

# AO Spine 2020 International Observership Program

Keep on learning—Expand your experience



# AO Spine Observership



The observership program is a unique opportunity for surgeons to experience the complexity of certain pathologies and issues. This program now reaches a wider range of centers around the world, including non-AO Spine centers.

It was developed to ensure that the knowledge and skills acquired in AO Educational Events are applied in the daily work of spine surgeons of the region. It is an excellent way for Latin American members to further their careers, bringing benefits to the lives of their patients. For a period of time, participants will observe highly skilled spine surgeons work on specific topics or pathologies, such as MISS, Trauma, Adult and Pediatric deformity, Tumor, Cervical, Infection, Degenerative and Research.

The goal is to acquire knowledge from some of the world's leading experts in the fields of these Disorders, who are willing to share their expertise with colleagues who wish to learn and apply these specific skills in their practices.

**Duration:** One (1) to four (4) weeks (according to each center's availability).

**Stipend:** Depending on the duration of the program, applicants may be eligible for a CHF 1,000 stipend.

## Requirements:



Having been an AO Spine member for at least three years prior to the application deadline.



Specialization in orthopedic or neurosurgery.



Having attended at least one AO Spine advanced course related to the particular topic.



Over three years of proven experience in spine surgery of the corresponding topic.



Proof of language proficiency, to be determined by the chosen center.

**Registration:** February 24th to April 30th, 2020.

**Application form:** Follow this [link](#) for the application forms. Along with the application forms, candidates must provide the following documents.

- Résumé (listing papers published).
- Diploma or Certificate of Neurosurgery and/or Orthopedics Specialist (copy/copies).
- Certificates of the most recent AO Spine Advanced courses taken (copy/copies).
- Recommendation letter from a senior surgeon stating that the participant has more than three years of experience in spine surgery.
- Proof of language proficiency.

### **Pathologies/topics available:**

**MISS**

**Trauma**

**Adult Deformity**

**Pediatric Deformity**

**Tumor**

**Cervical**

**Infection**

**Degenerative**

**Research**

[Click here](#) to check the complete experts list.

### **Terms and conditions:**

- Travel and accommodation expenses will be covered by the participants.
- Participants must provide their own health and travel insurance, which must valid in the country of destination for the entire duration of the program, with full medical coverage, following the requirements of the chosen institution.
- Visas and licenses: while attending programs outside their home countries, observers will be subject to the local laws and the restrictions applicable to medical practice by foreigners. Observers must be aware that, without a specific medical license, there is no guarantee that they will be allowed to take part in surgical procedures during their training, and may be restricted to observing and taking notes.
- To receive the attendance certificate, participants must fill out the feedback form.
- Upon admission, the observers and the host surgeon will set the dates and the visits schedule.
- Bank transfers can only be made to a bank account in the observer's name. AO Spine will not transfer money to a third-party bank account.
- Applicants for English-speaking centers may be referred to a language proficiency assessment interview.

### **Support and contact:**

AO Spine Latin America

[fellowship.aosla@aospine.org](mailto:fellowship.aosla@aospine.org)

T +55 41 3016 4491

Av. Silva Jardim, 2042 – Cj 1505

80250-200 – Curitiba, Brazil

[www.aospine.org](http://www.aospine.org)