

American Balint Society Fellowship *(revised November 10, 2008)*

Purpose: The American Balint Society wishes to create a new Council position, with full rights and privileges, for a member in training in a medical residency or fellowship. This will bring the perspective of this most important constituency of our Society to the Council. It will also help develop potential ABS leaders of the future.

Description: A one-year membership on the Council of the American Balint Society with full voting rights. The fellow is expected to attend as many monthly Council telephone conference meetings as possible, and to attend the annual business meeting in the spring. S/he may also participate in ad hoc committees and other special Council activities.

Length of term: One Council year. A fellow is eligible to serve a second year, as long as the qualifications below are met and with the approval of the Council. Fellowship years will not count towards later term limits, should the fellow later become a regular Council member or officer.

Qualifications: The fellow must

- Be a resident or fellow in good standing in a medical residency;
- Be a member of an ongoing Balint group that is led or co-led by an ABS-credentialed Balint leader (this requirement may be waived under some circumstances);
- Have attended one Balint Leadership Training Intensive or plan to do so within the term of the fellowship;
- Be a member of the American Balint Society.

Method of selection:

- The selection committee will be chaired by the ABS President-Elect, and will include two other members of the chair's choosing.
- In October, the committee will send out a call for nominations to all ABS members. The call will include the qualifications for the fellowship position, and ask that nominations be sent directly to the chair of the selection committee.
- When a resident is nominated, the committee will contact the following people, asking for these documents by the end of December:
 - o The nominee, asking for a brief statement of interest (less than one page);
 - o The nominee's credentialed Balint leader, asking for a letter of endorsement;
 - o The nominee's residency program director, asking for a letter of endorsement.
- The committee may consult others who know the nominee, such as faculty at an Intensive that the nominee has attended.
- The committee will evaluate all nominees and present a candidate to the ABS Council at the February meeting for approval.

Financial assistance: The fellow will receive financial assistance to attend the annual ABS Council business meeting at the same level of reimbursement as that which is extended to other Council members.

- NOTE: The ABS fund raising committee is asked to select the American Balint Society Fellowship as a special project for which to solicit donor support. This is especially important, as there will often be years when two fellows (outgoing and incoming) attend the business meeting.

(original document accepted by the ABS Council April 14, 2008)