2.1. Mentorship plan
    - 3.2.2. Curriculum
    - 3.2.3. Previous fellowships at the hosting institution
    - 3.2.4. Potential travel to meetings
    - 3.2.5. Publication expectations
  - 3.3. Potential Challenges
    - 3.3.1. Language (if applicable)



- 3.3.2. Visas (if applicable)
- 3.3.3. Health insurance
- 3.3.4. Other
- 4. Budget
  - 4.1. Breakdown of budget
  - 4.2. Description of which organization will receive and administer funding
  - 4.3. Statement confirming the ability of individual to sign an agreement with ISA and receive, administer and distribute fellowship funding.
- 5. Supporting documents
  - 5.1. NIH biosketches (or curriculum vitae)
    - 5.1.1. Fellow
    - 5.1.2. Primary Mentor (hosting institution)
  - 5.2. Letters of support
    - 5.2.1. Primary Mentor (hosting institution)
    - 5.2.2. Secondary mentor (hosting institution)
    - 5.2.3. Division Head or Department Chair at the hosting institution