

# **ERS Fellowships and Awards Director 2025-2028**

## **Role and responsibilities description**

### **Background**

ERS is committed to support early career members through a wide range of fellowship opportunities to boost early career scientists and clinicians' competitiveness, enhance transnational mobility and promote scientific networks. Transnational mobility remains an essential aspect, with fellows undertaking their research or training in a (host) country, primarily in Europe, different from the (home) country where they are based. Fellowship programmes are generally open to applicants of any nationality, whether they are researchers, clinicians, or allied healthcare professionals, although some schemes have a specific geographical remit.

Each year, ERS honours a variety of different individuals, from promising early career candidates to well established ERS members who have made exceptional contributions to the respiratory field, with a range of awards. Within this framework, ERS offers awards and grants to ERS members or abstract authors to support past achievements, future research projects and/or cover part of the expenses to attend the ERS International Congress.

### **Role of the Fellowship and Awards Director**

The ERS Fellowship and Awards Director is an officer of ERS according to ERS bylaws. The appointed candidate would ensure a coherent and comprehensive fellowship and awards portfolio fitting the needs and expectations of ERS members as well as a smooth, fair and transparent selection process to position ERS as a leading society offering support to healthcare professional and sustaining the development of promising projects in the respiratory fields. Moreover, the ERS Fellowship and Awards Director is expected to support the Science Council Chair in the strategic development of ERS scientific activities.

The post is not salaried but participation in meetings, interviews and in the ERS Congress will be fully covered by ERS.

Administrative and logistic support will be provided by the ERS office.

### **Main responsibilities**

- Maintain an attractive ERS Scientific Awards and Fellowships portfolio covering all relevant areas and targeting the various ERS Assemblies.
- Engage with ERS assemblies in the promotion of the various programmes and in the ERS Scientific Awards nomination process.
- Guarantee an unbiased selection process based on scientific excellence but ensuring the representation of the diversity of ERS memberships as much as possible (gender, geographic distribution, ethnicity, scientific topic, professional categories...).
- Overview and chair the application, reviewing and selection processes involving the ERS College of Experts (about 200 members) and Fellowships and Award Working Group (20 - 25 members).
- Report recommendations made by the two above-mentioned bodies to the ERS Science Council.
- Continue developing opportunities for fellows' and awardees' engagement with ERS and other related matters in collaboration with the Early Career Members Committee.
- Present and disseminate knowledge on ERS Fellowships opportunities and benefits to various audiences during ERS Congress, the Lung Science Conference or through interventions on the ERS Respiratory Channel, if and as needed.
- Chair the meetings organized with fellows on a regular basis.

- Contribute to external fundraising and seek alternative sources of income, if relevant.
- Review the annual performance of the different activities linked to the position and come up with suggestions for changes and improvement to be evaluated by the Science Council.

## Time commitment (per year)

- Science Council: 1 on-site meeting and 4 teleconferences (including preparation meetings)
- ERS directors meeting (once a year)
- Fellowships and Awards programmes: 5 fellowship programme calls per year (30-40 applications per call), 1 online meeting for candidate interviews with the Fellowship Award Working Group, 4 teleconferences with the College of Experts
- Scientific Awards programme: 1 scientific award call per year (60-90 applications per year), 1 teleconference with the Fellowship Award Working Group
- Regular teleconferences with the ERS office (e.g. bi-weekly).
- ERS Congress participation

## Term of office

This position has a 3-year mandate (non-extendable, non-renewable), commencing after ERS International Congress in September 2025 and finishing at ERS Congress in September 2028. The Fellowship and Awards Director-elect would be expected to begin shadowing the current Fellowship and Awards Director around a year before the start of their mandate.

## Personal requirements

- A proven track record of respiratory research published in peer-reviewed journals.
- Previous experience in reviewing research grants and leading academic selection or evaluation committees at a national and/or international level.
- Previous experience in obtaining and managing research grants.
- Good understanding of ERS members' needs and expectations especially early career members and researchers.
- Available to attend meetings in Europe, participate in teleconferences and able to devote requisite time to duties and activities follow-up.
- Good team worker.
- Excellent communication and organisational skills with the ability to meet tight deadlines.
- Fluent in English.

## Contact details for additional information

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