



**AO  
ALLIANCE**

AO-Alliance Regional Fellowship  
for Surgeons and ORP

Your gateway to the AO network



### AO-Alliance(AOA)

The AO-Alliance (AOA) is a developmental nonprofit, surgeon-driven organization. Its primary goal is to improve the care of the injured in developing countries by conducting or facilitating teaching events and programs as well as by supporting the training of individuals.

### Courses

In economically less developed countries courses and programs involving operative and nonoperative fracture treatment deliver essential knowledge and skills to manage fractures appropriately even in situations with limited facilities.

### Fellowships

The AOA Fellowship offers interested surgeons and operating room personnel (ORP) further knowledge in medical training centres specialized in AO techniques. Applicants for this AOA Fellowship must be able to apply and transfer the acquired knowledge immediately in their home clinic.

### AOA Fellowship

The AOA provides additional experience in AO techniques for orthopaedic surgeons, general surgeons, and ORP interested in operative and nonoperative fracture treatment. The purpose is to make fellows familiar with indications, planning, techniques, and pitfalls of osteosynthesis, as judged by AO experts. AOA Fellowships are not organized courses and the knowledge acquired will depend a lot on the initiative of the fellow.

### Fellowship offer

The Fellowship covers accommodation, meals and travel costs (air fare needs approval by the Fellowship coordinator). Most clinics provide basic accommodation for one person only. AOA strongly recommends that family members do not join the fellow.

### Duration

2 to 4 weeks

### Requirements and qualifications

The main requirement is that applicants are very motivated in increasing their knowledge of trauma treatment, with particular emphasis on AO techniques and philosophy and in becoming actively involved in further AOA activities.

In addition, applicants for an AOA Fellowship must fulfil the following criteria:

- Graduation from a training program in general surgery, orthopaedics or nursing
- Previous participation in an AOA event.

### Required documents

In addition to the completed application form, applicants must submit the following documents:

- Curriculum vitae
- Copy of medical school diploma
- Copy of AO event certificate
- One letter of recommendation from an active AO member/AOA member
- One letter of recommendation from the head of his/her hospital
- Two recent passport-size photographs
- Health certificate

### Communication in another language

Language may be a problem for a fellow. We strongly recommend a good knowledge of the working language of the host country or a good command of English.

Fellows must be aware that the staff of the host clinic is able to communicate in English, but will more likely feel at ease speaking their native language; thus, the fellow may not always be included in the ongoing discussions.

### Feedback and logbook

Every fellow is requested to keep a logbook to document all activities that occur during the Fellowship. He/she must list all operations and procedures that were followed or attended, either as observer or as scrubbed assistant. We expect also some comments on every surgery attended.

**Your honest report will be treated with strict confidence.**

The logbook must be submitted at the end of the Fellowship to the Fellowship coordinator after having been signed by the supervisor of the host clinic.

## Regulations and procedures

### Application date

Applications must be sent at least three months before the requested period of the Fellowship.

### Confirmation of acceptance

AOA must receive confirmation of acceptance within one month. The arrangement is considered a binding contract. If no response is received within that period, AOA will assign the place to another candidate.

### Changes of place and date

Any last minute changes of dates or places will put the entire Fellowship in danger of realization. If a fellow is unable to fulfil the conditions stated in this document, the head of the clinic may propose to the fellowship coordinator a premature termination of the stay.

### Health certificate

On arrival at the host clinic a certificate proving negative test results for Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, HIV or any other known reportable diseases have to be presented, otherwise, the fellow will not be authorized to scrub in for surgery.

### Working hours

The fellow is expected to follow the daily routine of the clinic and be available for emergencies at night and on weekends. Active participation as a scrubbed assistant is possible in most clinics.

### Leave or absence

Temporary leave or absence needs approval from the program supervisor of the clinic.

### Report of supervisor

A confidential report is submitted by the program supervisor of the host clinic. This will be used as reference for any further communication or information.

### Insurance

The fellow will not be insured against any illness or accident through either AOA or the host clinic. He/she must verify whether his/her medical insurance also covers medical treatment in foreign countries. Furthermore, the fellow will not be covered by malpractice insurance. It is the responsibility of the fellow to arrange these insurances before attending the fellowship.

For any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the AOA member and/or coordinator in your region:

**Asia** 

**Tourphot Sin**, Cambodia

E-mail: [tourphotosin@gmail.com](mailto:tourphotosin@gmail.com)

**English Speaking Africa**

**Wilfred Addo**, Ghana

E-mail: [wilfredlabiaddo@gmail.com](mailto:wilfredlabiaddo@gmail.com)

**French Speaking Africa**

**Florent A. Lekina**, Cameroon

E-mail: [Lekina@gmx.net](mailto:Lekina@gmx.net)

[www.ao-alliance.org](http://www.ao-alliance.org)