



*The Intensive Connection*

## **The ESICM Awards 2022**

The ESICM Awards Programme actively supports research initiatives in the field of intensive care medicine by providing direct funding. The primary goals of this programme are:

- a. to support research in intensive care medicine in Europe;
- b. to contribute to the implementation of new techniques in Europe through the support and training of researchers;
- c. to increase collaborative research in the field of intensive care medicine across international borders in Europe.
- d. to increase the visibility of the ESICM in the international community;

ESICM promotes high quality research through its rigorous selection procedure. Physicians and scientists with ideas for new research are invited to apply. 12 awards are available. Details of the different award categories and application procedure are provided below.

If you wish to apply you must be a member of ESICM. All awards are for research activities undertaken with the active contribution of the applicant.

### **1. ESICM Awards Programme 2022**

- a. The following grants are available in 2022:
  - The *ESICM Young Investigator Award* supports young and talented physicians/scientists that have the potential to become outstanding independent investigators in the field of intensive care medicine. Research proposals may focus on approaches ranging from basic cellular responses to outcome research, and may include clinical applications as well as translational science. Applicants must be 40 years old or younger at the time of application.
  - The *ESICM Established Investigator Award* supports research activities of a senior researcher. The specific intent is to provide support for investigators who have already established their independent research programme in the field of intensive care, and who also demonstrate a commitment to the training of colleagues. The research proposal may focus on areas ranging from basic cellular responses to outcome research, and may include clinical applications as well as translational science.
  - The *ESICM Clinical Research Award* supports research performed in a clinical environment. Some aspects of the proposal may involve collaboration with research laboratories. However, applications that lack a clinical component will not be considered. Approaches may vary topically from physiology, diagnostic procedures and therapeutic interventions, to epidemiologic studies and evaluation of practices.

- The *ESICM Basic Science Award* supports basic research across the field of intensive care medicine. Topics may range from basic cellular and molecular physiology, cell biology, molecular biology and genetics to animal physiology.
  - The *Fundamental Research Award* has been created to further encourage the exploratory research that is essential to pushing the boundaries of knowledge. Proposals for research investigations in any branch of intensive care medicine are welcomed.
  - Past collaborations in the highly interdisciplinary field of translational science have yielded significant advances in intensive care treatments. ESICM has created the new *Translational Research Award* in order to promote research in this area.
  - The *ESICM Levi-Montalcini Biomedical Science Award* has been established to encourage women to join the research community. Female researchers who are 40 years old or younger at the time of application are invited to apply. The research proposal may focus on areas ranging from basic cellular responses to outcome research, and may include clinical applications as well as translational science.
  - The *Next Start-Up Grant* supports the professional development of talented intensivists who already have a background in research and who wish to develop independent research programmes. Intensive care physicians and scientists who are 42 years old or younger at the time of application and who are experienced researchers are invited to apply.
  - The *Global ICU Award* is the only ESICM award that supports research conducted in Low- & Middle-Income Countries (as defined by the 2021 Low & Middle Income Countries list compiled by the World Bank [LMIC](#)). The project should have an educational element focusing on improving patient care.
  - The *Family Partnership Award* aims at research projects focused on the needs, priorities and expectations of patients and their carers. Other elements such as patient-carer interactions and long-term outcomes in ICU survivors are relevant.
  - The *Professor Burkhard Lachmann Award for Experimental Research* is funded by the IFCOR (International Foundation for Clinically-oriented Research). Candidates who are pre-selected for the Basic Science Award will be invited to apply for the Professor Burkhard Lachmann Award. *Please note that it is not possible to apply for this award directly from the Awards Platform.*
  - The *ESICM – Fisher & Paykel Healthcare Award* is fully funded by Fisher & Paykel SAS Healthcare. For 2022 projects must focus on **the physiology and outcomes of less invasive respiratory support in acute respiratory failure.**
  - The *Multi-Disciplinary Care Award* has been created to support allied health care professionals who have perhaps never before considered entering the field of research and who have identified areas of intensive care treatment where research is required. Applications are welcome from all disciplines.
- b. Awardees will be asked to provide an abstract to be presented at the ESICM Annual Congress. Submission for publication of the final results to *Intensive Care Medicine* is strongly encouraged. Awardees are asked to provide an end-of-project report within the three month period following project completion.
- c. Applications for all awards other than the *Global ICU Award* must be proposals for research to be conducted in **Europe**. Applications for projects to be conducted in Central and Eastern Europe are particularly encouraged.

- d. Applications for the *Global ICU Award* must be proposals for research to be conducted in a Low or Middle Income Country, as defined by the 2021 Low & Middle Income Countries list compiled by the World Bank [LMIC](#)

## 2. General Conditions

- a. ESICM accepts applications from anyone who is a member of the Society (with the exception of members of the ESICM Executive Committee and ESICM Research Committee). If you are not yet a member, or if you need to renew your membership you can go to ESICM membership registration [here](#).
- b. The 13 awards available in 2022 are listed in the table below along with the sum offered.

Programme	Amount
<b>The Young Investigator Award</b>	€20,000
<b>The Established Investigator Award</b>	€20,000
<b>The Clinical Research Award</b>	€20,000
<b>The Basic Science Award</b>	€20,000
<b>The Fundamental Research Award</b>	€20,000
<b>The Translational Research Award</b>	€20,000
<b>The Levi-Montalcini Biomedical Science Award</b>	€20,000
<b>The Next Start-up Grant: €25,000 per year for 2 years</b>	€50,000
<b>The Global ICU Award</b>	€20,000
<b>The Family Partnership Award</b>	€20,000
<b>The Professor Burkhard Lachmann Award</b>	€5,000
<b>The ESICM – FISHER&amp;PAKEL HEALTHCARE Award</b>	€20,000
<b>The Multi-Disciplinary Research Award</b>	€20,000

All projects should be designed for completion within 2 years.

The Next Start-Up Grant is supplied in 2 instalments. The awardee will be asked to provide a progress report after the first 12 months of investigation, whereupon the second instalment is given.

- c. The aim of ESICM, as a European society, is to encourage research in Europe. **With the exception of applications for the *Global ICU Award*** the society only accepts applications for projects **to be conducted in Europe**. You can find a full list of European countries from the Council of Europe [here](#)
- d. ESICM wishes to promote investigations that are conducted across national borders. The Jury considers that international collaboration is highly desirable in research. **Proposals for projects conducted in two or more countries are strongly encouraged.**
- e. Awards are not intended to run concurrently with other awards greater than €15,000, even those funded by other agencies or sponsors. Funds used to secure ethics approval, insurance or permission to perform animal research as well as funds for the applying investigator's salary will not be taken into account in the €15,000 limit. For the Established Investigator Award funds for a trainee / fellow / young investigator conducting the research will not be considered in the €15,000 limit. Awards are not granted for basic training, courses, lectures, meetings, conferences, congresses, etc. or for visiting institutions.

- f. ESICM does not cover any tax issue that may arise either in the home or host country and any applicable taxes must come out of the initial Award. ESICM is a non-governmental international organisation whose awards are not automatically endowed with any particular tax privileges. It is the sole responsibility of the recipient of an award to pay any tax which may be levied upon him/her by the appropriate national authority.
- g. ESICM awardees are not insured by ESICM against medical expenses for themselves or their families; neither are they insured for accidents during their travel to and from the host institution. ESICM does not recognize recipients of its awards as agents or employees of ESICM and accepts no liability in respect to any of their actions or activities or in respect to the health or safety of their persons. In their own interest, recipients of the fellowships are, therefore, urged to make sure that they, their families and the institutions which receive them are fully covered by necessary insurances.

### **3. Applicants**

- a. Physicians, scientists or allied health professionals are eligible to apply for these Awards. Applicants who do not hold a doctorate should be supported by a research supervisor (M.D. or PhD).
- b. Applicants must be professionally engaged in the field of intensive care medicine or in intensive care research, with appropriate scientific or medical qualifications.
- c. Applicants must be members of ESICM at the time that they submit their award application. Award winners should remain members of the society until completion of their project.
- d. Applicants who have already received an ESICM Award are welcome to apply for further ESICM Awards. However, the Young Investigator Award, the ESICM Levi-Montalcini Biomedical Science Award and the Next Start-Up Grant is not awarded more than once to the same applicant.
- e. Applicants can only re-apply after a previous award project has reached completion and the final report has been received by ESICM.

### **4. Applications**

- a. The link to the online application platform will be available from January 2022. Please consult the Research Awards [webpage](#) for more information.
- b. No applicant may submit more than two project proposals.

***Please be aware that unlike in past years it is the Jury who will now choose the award category that it deems most suitable for your project.***

- c. Any application that was submitted for review in past years may not be resubmitted for consideration without modification. If you wish to modify and re-submit your project proposal you can request the past review report by writing to [research@esicm.org](mailto:research@esicm.org)

### **5. Selection**

- a. Selections will be made on the basis of scientific evaluation of the application as set out by the applicant. Members of the Research Committee and reviewers of the highest international standing in their respective fields will carry out the evaluation task.

The selection process is organised as follows:

1. Pre-selection: The Jury, which is comprised of members of the Research Committee, selects projects based on general feasibility, budget, timeline, methodology, research design and statistical and qualitative data analysis plan. This information is to be outlined in the **short application**. For the deadline for submission of short applications please consult our [webpage](#)
  2. Full application: Pre-selected applicants will then be invited to submit a full project description, or **full application**. Selected applicants will have a period of 3 to 4 weeks to submit their full applications. For the deadline for submission of full applications: please consult our [webpage](#)
  3. Independent review: All full applications are reviewed by a minimum of 2 independent expert assessors.
  4. Jury selection: The expert assessments are discussed thoroughly at the Awards Jury Meeting by members of the Research Committee, and the Jury makes their final selection.
  5. Results are announced in the summer
- b. The independent assessors are asked to make their assessments based on the significance and originality of the research project, the proposed approach, the investigator's profile and the environment in which the project will be conducted. A quantitative evaluation grid will be used to help members of the Jury in the decision process.
- c. In order to avoid any potential conflict of interest applications connected with the institution of any Research Committee member will be discussed in the absence of that member.
- d. Members of the Research Committee or Executive Committee are not allowed to apply during their mandate.
- e. Assessments are anonymous and confidential, and cannot be circulated except to the applicant upon his / her request.
- f. No distinction will be made between applicants on the basis of gender, ethnic origin, religious or political beliefs.
- g. The Jury's decisions are final and appeals will not be considered.

## **6. Communication**

- a. Awardees are required to mention that funding was received from ESICM on any communication or publication arising from their project.
- b. Awardees will be announced on the [ESICM Awards webpage](#).

**Any infringement of these conditions will result in the withdrawal of an application from the selection process or the cancellation of an award.**