



IFSO I.H. SCHOLARSHIPS GUIDELINES 2024

One of the main activities of IFSO is the organization of the annual IFSO World Congress, which provides a forum to exchange knowledge on surgical treatment of patients with severe obesity, to present new techniques, research and concepts, and to meet the experts in the field. The Congress also promotes the specialty of Bariatric Surgery around the world and provides the opportunity for fellowship and collegiality amongst members from each chapter.

In support of this aim, IFSO offers **10 Integrated Health Scholarships** to members from countries whose Bariatric Surgery Societies are members of IFSO and who show strong interests, accomplishments and career development in bariatric surgery and/or other obesity related specialties. **The panel will aim to award an applicant from each of the IFSO chapters, however this is not mandatory.** The IFSO IH Committee may, at its discretion, award scholarship grants to more than one member per region or chapter. The IH Committee will review all submissions based on the outlined criteria and shall have final approval authority over the award recipients.

The principal purpose of the Scholarship is to support the attendance, and the quality, of the IH program at the IFSO World Congress. The selection criteria will be objective and non-discriminatory.

Each Scholarship offers a stipend of: **\$US 2,500** + registration at the IFSO World Congress with public recognition of their achievement and presence + 1 ticket to the Gala Dinner.

The applications must be sent in writing to IFSO Secretariat (info@ifso.com) **by March 31st, 2024.**

Regulations:

- Applicants must be current IFSO IH members in good standing, graduates of schools of medicine and/or other associated disciplines. This regulation fully represents IH members in their own specialty. Any **non-IH** member will be excluded from eligibility irrespective of their topic of presentation or their area of research study
- Applicants must be in a bariatric surgery related specialties practice or training
- Applicants may only be awarded this prize once
- Applications must be either invited speakers or abstract presenters

Successful applicants must provide a written report to IFSO within 2 months of the completion of the World Congress.

The Presidents of the member societies are kindly requested to inform their members about the availability of Scholarships and about the regulations and requirements for applications. Applications received by the deadline will be graded according to an objective system by the "Scholarship Committee", which will award the 5 Scholarships after first informing the Executive Board. The Committee will ordinarily be composed of: President, President Elect, chair of the Scholarship Committee ad hoc, Chair and Vice-Chair of the I.H. Committee.

The Secretariat will inform all applicants of the result in a timely way by email and will request their bank details for the bank transfer.

Requirements for Application

Applicants should apply in writing to IFSO secretariat. All applications must be supported by the following 5 documents:

1. **Application form**

2. **A structured one page CV providing:**

- Name
- date of birth
- demographic data & personal details
- qualifications
- training
- employment history
- current post Evidence of their current IH membership

No photos or title pages should be included.

3. **A one page (only) list of peer reviewed Metabolic Bariatric publications**

Where one page is insufficient, the applicant should provide the total number of publications over their career as well as the publications in the last 5 years and 5 most significant publications.

4. **A one page (maximum) statement by the Applicant covering:**

- Overall future career aim in bariatric surgery
- What is the next step in career development
- Why the scholarship will help the Applicant in this
- How the scholarship will help contribute to the development of bariatric surgery in the Applicant's home country / institute

5. **A letter from the Head of Department or professional mentor describing the Applicant's**

- ability
- current level of training
- proposed career development
- leadership potential

6. **A copy of the Abstract submitted to IFSO World Congress for consideration of presentation OR the title of the presentation as Invited Speaker**