



WORLD-CLASS POST CSCST FELLOWSHIPS IN IRELAND

Aspire[✦]

FELLOWSHIPS

APPLICATION FORM

2027 Aspire Post CSCST Fellowships



Aspire Post-CSCST Fellowships

Post CSCST Fellowship Programmes offer exceptional CSCST graduates the opportunity to work with a leading specialist on a 12 month tailored Fellowship Programme, which ensures fellows receive high-quality specialist and advanced clinical skills training to meet future healthcare needs. Aspire Post-CSCST Fellowships offer an important alternative to overseas fellowships. They enable our newly qualified specialist to remain in Ireland while they pursue subspecialty expertise. For our health service, they facilitate new service development & expansion, succession planning and innovation.

Applications are now being accepted for Aspire Post-CSCST Fellowships to commence in July 2027

Queries on the application process should be sent to: doctors@hse.ie

**Completed applications should be sent to:
doctors@hse.ie**

APPLICATIONS CLOSE: 26th October 2026

Post CSCST Fellowships

Post CSCST Fellowships are designed for doctors who wish to acquire additional training or experience that was not available on their Higher Specialist Training programme and that may be required for their preferred consultant post.

These Fellowships offer training opportunities for doctors who are three years or less post completion of Higher Specialist Training as of July 2027, or have entered the Specialist Division of the Register with the Irish Medical Council within the last two years at time of application closing date. The additional training is designed to provide exposure to subspecialties and advanced clinical skills.

Aspire Post CSCST Fellowships

Aspire Fellowships are Post CSCST Fellowships (*Please see appendix One for a list of current and previous Aspire Post CSCST Fellowships*).

Responsibility for allocating and prioritising staffing rests with the HSE Regional Executive Officers. To ensure appropriate regional autonomy all salaries for the Aspire Fellowships reside within the relevant HSE Health Region pay budget.

Aspire Fellowships provide:

- **Formal appraisal** by the relevant Postgraduate Training Body (PGTB) and a national panel of senior clinical representatives from the regions and NDTP; and
- A **defined curriculum with measurable learning objectives** and regular progress reviews.
- **Prestige and innovation:** Fellows raise the profile of their departments through leadership in service improvement, research, and innovation.
- **Patient safety and leadership pipeline:** Aspire supports a sustainable workforce of skilled, motivated consultants who enhance patient care.

The governance of the Aspire Fellowships ensures each Fellowship meets genuine service and educational needs and offers clear value for money. It also gives the programme national and international recognition, which informal fellowships do not always hold.

Application Process and Key dates

This is a **triad application** submitted jointly by:

1. Fellowship Supervisor (Co-Applicant)
2. Prospective Fellow (Co-Applicant)
3. Clinical Site (employer/host)

Overview of Process and Timelines

- **September 21st 2026 – October 26th 2026:** Application process opens. The Co-Applicants are responsible for coordinating and submitting the full application (Supervisor + Fellow + Clinical Site sections). The completed application must be submitted to NDTP no later than **October 26th, 2026**.
- **October 2026:** NDTP will forward completed applications to the relevant Postgraduate Training Body for structured feedback on Fellowship merit and curriculum feasibility.
- **December 2026:** A National Selection Committee, with Regional Representation, will be convened to review and assess applications. Applications will be considered region by region, having regard to the number of fellowships available within each Health Region. The National Selection Committee will provide its assessment and recommendations to the relevant Health Region; the final decision on which fellowships are approved for funding will rest with the relevant Health Region.
- **December 2026:** Following completion of the regional decision-making process, each Health Region will issue formal notification of the outcome to all applicants. The relevant Postgraduate Training Bodies will also be informed of the outcome.
- **July 2027:** Aspire Fellowship commences.



Aspire Post CSCST Fellowship 2027-2028 Application Form

Section 1 – Fellowship Details

Co Applicant (Prospective Clinical Supervisor) details:

Name:

Clinical Site:

Phone number:

Email:

Co Applicant (Prospective Fellow) details:

Name:

IMC:

Clinical Site:
(current)

Specialty:

CSCST Date/Expected CSCST Date:

Phone number:

Email:

Fellowship Title:

(Please state the title of the proposed fellowship)

Duration of the Fellowship:

Please confirm that this Fellowship will be for a duration of 12 months commencing July 2027:

YES

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Location/Clinical Site of the Fellowship:

Fellowship Overview

Briefly describe the fellowship's purpose, scope and setting. Outline the curriculum, planned supervision, and assessment structures (e.g., monthly objectives, midpoint review, final report). Indicate expected outputs (e.g. audit/QI, teaching). (Max word count: 1000)

Please outline the value of the proposed fellowship to the health service:

Suggested headings: Identified unmet patient need; Specialty and service priorities / particular workforce requirement; Niche area, particular skillset acquisition; limited availability of such training in Ireland currently; potential benefits to the Irish health service and patients; recently approved consultant posts; regional need; succession planning. (Max word count 500)

Please describe how this fellowship will prioritise and protect the unique learning requirements of the fellow:

(Including how the fellowship will provide a high-quality educational experience, protected training time, and reduced service delivery commitments). (Max word count 500)

Section 2 –Prospective Fellow

The section below is to be completed by the Prospective Fellow

To be eligible to undertake an Aspire Fellow prospective fellows:

- Must hold a CSCST from an Irish Postgraduate Training Body and be within three years post completion of Higher Specialist Training as of July 2027, or
- Have entered the Specialist Division of the Register with the Irish Medical Council within the last two years at time of application closing date.

Include an up-to-date CV with the application for review. Where a CV has not been submitted as part of the Aspire application form, the application will not progress to the next stage.

In addition to the CV you are required to provide a brief personal statement below outlining:

- Motivation for pursuing the proposed fellowship.
- Skills and competencies you aim to develop during the 12-month fellowship period.
- How the fellowship will support your career progression and future professional goals.

Max 500 words

Section 3 – Declarations

A complete application must include three declarations below:

1.0 Employer's Declaration

- I confirm the clinical site is supportive of the Fellowship application within the capacity of the service/department and within the proposed start and end dates.

Employer's Signature:

(Electronic signature is acceptable)

Signatory should be an appropriate authorised representative as determined locally (e.g. GM, CEO, HR, Finance).

Signature:

Print name:

Job Title/Grade:

2.0 Prospective Fellow Declaration

- I confirm that I am the Co Applicant for this fellowship application.
- I confirm that I have read and understood the eligibility criteria for this fellowship and that I meet all requirements.
- I understand that, if successful, this fellowship will commence in July 2027 with a full time commitment and **I confirm that I will be available to commence the post on time.**
- I understand that this is a **single application submission** and confirm I have not submitted another application.
- I also confirm that all information provided in this application is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.
- I confirm that **I have included my up to date CV** to accompany this application form.

Signature of Prospective Fellow:

(Electronic signature is acceptable)

Signature:

Print name:

3.0 Co-Applicant (Supervisor) Declaration

- I also confirm that all information provided in this application is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.
- I confirm that I will develop a defined curriculum with measurable learning objectives and regular progress reviews.

Signature of Co-Applicant (Supervisor):

(Electronic signature is acceptable)

Signature:

Print name:

FAQs

1. What is an Aspire Fellowship?

A 12-month structured Post-CSCST training programme for fully qualified specialists who have completed Higher Specialist Training. Fellows undertake advanced, mentored subspecialty training in Ireland while holding a full SpR-level contract. Successful Aspire Fellows are appointed at the highest point of the SpR salary scale for the duration of their fellowship. The clinical site can refer to the most recently approved HSE salary scales for details.

2. How is Aspire different from local or overseas fellowships?

Aspire Fellowships are nationally governed and quality-assured Post-CSCST training programmes, approved by the HSE's National Doctors Training and Planning (NDTP) in partnership with the Postgraduate Training Bodies and Health Regions. The programme provides headcount assurance, educational oversight, and national recognition not available through informal fellowships.

This structure ensures Aspire Fellowships deliver high educational value, genuine service benefit, and strong workforce alignment, while maintaining national and international recognition that informal or locally arranged fellowships do not always provide.

3. Who can apply?

Applications are made jointly by:

- The Supervisor / Lead Applicant (Consultant or Clinical Lead),
- The Prospective Fellow (see page 9 of the application for fellow eligibility),
- The Clinical Site / Employer (Health Region host).

4. Who submits the application?

A triad submission: Supervisor (Co- Applicant), Prospective Fellow (Co-Applicant), and Clinical Site (Employer/Host). The Co-Applicants coordinate and submit the application to NDTP, doctors@hse.ie.

5. Do I need a named fellow to apply?

Yes. The prospective fellow must be identified to co-lead the application. Their CV and personal statement are required.

6. Who provides the funding for the Fellowship

The budget and WTE for these posts reside within the HSE Health Region budget. The number of Fellowships available within a Health Region is determined by the Health Region and is subject to regional WTE and budget capacity. This ensures Aspire remains a nationally governed, quality-assured programme, rather than an informal extension of training, while maintaining regional autonomy over pay budgets.

7. Can a previous Aspire Fellowship be renewed?

Yes, a previously approved Aspire Fellowship can be considered for renewal if it aligns with evolving service requirements and workforce priorities, subject to review and endorsement by the national review panel.

9. What is the role of the Postgraduate Training Body?

All training bodies will provide Fellowship certification. The range and type of additional supports provided may vary depending on the training body. Applicants are therefore advised to confirm the scope of specialty support available from the relevant training body prior to application.

In general, the training body may also provide Fellowship assessment support and access to a Fellowship ePortfolio or equivalent learning platform (dependent on the training body).

10. Contact / Queries

Queries on the Aspire Fellowship application process can be sent to doctors@hse.ie.

 Deadline for applications: **26th October 2026.**

Appendix 1 Current and past Aspire Fellowships (2023-2026)

Aspire Fellowships 2026/27

Fellowship Title	Clinical Site
Fellowship in Aortic Techniques and Vascular Trauma	Cork University Hospital,
Kidney Supportive Care Fellowship Southwest Region (Cork and Kerry)	Marymount and Kerry Hospices
Fellowship and Clinical Lecturer in HepatoBiliary and Pancreatic Surgery	Cork University Hospital
Subspecialist fellowship in reproductive medicine	Cork University Maternity Hospital
Geriatric Emergency Medicine	Cork University Hospital
Paediatric Neurodisability	Galway University Hospital
Fellowship in Integrated Care, HSE West/NorthWest, Galway IHA	East & West Galway Integrated Care for Older Persons Programme
Clinical and Translational Breast Imaging Fellowship	Galway University Hospital
Public Health Economics: Better outcomes for better value.	Department of Public Health, HSE West and North West
Fellowship in Social Determinants of Health Approach to Reducing Health Inequalities in the HSE Midwest Region	Department of Public Health, HSE-Midwest, Mount Kennett House, Henry Street, Limerick
Paediatrician with expertise in Gastroenterology and (GHIF) Transition Medicine catering to a Regional Centre	University Hospital Limerick
General Paediatrics & paediatric diabetes	University Hospital Limerick
Paediatric and Adolescent Reproductive Endocrinology	Children's Health Ireland Crumlin
Fellowship in Brain Health and Cognitive Disorders (with emphasis on Biological approaches to Diagnosis and Management)	Tallaght University Hospital
Tallaght University Hospital Emergency Medicine Simulation Fellowship	Tallaght University Hospital
Aspire Fellowship in Ambulatory Emergency Care in Infectious diseases	St. James's Hospital
Paediatric Transplant Microbiology	Children's Health Ireland
Fellowship in Advanced Coloproctological	St. James's Hospital
Fellowship in Trauma Geriatrics	Mater Misericordiae University Hospital
Quality Improvement and Transformation	Mater Misericordiae University

Fellowship	Hospital
Coagulation Medicine Fellow in Antithrombotic Stewardship	Beaumont Hospital
Fellowship in Benign Advanced Gynaecology with a special interest in Endometriosis	Rotunda Hospital
Fellowship in Outpatient Oncology and Geriatric Oncology Palliative Care	University Hospital Waterford
Aspire Fellowship in Autopsy Pathology	St Vincents University Hospital & St Columcille's Hospital Loughlinstown
Interventional Radiology Fellowship Interventional Oncology	St Vincents University Hospital
Advanced Microsurgery & Translational Reconstruction Fellowship (SVUH–UCD)	St Vincents University Hospital

Aspire Fellowships 2025/26

Fellowship Title	Clinical Site
Advanced Oncologic Imaging in Paediatric Radiology	CHI Crumlin
Emergency Cardiology	St James's Hospital
The Wellbeing of Hospital Doctors: A National Review	Tallaght University Hospital
Paediatric Neurology Aspire Fellowship	Childrens' Health Ireland Temple St
Molecular Pathology and Inherited Disease Diagnostics	St James's Hospital
Movement Disorder Fellowship	Mater Misericordiae University Hospital
ASPIRE Fellowship in Interventional Pulmonology & Community Lung Cancer Screening	Beaumont Hospital
Simulation Fellowship	Mater Misericordiae University Hospital
Interventional Radiology	St. Vincents' University Hospital
Urological Robotic Surgery and Surgical Education	St. Vincents' University Hospital
Women's Mental Health	St. Vincents' University Hospital
Early intervention in psychosis, with a focus on youth mental health	St. John of God Community Mental Health Services
Fellowship in Advanced Endoscopy	St Vincent's University Hospital
Pathology and Molecular Diagnostics of Soft Tissue and Bone Tumours	St. Vincent's University Hospital
Fellowship in Autopsy Pathology	St. Vincent's University Hospital
Advanced Airway Management	South Infirmary Royal Victoria University Hospital
Pre Hospital Emergency Medicine Cork	Cork University Hospital

Sexual Assault Trauma Unit (SATU) and Vulval Disorders	Cork University Hospital & South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital
Post CSCST Fellowship in Vulval Disease	South Infirmary Royal Victoria University Hospital
Fellowship in Glomerular Disease	Cork University Hospital
Special Interest in Neonate for the General Paediatrician	Cork University Hospital
Fellowship in Dermatopathology	Cork University Hospital
Diabetes in Pregnancy	Galway University Hospital

Aspire Fellowships 2024/25

Fellowship Title	Primary Clinical Site
Regional Anaesthesia and Total Intravenous Anaesthesia Fellowship	Tallaght University Hospital
Fellowship in Orthogeriatric and Older Person Trauma	University Hospital Waterford
Fellowship in Community Geriatrics with a focus on Nursing Home Care	Cork University Hospital
Frailty and Geriatric Medicine Fellowship for Palliative Medicine trainees	University Hospital Kerry
Oncogenomics and Cancer Clinical Trial Fellowship	St. Vincents University Hospital
Fellowship in Management of urogynaecological mesh complications	National Maternity Hospital
Fellowship in Pregnancy loss and preterm birth: prevention, investigation, management and care	Cork University Maternity Hospital
Fellowship in Paediatric Allergy and Pulmonology	Cork University Hospital
Fellowship in Adolescent Medicine, Learning Health Systems and Quality Improvement	CHI Temple Street
Fellowship in Paediatric Inclusion Health	Children's Health Ireland
Fellowship in General Paediatrics	CHI Tallaght
Fellowship in Paediatric Infectious Diseases: OPAT and Antimicrobial Stewardship.	Children's Health Ireland at Crumlin
Fellowship in the Application of Whole Genome Sequencing in Irish Microbiology Reference Laboratories for Surveillance, Outbreak Management and Public Health Measures.	St. James' Hospital
Fellowship in Dermatopathology	Cork University Hospital
Ophthalmic Pathology	Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital
Fellowship in Paediatric Medical	CHI Temple Street & CHI Crumlin

Ophthalmology	
Vascular & Endovascular Surgery, Special interest in diabetic foot management & Vascular access for dialysis	Beaumont Hospital
Plastic Surgery - North Dublin Peripheral Nerve Surgery	Mater Misericordiae University Hospital
Clinical Ultrasound - Trauma Fellowship	Mater Misericordiae University Hospital
Simulation Fellowship	Mater Misericordiae University Hospital
Fellowship in Perinatal Neuropathology	Cork University Hospital