

- Candidate submits file to cgo@ioff.org for the eligibility determination.
- The IOFF-Subspecialty Fellowship Executive confirms eligibility **OR** requests further details/documents. Eligible candidates receive back the application file from the IOFF Subspecialty Fellowship Executive for further processing.
- Candidate chooses his/her favorite host from the IOFF-Subspecialty Fellowship Network and contacts the host with a training request and the application package.
- Host notifies the candidate within 2 weeks if he/she would like to offer a vacancy.
- Host and candidate agree on a proposed start date
- Host completes the host notice of acceptance form and shares it with the candidate and the IOFF-Subspecialty Fellowship Executive at cgo@ioff.org
- **Now the application file is complete and will be assessed by a jury consisting of three experts.**
- Candidates and hosts will be notified in April, resp. October whether the application was successful or not.
- Candidate applies for visa, arranges his/her stay abroad (travel, accommodation) and completes paperwork requested by the host institute (e.g. documents, vaccinations, medial check-up, if applicable: temporary registration with the Medical Authorities).
- Candidate submits the requested documents and bank information to the IOFF-Subspecialty Fellowship Executive so that grant amount can be released and wired.
- **After finishing the IOFF-Subspecialty Fellowship stay:** candidate completes end-of-documentation and submits it to the IOFF-Subspecialty Fellowship Executive.
- Host and candidate submit an evaluation sheet to the IOFF Subspecialty Fellowship Executive at cgo@ioff.org

Closing Date: February 28 – Fellowship starts between August 1 same year and May 1 the year after.

Closing Date: July 31 – Fellowship starts between February 1 and November 1 the next year.

Thank you

If you wish to support the IOFF-Subspecialty Fellowship Program through the IOFF, please contact the IOFF office. We would be happy to discuss donation options and instructions.

Donations in 2020 – 106.000 €

- bon Optik GmbH
- BVA (Professional Association of German Ophthalmologists)
- Carl Zeiss Foundation
- CBM
- DOG (German Ophthalmological Society)
- Dr. Rolf M. Schwiete Foundation
- Johnson and Johnson
- Ladiant GmbH
- OmniVision GmbH
- Prof. Michael Kaschke
- Santen GmbH
- Santen Germany employees
- Ursapharm GmbH
- Willy Robert Pitzer Foundation

We are happy to receive donations:

IOFF International Ophthalmological Fellowship Foundation (IOFF e.V.)
 Deutsche Bank Nuernberg
 IBAN: DE74 7507 0013 0311 0228 00
 BIC: DEUTDEMM750

Contact

International Ophthalmological Fellowship Foundation (IOFF e.V.)
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www.ioff.org



International Ophthalmological Fellowship Foundation e.V.



Refine and further develop your skills in internationally recognized ophthalmic centers.



16.12.2020



The IOFF-Subspecialty Fellowship Program

is an European initiative for Ophthalmologists from low-resource and underserved countries

In 2001, on the recommendation of Prof. Balder Gloor from Zurich, Switzerland, and in collaboration with the International Council of Ophthalmology, a three-months fellowships program was first started. To date more than 1200 three-months fellowships have been awarded under the program. In 2007, the growing financial support from Germany allowed to establish the **International Ophthalmological Fellowship Foundation IOFF** which is recognized as a charity organization by the German tax authorities. So far, around 665.000 EUR have been raised to support return travel and living expenses of the three-months fellows.



In October 2020, the IOFF e.V. has started its own initiative, the **IOFF-Subspecialty Fellowship Program**, offering three-months and one-year subspecialty training for applicants from low-resource and underserved countries. The mission of the program is to enhance eyecare education and eyecare delivery in the candidate's home countries by meeting the individual needs of the candidates in their subspecialty. Candidates can refine and further develop their skills in internationally recognized ophthalmologic centers under the tuition of renowned experts.

Prof. Berthold Seitz, Prof. Peter Gabel and Ms Cordula Gabel-Obermaier are an established team with many years of experience and will be responsible for the program.

Many international hosts, and collaborative partners have confirmed their long-term commitment to assist in fulfilling the mission of the **IOFF-Subspecialty Fellowship Program**.

About the Program

The **IOFF-Subspecialty Fellowships** Program invites young Ophthalmologists from low-resource or underserved countries to apply for an IOFF-Subspecialty Fellowship. Fellows are expected to bring their acquired knowledge and skills back to their native countries and participate in programs to preserve vision and prevent blindness.

It is the generous participation of many training centers around the world who are responsible for the success of the IOFF-Subspecialty Fellowship Program. All centers agree not to charge any fees for providing IOFF-Subspecialty Fellows with excellent scientific and clinical training. IOFF-Subspecialty Fellowship hosts try to assure a positive experience for the fellow, both inside and outside of the hospital.

Directly after the fellowship, both fellows and hosts report to the IOFF-Subspecialty Fellowship Office, which guarantees a continuous evaluation of the IOFF-Subspecialty Fellowship Program. Moreover, fellows are asked to keep on reporting to the Fellowship Office upon return to their countries of origin, which allows a long-term assessment of the fellowship achievements. These reports verify the sustainability, the usefulness and efficiency of the IOFF-Subspecialty Fellowship Program.

IOFF-Three-Months Subspecialty Fellowships are offered in Cataract Surgery, Community Eye Health, Cornea and External Diseases, Glaucoma, Low Vision and Rehabilitation, Medical Retina, Microbiology/Ocular Pathology/Ocular Oncology, Neuro-Ophthalmology, Ocular Oncology, Oculoplastic, Ophthalmogenetic, Pediatric Ophthalmology, Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus, Retinoblastoma, ROP and Pediatric Retina, Strabismus, Trauma, Uveitis and Vitreoretina.



From the very beginning, anonymous private benefactors as well as pharmaceutical companies and organizations such as Ursapharm, Santen, Carl Zeiss Meditec, CBM, DOG, Dr. Rolf M. Schwiete Foundation have donated considerable amounts and have enhanced the possibilities of the IOFF-Subspecialty Fellowship Program tremendously.



IOFF Application Process

Eligible candidates come from low-resource or underserved countries. The actual list of countries can be found under www.ioff.org/information-download/

- The candidate fills in the application package and includes requested documents
 - + Scan of the passport showing nationality
 - + Candidate's picture (portait)
 - + Scan of Specialist in Ophthalmology degree certificate
 - + Recommendation letter issued by present chair
 - + Recommendation letter issued by previous chair
 - + Recommendation letter from the chair of the voluntary workposition