

# AO Fellowship in Medical Education Research

## 1. Introduction

The **AO Foundation** is a medically guided, not-for-profit organization based in Switzerland, created to improve the surgical treatment of trauma and disorders of the musculoskeletal system. The **AO Education Institute** (AO EI) supports the development of medical education of our health care professionals network and it is actively engaged in medical education research.

Each year we offer over 870 educational events around the world, supported by nearly 8,000 faculty and attended by more than 82,600 participants.

## 2. Aims of the Fellowship Program

The AO EI offers a group of selected fellows the opportunity to **conduct research in postgraduate surgical education in a global environment in order to build more evidence in the field of continuous professional development (CPD) for surgeons.** Through this endeavor, we reaffirm our dedication to enhancing surgical performance and patient outcomes through education.

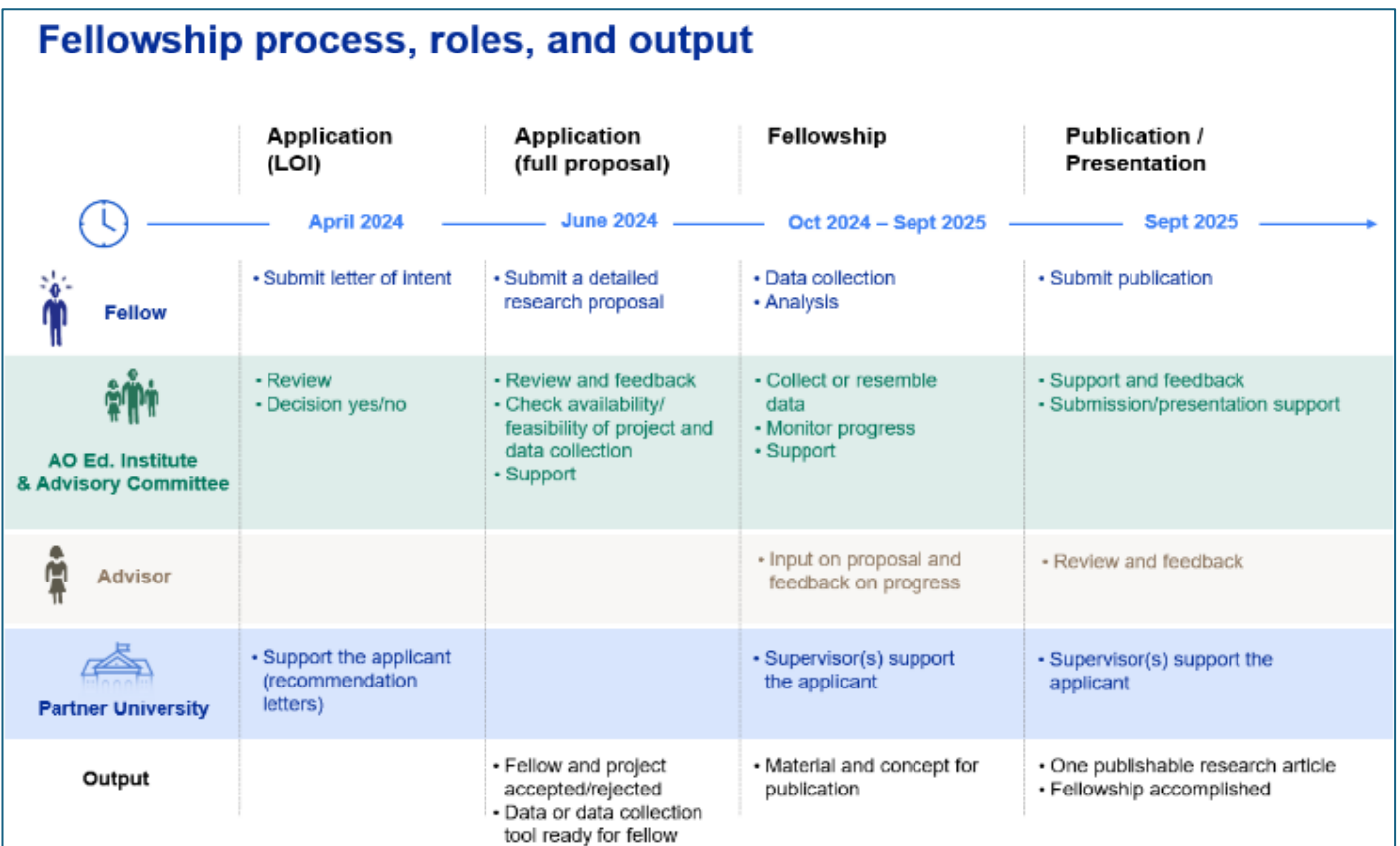
## 3. Fellowship description

We are offering two fellowships for 2024 for a value of 23,000 CHF each. **The fellowship experience will be individualized** based on the project. **The maximal duration is expected to be 12 months.**

The budget will be used to cover project related costs (no direct payment to the candidate). Examples of cost coverage are reported in the section "Fellowship offer". During the fellowship period **the fellow is expected to attend interim meetings** with the AO Education Institute research manager and the assigned advisor to report the project progress and receive feedback. Involvement of the fellow's supervisor in the meetings is highly recommended.

## 4. Eligibility

- Applicants must be enrolled in a Medical Education Program at one of our **partner institutions**
- Applicants must be proficient in spoken and written English



## 5. Priority interests

We encourage to submit projects related to **surgeons' continuing professional development (CPD) and residents education**. Proposals will not be restricted to a particular methodological approach or topic area within CPD and learning.

**Examples of fellow's research projects** are available in our [fellowship in medical education research](#) page and **concluded AO EI research projects** are available in our [research in medical publications and report](#) page.

## 6. Timelines

**April 22, 2024:** Deadline for submission of Letter of Intent and supporting documents

**May 8, 2024:** Notification to selected candidates regarding their invitation to submit a full proposal

**June 24, 2024:** Deadline for submission of full proposals

**July-August 2024:** Interviews with shortlisted candidates

**September 2024:** Results announced

**October 2024:** Start of fellowship

**November 2025:** Final report

## 7. Results and reporting

At the end of the fellowship, we expect:

- A synopsis of progress
- One presentation at a congress
- One research article

**The AO Foundation must be cited as the source of funding** in any publication, presentation, or in any publicity resulting from the award or its results.

## 8. Role of the partner institution

The role of the partner institution is **to advertise the AO fellowship program among the students enrolled in their medical education program**. The head of medical education program or the supervisor should in addition support the applicant by writing a recommendation letter.

## 9. Fellowship offer (will be tailored to the project)

- Tutoring and support by the AO Education Institute employees
- Cost coverage for consultation with an external advisor (expert in medical education selected from our network depending on the research topic) for 24 hours or more. Indicative cost per hour 208 CHF.
- Possibility to attend AO educational events (cost coverage for travel and accommodation)
- Cost coverage for article submission
- Cost coverage for a congress to present the project results.

## 10. Applications

Each applicant must submit their application as word documents by email to Dr. Monica Ghidinelli at [monica.ghidinelli@aofoundation.org](mailto:monica.ghidinelli@aofoundation.org)

- **Letter of intent** (LOI)
- **Curriculum vitae** (CV) of maximum two pages with a list of publications and major lectures/presentations at conferences
- **Recommendation letter(s)** from Medical Education Program lead and/or supervisor.

## 11. Contact information

Please address all correspondence and questions to Dr. Monica Ghidinelli using the details below:

Monica Ghidinelli, PhD

Manager Education Research, Accreditation & Partnerships

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