

# 2026 Cerebrovascular Traveling Fellowship



## APPLICATION GUIDELINES, INSTRUCTIONS & FAQs

As a premier funder of neurosurgical studies, the [Neurosurgery Research & Education Foundation](#) (NREF) is pleased to offer the [AANS/CNS Cerebrovascular Section Traveling Fellowship](#).

Please read this document in its entirety prior to completing the online application. After reviewing the application and the information below, please do not hesitate to contact the NREF via email at [info@nref.org](mailto:info@nref.org) if you still have questions.

- **Objective:** The objective of the grant is to fund travel of mid-career (see eligibility below) fellowship-trained cerebrovascular/endovascular specialist (applicant/fellow) to another institution (host) for five (5) days.
- **Eligibility Criteria:**
  - *Applicant/Fellow:* Fellowship-trained cerebrovascular/endovascular specialist, board certified in his/her specialty and holds a CAST certificate in neuroendovascular surgery or is able to demonstrate significant open cerebrovascular experience and practice, who has practiced independently for at least five (5) years and is a dues-paying member in good standing of the AANS/CNS Joint Cerebrovascular Section or the Society of NeuroInterventional Surgery (SNIS).
  - *Host:* Any practice that demonstrates significant volumes and outcomes in the area that the applicant is seeking experience. The presence of a CAST-approved fellowship training program may be used as an indicator of such practice focus but may not be sufficient. The selection committee will reserve the right to make a final decision regarding the eligibility of a specific applicant or host.
- **Deadline for Application:** 11:59pm, Saturday, November 1, 2025. Awardees will be notified in Spring, 2026.
- **Period of Fellowship:** Any consecutive 5-day period between July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.
- **Amount of Fellowship Grant:** The awardee will receive a stipend of \$5,000, plus reimbursement for travel and lodging expenses up to \$2,500. The host institution will receive an award of \$1,000.
- **Items Required:**
  - *Application* – A completed, current version of the online application (with signatures) and items listed below must be submitted via the [NREF Online Grant Portal](#) by the deadline.
  - *Invitation Letter* – A letter from the director of cerebrovascular/endovascular program at the host institution should outline the commitment of the institution to host the applicant and be specific to the experience the applicant is seeking.
  - *IRS Non-Profit Status Determination Letter* – Please contact NREF with questions about the eligibility of the host institution. Only non-profit, charitable entities may apply. A for-profit entity is not eligible unless affiliated with a non-profit entity.
  - *Curriculum Vitae* – The applicant must submit a current CV.
  - *Letter of Intent by the Applicant* – This document must speak to the experience being sought and why the proposed host institution is expected to be able to offer the desired experience. Please also include 1-2 alternate host institutions that could be selected by the selection committee.
  - *ACGME or CAST Accreditation* – Please submit a certificate letter demonstrating accreditation for cerebrovascular/endovascular fellowship OR demonstration of significant open cerebrovascular interest and practice. Please use the CAST application as a template to furnish such information. In the event an Applicant has applied for CAST accreditation but has not yet received CAST accreditation, please submit a copy of the CAST accreditation request with the application.

- **Submission Instructions**
  - Visit the [NREF Online Grant Portal](#).
  - To apply for an NREF grant, you will need to create an account or use your myAANS.org login to access the grant portal.
- **Fellowship Funding Overlap/Duplicate Funding:** Funding for this fellowship awarded by the NREF cannot be duplicated by any other outside funding source. If the recipient receives funding from another source, the NREF must be notified by email to [info@nref.org](mailto:info@nref.org) immediately and the fellowship funding returned.
- **Notification of Award:** The foundation expects to notify each applicant by letter prior to the 2025 Joint Cerebrovascular Section/Society for Neurointerventional Surgery meeting; however, public announcement will be contingent upon receipt of written confirmation from applicants. The foundation reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to extend the date for it to provide notification of awards. The successful applicant is expected to attend the Joint Cerebrovascular Section meeting in person to receive recognition for the award.
- **Fiscal Policies and Reports:**
  - Fellowship grant payment will be made upon completion of the fellowship. Documentation of travel and lodging expenses must be provided and will be included with the fellowship grant payment.
  - A final report is required to be submitted by the fellow describing his/her experience. This report is due within 45 days of the conclusion of the fellowship.
  - All final reports must be submitted electronically to [info@nref.org](mailto:info@nref.org)
  - Grantee is required to provide an oral report at the next Cerebrovascular Section Annual Meeting following the fellowship experience.
- **Policy on Delinquent Financial/Research Reports:** The Foundation reserves the right to deny fellowship grant payment until the final report has been received.
- **Publication:** The NREF encourages publication of research findings by the fellow, but requires that the NREF is cited as a source of support on the first page of the text. When a fellow presents a paper at a professional scientific meeting concerning research findings made during the course of an NREF funded fellowship, the NREF must be cited prior to the beginning of the presentation.
  - The citation should appear in the Acknowledgements section as follows:  
*This work is supported by the Neurosurgery Research & Education Foundation (2026 Cerebrovascular Traveling Fellowship).*
  - The NREF should be sent reprints of all papers and publications, including any electronic papers or publications, resulting from work done during the course of a fellowship, even those that appear after the fellowship has concluded.

For additional information, visit [NREF Grants and Fellowships](#) online or contact NREF at 847.378.0500 or via email at [info@nref.org](mailto:info@nref.org).