



**OBSERVERSHIP PROGRAM  
IN METABOLIC BARIATRIC SURGERY 2026  
*GUIDELINES***





# **OBSERVERSHIP PROGRAM 2026**

**The Observership is meant to offer young members or in the early phase of their career the chance to go to a foreign hospital to *OBSERVE* (not to operate) the activity of the whole Metabolic Bariatric Department for 1 week to 3 weeks**

**At the end of the Observership the applicant will receive a Certificate to testify that he/she has completed the Observership Program.**

**The winners who will attend IFSO World Congress 2026 can receive the certificate by the IFSO President at the IFSO World Congress in Toronto**

**The applicants will have to complete an online survey to report about their experience after finishing it**



# **EDUCATIONAL GRANT SUPPORT**

**IFSO will provide an educational grant to cover all expenses related to the Observership,  
for a period ranging from a minimum of one week to a maximum of three weeks**

**The total amount of the grant will be USD 2,500**

**Any additional expense is at the Observer's charge**

# LIST OF HOSPITALS



**IFSO has identified a list of the best and most renown Hospitals in the different Chapters to offer the best experience to our young members**

**Each of these Hospitals have the following requirements:**

- **Routine protocols**
- **Logistic support**
- **>200 MBS cases/year**
- **Multidisciplinary team in place**



# APPLICANTS' MINIMAL REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants must be IFSO Members in good standing, graduates of schools of medicine
- Applicants are eligible if they have finished a fellowship in MBS OR have been in an MBS program for at least 2 years
- Applicants have finished their residency or training period not longer than 5 years ago
- Applicants may only be awarded this grant once

**Successful Applicants must complete an online survey to report to IFSO within a month of the completion of the Observership**



# APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

## 1. Application form

## 2. One page CV

## 3. One page Personal Statement covering:

- Overall future career aim in MBS
- What is the next step in career development
- Why the Observership will help the Applicant in his/her career
- How the Observership will help contribute to the development of MBS in the Applicant's home country

## 4. A Letter of Recommendation from the Head of Department/Professional Mentor/IFSO

### Member who vouches for the applicant, with the following info:

- Type and Number of MBS cases performed by the applicant
- Current level of experience
- Proposed career development



**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS: 28 FEBRUARY 2026**

**Please send an email to [INFO@IFSO.COM](mailto:INFO@IFSO.COM)  
with all the requested documents:**

- 1) APPLICATION FORM**
- 2) CV**
- 3) PERSONAL STATEMENT**
- 4) LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION**



# START OF THE OBSERVERSHIP

The grant will be given and the Observership can begin as soon as the selection process of the applications is over, preferably between MARCH and AUGUST 2026