

Mark Wainberg Fellowship Programme: Experts in HIV service delivery (Asia-Pacific)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

What is the Mark Wainberg Fellowship Programme?

The Mark Wainberg Fellowship Programme, an initiative of the IAS Educational Fund, is a mentored two-year training fellowship for clinicians committed to careers in HIV clinical service delivery in Asia-Pacific. The aim is to strengthen access to high-quality services for the region, with a client-centered service delivery approach. The fellows will spend one year at a clinical institutions in the Asia-Pacific region and one year conducting a research project.

What are the eligibility criteria?

To be eligible, applicants should:

- Hold a degree as a medical doctor obtained less than 10 years before the application deadline
- Have at least two years' clinical experience
- Be a citizen of a country in the Asia-Pacific region and currently work in the region
- Be committed to becoming a specialist in HIV
- Have sufficient proficiency in English

What are the outcomes of the programme?

Fellows of the comprehensive programme will be trained as specialists in HIV and AIDS. The programme will provide:

- Exposure to different management and care systems
- Management of HIV and non-communicable diseases in different settings
- Understanding of trials, cohorts and case studies and published audit reports
- Guidance on how to apply for a research grant
- Guidance on writing up research, audit and case reports and how to get published
- Presentation of original research
- Knowledge of the pandemic, economic impact and major drivers of HIV funding
- Contact and collaboration with NGO and healthcare client advocacy groups
- Understanding of novel vaccine and cure research
- Understanding of the differences between key population groups and their needs.

Those who complete the fellowship programme will receive a diploma.

I have less than two years of clinical experience. Can I be considered for the programme?

No. To be eligible, applicants must have a minimum of two years' clinical experience.

I have a diploma in clinical medicine. Am I eligible?

No. A diploma in clinical medicine does not constitute eligibility because it is possible that holders of such diplomas are not allowed to practice as clinicians in the host institution countries.

Are nurses, psychologists, pharmacists and lab technicians eligible to apply?

No. To be eligible, applicants must hold a degree in medicine (for example MD, MBBS, MChB) or equivalent, obtained less than 10 years before the application deadline (i.e. no later than 18 February 2013).

I am not currently working in Asia-Pacific, but I am interested in working in the region in the future. Am I eligible?

No. To be eligible, applicants must currently be working in Asia-Pacific and their current institution must support their application and agree that they can return upon completion of the programme.

I work in Asia-Pacific but I am not a citizen of a country in the region, am I eligible to apply?

No. Citizenship of a low and middle-income country in Asia and the Pacific country is required. Eligible countries include: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Federal States of Micronesia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Vietnam.

What does the fellowship include?

Programme costs: The fellowship award includes travel to each host institution, tuition fees for each programme year, accommodation costs and living expenses. Please note that this is a stipend, not a salaried position and funds may not be used to support any dependents.

Conference attendance: The fellows will participate in an initiation workshop and capacity development programme at IAS 2023, the 12th IAS Conference on HIV Science to be held in Brisbane, Australia. Fellows will also attend the AIDS 2024, 25th International AIDS Conference. The fellowship programme will provide travel, accommodation, registration and per diem expenses for both these events.

What are the main fellowship terms and conditions?

Duration: Fellowships must be served continuously for the duration of the award. The fellowships must be started in Q3 2023, in line with the semester dates of the host institutions.

Reporting: Fellows and mentors must provide progress reports every six months during the fellowship period and a final fellowship report to the IAS based on a template that they will receive.

Terms: All fellows must sit a diploma exam in HIV upon completion of the final semester at the host institutions. Fellows must attend IAS 2023 in Brisbane and the initiation workshop, as well as other capacity-building activities. Fellows must also attend AIDS 2024. The fellow must have agreement from their current institution that they will return upon completion of the programme.