



The European Society of
Regional Anaesthesia & Pain Therapy
Crossing Boundaries, Transforming Care

ESRA APPROVED TRAINING CENTERS

APPLICATION-TEMPORARY APPROVAL.

1. To become an ESRA approved training center either in Regional Anaesthesia or/and chronic pain, the center should offer a wide variety of (a) locoregional anaesthesia (central blocks, peripheral nerve blocks, catheter and single shot techniques, abdominal and thoracic wall blocks, infiltration anaesthesia/analgesia, structured postoperative pain management program, or/and (b) POCUS, or/and (c) chronic pain respectively. The applying center should have a structure in place for teaching and education for regional anaesthesia or/and chronic pain (regular teaching sessions, workshops at the local level, etc).
2. Training centres should apply to become an ESRA approved training center via the application form which can be found on the ESRA website. This form should be submitted to the ESRA office at office@esraeurope.org. Deadline for application is twice per year (31st December and 30th June)
3. The Education Committee will consider applications 2 times per year. During the mid-term Board meeting of the Education Committee (March) and during the Annual ESRA congress meeting of the Education Committee (September) applications will be considered and advice for approval/rejection will be send to the ESRA Board.
4. The final decision to approve/not approve a center is by the ESRA Board upon advice of the Educational Committee.
5. Initial approval is for one year only.

FINAL APPROVAL.

1. Once a center receives temporary approval (for 1 year), the centre will be visited by 2 members of the Education Committee during a two-day visit. In the case of applications for ESRA approved RA training institutions, during this visit members of the regional anaesthesia team will be met as well as the lead physician of the RA program. The OR and facilities will be inspected, and a presentation of the educational program will be done. A similar process applies to the case of an application for ESRA approved training institution in chronic pain.
2. Assessment expenses will be fully borne by the applying center under these rules:
 - Reasonable travel expenses (economy class flights, first class rail fare)
 - Taxi and/or metro and/or bus
 - Private car (only if no other solution available): rate of € 0.40/km
 - Accommodation and subsistence should be arranged by the inviting center if not otherwise agreed with the assessment team members.
3. No honorarium will be paid to the assessment team.

4. The inspectors will then formulate a report and a recommendation which is approved via e-mail by the Education Committee. This advice is then sent to the ESRA Board for final approval.
5. Once a center is finally approved, approval is for 5 years.
6. Every anaesthetist that visits and stays in the training center, should end his visit with a short report (see report document). These reports will be used to assess renewal.
7. Every visitor to the training center should be reported to the ESRA Office.
8. These reports will be evaluated by the Grants Committee in close collaboration with the Education Committee.

RENEWAL.

1. The reports from the anaesthetists visiting the centres will be used to assess renewal.
2. One year before the approval expires, the center should re-apply for continuation of the program if they desire so.
3. The Educational Committee will review the reports as well as the application form and if necessary will organize a site visit by at least one Education Committee member. The same reimbursement rules as for the first visit apply.
4. The inspector will then formulate a report and a recommendation which is approved via e-mail by the Education Committee. This advice is then sent to the ESRA Board for final approval.
5. Once a positive evaluation is received, the center is again approved for 5 years.