

# ***GUIDELINES FOR FAOBMB TRAVEL FELLOWSHIPS and FAOBMB FELLOWSHIPS***

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## **Objectives of the FAOBMB Fellowship Scheme**

FAOBMB Fellowships are awarded to contribute towards the travel and accommodation expenses of early career biochemists and molecular biologists from the FAOBMB region **to:**

- a. Attend and present a research paper or poster at an FAOBMB sponsored function (Congress, Conference, Symposium or Workshop); **or**
- b. Spend a period of time in a host laboratory within the FAOBMB region, learning a particular technology, skill or technique of significance and relevance to the needs of the home country/institution.

Objectives of the Fellowship Scheme are to:

- Improve research skills and foster the transfer of technology in order to build capacity and capability to fulfil the scientific human resource needs of FAOBMB Constituent Member countries/regions.
- Enhance cooperation and collaboration within the FAOBMB region.
- Develop research linkages between the host institution and the home institution of the Fellowship recipient.

Potential applicants for FAOBMB Travel Fellowships should also consider applying for an FAOBMB Young Scientist Award to support participation in an FAOBMB Congress.

**To achieve the above objectives, FAOBMB will allocate funds for two types of Fellowship:**

- (a) **FAOBMB Travel Fellowships** to enable early career scientists of not more than 40 years of age to attend FAOBMB-sponsored functions;
- (b) **FAOBMB Fellowships** to enable scientists of not more than 40 years from Constituent Member countries/regions to undertake collaborative research or learn particular skills from participating laboratories.

In this Scheme, a person is eligible to be considered for a Fellowship if their completed application reaches the Chair of the Fellowship Committee before their 41<sup>st</sup> birthday.

**Constituent Members** of FAOBMB (as at May 2008) are the societies and groups of biochemists and molecular biologists from the following countries or regions in the Asia and Oceania region: Australia, Bangladesh, China, Taiwan, Hawaii, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

**Criteria for the award of a Travel Fellowship or Fellowship:**

- (i) The candidate is at an early stage of his or her career development, has a proven record of academic and intellectual achievement and shows research potential;
- (ii) The candidate has submitted an application providing all requested information and documentation by the due date (see separate Application Forms for Travel Fellowships and Fellowships).

Applicants for a Fellowship to undertake research and research-related activities in a host laboratory will need to:

- Provide evidence of acceptance of the program and partial funding of expenses by the host institution;
- Provide a letter of support from the Head of the home institution/department of the applicant, preferably indicating that some financial support will be available;
- Provide a detailed activity plan and a budget for the period of the Fellowship, including details of supervision;
- Demonstrate the relevance and necessity of the particular skill/technique to be acquired and explain how she/he will utilize the newly acquired skills in the home institution and country.

## **Administration of the FAOBMB Travel Fellowship and Fellowship Schemes**

These awards shall be administered by the FAOBMB Fellowship Committee which shall also be responsible for the selection of the successful applicants, after a proper evaluation of the completed application forms in accordance with the criteria outlined above, for final approval by Council.

### **The FAOBMB Fellowship Committee shall comprise the following:**

- (i) The Chair, elected by the FAOBMB Council of Delegates.
- (ii) The FAOBMB Treasurer.
- (iii) The Chair of the Education Committee of FAOBMB.
- (iv) The Chair of the Organizing Committee of the Constituent Member hosting the FAOBMB function in that year, or nominee.
- (v) A member from the FAOBMB Region co-opted by the Fellowship Committee Chair.

### **Further Information:**

Further information on the FAOBMB Fellowship Scheme can be obtained from the Chair of the FAOBMB Fellowship Committee, Dr Piamsook Pongsawasdi, of Chulalongkorn University, Thailand (email [Piamsook.P@Chula.ac.th](mailto:Piamsook.P@Chula.ac.th)).