

2027 International Career Development Program (ICDE)

The International Career Development Exchange (ICDE) program provides support for one up-and-coming, early career ESSO surgical oncologist with leadership potential to receive one-on-one mentoring and engagement with a distinguished senior member of the Society of Surgical Oncology (SSO).

The selected candidate will receive complimentary registration for SSO 2027 Washington, D.C and the opportunity to participate in a one-week clinical observership at a US-based SSO member's institution. The participant will be paired with an SSO Member Mentor with the goal that a long-term professional relationship will develop and continue over the course of the participant's career. SSO staff will pair him with their Member Mentor based on shared clinical interests.

Eligibility criteria

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be ESSO members in good standing at the time of application
- Cannot have previously received an ICDE grant.
- Must be 45 years old or younger at the time of application.
- Must be currently leaving and working in Europe
- Must have a strong command of the English language (both writing and speaking).

Selected candidate commitments

The ICDE participant must commit to the following stipulations in order to participate in the program:

- Complete an online information and agreement form distributed by SSO.
- Complete an SSO membership application (membership will be complimentary, however, a completed application is still required).
- Meet any requirements obligated by the institution where they will complete their observership (e.g. vaccination requirements, fluency tests, required documents, etc.)
- Submit a summary report about the experience and complete a survey immediately following the program, along with any follow-ups requested by SSO.
- Submit any photos or videos taken during the SSO Annual Meeting or institutional visit for use on SSO's social media, website, marketing materials, or for any other use in support of the program.
- The participant may be asked to record audio or video interviews regarding the experience.

Award details

The selected candidate will receive the following:

- A stipend of \$3,000 USD to assist with travel arrangements, which will be provided at SSO 2027 via electronic means. No checks or cash will be issued.
- Complimentary registration to SSO 2027.
- One year of complimentary membership in the Society.
- A 5-day observership at a U.S. based institution with an SSO Member Mentor.
- SSO will match the participant with a host based on shared professional and scientific interests from one of SSO's eight disease site areas.

Mentor obligations

The SSO Member Mentor will be asked to:

- Assist their mentee with any institutional requirements and answer any questions they may have about housing, travel, transportation, or anything else related to the city, institution, or observership.
- Meet their mentee at SSO 2027.
- Host their mentee for a 5-day observership at their institution
- Serve as a long-term professional contact for their mentee.