



FOUNDATION *for* SURGICAL FELLOWSHIPS

Leading the way for innovative surgical educators to apply the principles of advanced minimally invasive surgery (MIS) in patient care.



A photograph of surgeons in an operating room, wearing blue scrubs, masks, and surgical caps. They are focused on a patient on the table. The background is slightly blurred, showing medical equipment and the sterile environment of the OR.

The FSF at a Glance

What is the maximum grant amount that the Foundation will fund?

The maximum amount awarded per grant can not exceed \$62,500 for each fellowship position. Fellowship programs are able to apply for multiple awards in a given specialty.

How do I apply?

Complete and submit all necessary materials in the online application on or before the posted deadline.

Who is eligible to apply?

Institutions who have programs for post-graduate level surgeons seeking clinical training in the disciplines of MIS General Surgery, Colorectal, Thoracic, HPB and Bariatric surgery. Applicants should be dedicated to carrying out the Foundation's mission of fostering consistently excellent surgical innovation.

- Fellowship training must be primarily minimally invasive.
- Currently, The Foundation only funds institutions in the United States.
- Fellowship Programs must be accredited by The Fellowship Council. Certain fellowship programs with ACGME accreditation, which do not receive CMS funding may also be considered.
- Institutions will be ranked based on their meticulous quality and demonstrated excellence in surgical practice, training, and scholarly activities.

Can award funding be used for indirect and administrative costs?

An institution is only permitted to use the grant funds for:

- Fellow salary and benefits; and
- Travel expenses for no more than one surgical society meeting or conference per Fellowship Year; and

An Institution is not permitted to use any FSF grant funds for:

- Administrative overhead;
- Malpractice insurance;
- Capital equipment purchases;
- Computer hardware or software purchases;
- Cellular phones or related charges;
- Parking fees; or
- Meals.

A Commitment to the Future



The granting efforts of the Foundation for Surgical Fellowships (FSF) allow hundreds of FSF Fellows each year to receive advanced surgical training with an emphasis on innovative minimally invasive surgical techniques and the proper usage of state-of-the-art equipment. Due to this training the future for countless numbers of patients will include lower complication rates and recovery time while reducing pain and suffering. Not only are the Fellows perfecting these advanced procedures for professional use, but every graduating Fellow extends the reach of the Foundation's purpose as they take their newly acquired skills and share them with their colleagues throughout their surgical careers.

Participating in the work of the Foundation allows all involved to make an important impact on surgical innovation and education while saving lives. In addition to being the preeminent funding source for such programs, the impact of the mission and vision of the FSF reaches far into the future.

The Foundation is committed to maintaining a strong and vibrant alumni association. This group affords the Foundation the ability to stay connected and advocate on behalf of training in advanced minimally invasive surgery to the top surgeons in the field.

Whether as a patient receiving treatment or a surgeon receiving instruction, lives will be changed for the better.





Ensuring Better Trained Surgeons

Since the advent of minimally invasive surgery about 80% of all fellowships have been directly funded by industry without a bridge that connects them with the goals of the larger surgical community. The absence of this synergy caused industry leaders and the major minds in surgical education and training to come together to re-think and develop an innovative and all inclusive new entity. The result of many planning meetings, started in 2009, by leaders from The Americas Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association (AHPBA), The American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS), The Fellowship Council (FC), The Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES), and The Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract (SSAT), led to the creation of the self-governing non-profit, the Foundation for Surgical Fellowships.

The mission of the Foundation for Surgical Fellowships is to fund high quality fellowships in various areas of surgery, including but not limited to flexible endoscopy, minimal access surgery and other related disciplines. Through a blinded application and review process, the Foundation will identify and distribute funds to qualified institutions based on criteria of excellence.

The vision of the Fellowship Foundation is to promote and support the continued availability of postgraduate surgical training opportunities of the highest quality.



Advancing Innovation that Changes Lives

“The FSF was developed to objectively fund fellowship training in minimally invasive surgery. As an academically oriented surgeon in private practice, I am keenly aware that whether surgeons choose private practice or academics, fellowship training is critical to improving patient care and success rates. Without granting organizations such as the FSF, this type of training would disappear.”



– Dr. Edward Felix, *Principal, Advanced Bariatric Centers of CA*



“Minimally Invasive Surgical Fellowships have dramatically improved the safety of surgery with a marked reduction in the risk of death due to superbly trained surgeons. Our patients need the support of the FSF to maintain this standard of excellence.”

– Dr. Harvey Sugerman,
Emeritus Professor of Surgery, Virginia Commonwealth University

“I am thrilled to have a leadership role in the FSF, as the Foundation creates a mechanism to fund critically needed fellowships. By supporting these fellowships, we elevate the standards and improve patient access to state of the art care.”



– Dr. Ravi Chari, *Vice President, Clinical Services Group, HCA*

Founding Board of Directors

PRESIDENT:

Greg Stiegmann, M.D.

VICE PRESIDENT:

Bruce Wolff, M.D.

TREASURER:

Ravi Chari, M.D.

SECRETARY:

J. Patrick O'Leary, M.D.

DIRECTORS:

Thomas D'Amico, M.D.

Thomas Dent, M.D.

Edward Felix, M.D.

Kenneth Forde, M.D.

Dennis Fowler, M.D.

Robin McLeod, M.D.

Andrew Resnick, M.D.

Donald Risucci, M.D.

Jonathan Sackier, M.D.

Anthony Senagore, M.D.

Harvey Sugerman, M.D.

Richard Satava, M.D.

"The FSF represents the single most important entity created for the preservation of funding of postgraduate surgical education in recent memory. The Foundation not only will preserve and promote funding of fellowships, but also promote improved quality of those fellowships through its review process. The result will be better trained surgeons for our future."



– Dr. Bruce Schirmer, *The Fellowship Council*

Founding Sponsors



**Ethicon
Endo-Surgery**

PART OF THE JOHNSON-JOHNSON FAMILY OF COMPANIES



COVIDIEN



FOR MORE INFORMATION: Foundation for Surgical Fellowships
11300 W. Olympic Blvd., Suite 600, Los Angeles, CA 90064
Phone: 310.424.3332 | Fax: 310.437.0585

www.surgicalfellowships.org