



## NASPGHAN FOUNDATION ADVANCED FELLOWSHIP TRAINING IN PEDIATRIC ENDOSCOPY

Submission Deadline: September 30, 2025

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*The award is expected to begin on July 1<sup>st</sup> of each academic term although alternate start dates will be considered to accommodate non-traditional academic schedules.*

### **Description and Objective**

The ever-increasing complexity of pediatric patients with gastrointestinal, liver and/or pancreatic problems has created a need for pediatric gastroenterologists who are skilled in advanced endoscopic procedures. These skills are difficult to acquire in the course of routine pediatric GI Fellowship training experiences. To address this growing need and to provide a pathway for training of pediatric experts, the NASPGHAN Foundation desires to develop an advanced fellowship in pediatric endoscopy.

The NASPGHAN Foundation Advanced Fellowship in Pediatric Endoscopy will provide up to \$75,000 in direct funding to support one year of advanced training in pediatric endoscopy for a member of NASPGHAN in good standing. Applicants are expected to identify a mentor and a host endoscopy program prior to application for funding. The fellowship must include a well-defined clinical experience as well as a focused research and/or quality improvement project. Examples of areas for training include but are not limited to: Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) with stenting and/or sphincterotomy, endoscopic ultrasound (EUS), advanced approaches to control GI bleeding (sclerotherapy, argon laser, clips, etc), transnasal endoscopy, peroral endoscopic myotomy (POEM), esophageal or intestinal stricture dilatation, pancreatic pseudocyst drainage, etc.

The primary objective of the fellowship is to catalyze and increase the number of highly-trained, expert endoscopists clinicians and educators among the membership of NASPGHAN, as a means to improve service to our patients and the public.

### **Eligibility**

- The applicant must be a MD, DO and a member in good standing of the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition.
- Applications will be accepted from candidates who are within ten years of their GI fellowship training.
- We encourage the creation of innovative or multidisciplinary training opportunities in addition to those structured in a traditional medical school and academic university hospital setting.
- Fellowships may be conducted in a variety of settings, including hospital-based programs, university endoscopy programs, government programs, or not-for-profit entities.
- The applicant may not hold salary funding from any other granting agency for the award period.
- Although not required, strong preference will be given to applicants seeking training at a location distinct from the institution in which their fellowship training occurred. The role of the institution and trainee are key facets of this advanced fellowship grant and the award may not be transferrable should the grant recipient move to another institution.

### **Grant Term and Stipulations**

- The total award is up to \$75,000.00 in direct funding support for one year.
- Institutional indirect costs are not permitted.
- The award should be used to support salary *up to* \$75,000 (base salary plus fringe benefits). A \$3,000 discretionary

account may be established from the \$75,000 award and to be designated specifically for travel, books, journals, and other discretionary expenses.

- All publications resulting from work supported by the NASPGHAN Foundation Advanced Fellowship in Pediatric Endoscopy must acknowledge support by the relevant funding mechanism.
- A financial statement and progress reports are required as a close-out report at the end of the training interval. The recipient will be required to indicate how the funds were used; the accomplishments achieved during the project, and how the additional training contributed to his/her research career development. The annual project update should include an information on publications and additional awards and/or funding to aid the Foundation in the collection of return on research data.
- The awardee must attend the 2025 NASPGHAN Annual Meeting to accept the award. The awardee must present the results of the research project at the 2027 NASPGHAN Annual Meeting.

### **Review Procedures**

The NASPGHAN Endoscopy Committee and invited experts in the field will review and rank applications based on strength of the applicant and the strength of the proposed training program. This scoring system uses a 9-point scale for the overall impact score and individual scores for (at least) five scored criteria (significance, innovation, approach, investigators, and environment). Members of the “study section” will meet face to face to discuss the grant applications in an NIH modelled review section.

The ideal applicant will be the individual who meets the objective of the fellowship, demonstrates a proclivity for and track record of interest in pediatric endoscopy, along with an enthusiasm for a continuing career contributing to the field of pediatric endoscopy.

Although not required, strong preference will be given to applicants seeking training at a location distinct from the institution in which their fellowship training occurred. The role of the institution and trainee are key facets of this advanced fellowship grant and the award may not be transferrable should the grant recipient move to another institution.

Awards are given based on the merits of the applicant, research proposal, and research team as proposed in the application. Should elements of the grant application change, e.g., the applicant changes institution, the NASPGHAN Foundation must be duly notified. It will be up to the discretion of the NASPGHAN Foundation whether the application will need to be withdrawn or can be amended for further grant award consideration.

Members of the review panel will follow strict conflict of interest guidelines. Contact between the applicant or sponsors with committee members regarding applications is strictly prohibited and may lead to disqualification from further consideration.

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**INSTRUCTIONS**

***FAILURE TO ADHERE STRICTLY TO THESE GUIDELINES COULD RESULT IN THE DISQUALIFICATION  
OF YOUR APPLICATION***

Completed applications must include the following.

1. NIH biographical sketches of the principal investigator and sponsors. NIH biosketch format and instructions are posted at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm>.
2. A training and career plan up to 5 pages as outlined below with 1/2-inch margins. Times New Roman or Arial font no less than 11 point are required. Page limitations and style requirements are strictly enforced. (No application more than FIVE single spaced pages will be reviewed).
  - Applicant personal statement outlining interest in a career as an advanced endoscopist (approximately 1 page)
  - Structure of the proposed clinical, research and programmatic experience. This section should include: a portrayal of goals for the training year; a statement of the clinical underpinnings of the training experience; role of the mentor/mentorship team, and a formal mentored research proposal (achievable within the one-year time frame of funding). The candidate is encouraged to use creative latitude in structuring this portion of the proposal to permit and describe a rich training experience. We encourage partnerships between adult and pediatric endoscopy units.
  - Description of the environment and previous involvement of the institution and mentorship team in endoscopy training.
  - Long-term career plans in advanced endoscopy and how the proposed experience will facilitate achievement of these plans should be briefly described.
3. Two letters of nomination are required;
  - One from the applicant's program director or division chief
  - The second from the applicant's proposed mentorThese letters should clearly outline the applicant's track record to date and the candidate's aptitude and zeal for a career in endoscopy. The mentor's letter should express their support and commitment to the proposed training program.
4. A one-year budget must be accompanied by a justification of the salary and must be appropriate for the institution's salary structure for the candidate's position (fellow, faculty member, etc.). A \$3000 non-salary line item is a separate item for discretionary expenses like travel, supplies, is permissible.
5. A required signature acknowledging review of the stipulation may not be transferrable should the grant recipient move to another institution.