

The FIP Early Career Pharmaceutical Group

Guideline on how to become an ECPG member

2024



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Guidelines on how to become an FIP ECPG member

1. About FIP and ECPG

The [International Pharmaceutical Federation \(FIP\)](#) is the global body representing pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences. Through our national organisations, academic institutional members and individual members, we represent over four million pharmacists, pharmaceutical scientists and pharmaceutical educators around the world.

FIP has eight pharmacy practice sections and nine special interest groups (SIGs), to develop projects and initiatives. All individual members of FIP are automatically a member of a [Board of Pharmaceutical Practice section](#) (or [Board of Pharmaceutical Sciences special interest group](#)) of their choice, through which they can interact with pharmaceutical colleagues with similar interests from all over the world. Find out more about FIP via the FIP website: <https://www.fip.org/>.

The FIP Early Career Pharmaceutical Group (ECPG) is a network of individual and honorary members of FIP who are, early career pharmacists, pharmaceutical scientists, pharmacy educators or pharmacy students (i.e. graduates up to eight years after graduation from their first degree in the pharmacy field).

The mission of ECPG is to promote the goals of FIP by encouraging the early career members of the federation to participate in FIP projects and activities. In so doing, ECPG aims to develop individuals who can act as agents of positive change at local, national, and international levels, both in the profession and in society. ECPG's goal is to connect our members and foster leadership within FIP's sections and special interest groups. Many of our ECPG members are already active in FIP's Boards, committees, and leadership roles.

We also aim to support early career pharmacists and pharmaceutical scientists from around the globe who have limited resources either for professional organisation involvement or for their own research. In addition, ECPG also gives its members' career development support through the development of published resources and organisation of webinars or digital events.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this guideline is to explain and provide guidance on how an individual or early career pharmaceutical organisation (ECPO) can become a member of FIP ECPG.

3. Why join ECPG?

- 1. Gain knowledge:**
FIP creates a worldwide development and educational environment: earn CE credits, attend webinars, ask questions in our global network.
- 2. Stay up to date:**
Get to know international developments and new trends in pharmacy through newsletters, reports and the *International Pharmacy Journal*.
- 3. Become involved:**
Influence the direction and impact of the profession through discussion groups, working groups and other task forces. Your input is essential!
- 4. Access experts:**
Get connected to an international network of colleagues, experts and global leaders who share the same professional interests and aspirations.
- 5. Access to mentorship:**
The aim of the mentorship program is to provide mentorship for early career pharmacists and pharmaceutical scientists who are developing their career.

6. Access to internships/volunteering opportunities:

The interns/volunteers will be working on cross-functional FIP Global Projects and will gain wide and valuable experience in different areas of pharmacy or pharmaceutical science.

7. Access to grants and scholarships:

Scholarships organised by FIP ECPG, in collaboration with the FIP Foundation and other FIP structures, include the opportunity to participate in the FIP Congress, and/or the ECPG Leadership Development Workshop. The Leadership Development Workshop takes place before the annual FIP Congress, where participants can learn about global health issues and develop personal and professional development skills. They have the opportunity to meet other global leaders in pharmacy, thus advancing their careers and expanding the network of FIP. Also, ECPG and the FIP Foundation collaborate to give grants for early career pharmacists and pharmaceutical scientists on their innovative research projects under the FIP Foundation and ECPG Innovation Research Grant.

4. For individuals

4.1 Eligibility Criteria

To become a member of FIP ECPG, you have to fulfil two out of these three criteria:

1. Be a member of FIP;
2. Be an early career pharmacist, pharmaceutical scientist or a pharmacy educator, up to eight years after graduation from your first degree in the pharmacy field.
3. Be a Pharmacy student.

4.2 How to join FIP and ECPG

1. Head over to your browser and type www.fip.org OR click on <https://www.fip.org/registration> to register as an individual member.
2. Navigate to 'Get Involved'.
3. Click on individual membership.
4. Calculate your membership fee to know how much you are paying.
NB: It is worth noting that the annual membership fee is based on your country of residence and the World Bank country classification.
5. Click on 'Join FIP'
6. Fill in your personal details and make your payment.
NB: There is a 50% discount for joining ECPG, so make sure you click on that if you are eligible!

What you need to join and register as an ECPG Member:

1. Credit or Debit card (to make your payment)
2. Evidence showing you are an early career pharmacist, pharmaceutical scientist or a Pharmacy student (Graduation certificate, Pharmacy license, Student or Pharmacist's ID card).

After Registration, what next?

Hooray! You are now an FIP and ECPG member. Within 5 days, your FIP membership number should be emailed to you.

You can now fully participate in FIP and FIP ECPG's activities and opportunities.

You will also have full access to both FIP and ECPG newsletters.

5. For Early Career Pharmaceutical Organisations (ECPOs)

The ECPG is a network of motivated early career professionals within FIP. Our objectives are to facilitate connections and networking so that new ideas can be shared, and to open doors to information and new possibilities. In order to achieve the goals of ECPG, ECPG is open to accepting national and regional organisations as its members, through the Early Career Pharmaceutical Organisations Network.

5.1 Eligibility Criteria

Below are the criteria that ECPOs must comply to before they join:

1. The contact person must be an individual member of FIP and by extension, ECPG
2. The organisation should represent early career pharmacists and/or pharmaceutical scientists.
3. The organisation can be students and/or recent graduates of up to eight years.

5.2 How to become a member organisation in ECPG

The Member Relations Coordinator is the official representative for FIP ECPG and is responsible for directly liaising with the focal persons or leadership from national or regional early career pharmaceutical organisations.

The focal person of the national organisation has to deliver a PowerPoint presentation on their organisation over an online all.

After consideration by the ECPG Member Relations Coordinator, and if the organisation has been termed eligible, the Member Relations Coordinator will send the organisation a google form to fill in the necessary details about the organisation.

Then, a meeting will be organised between the representatives of FIP ECPG and the representatives of the national organisation to introduce themselves and to give further explanations about FIP and FIP ECPG.

5.3 What is expected of the Early Career Pharmaceutical Organisation

1. The national organisation representative, who is also an ECPG individual member, can raise a motion during the business meetings.
2. The national organisation representative should give updates on their upcoming events and activities through the ECPG Chairperson of Public Relations and Member Relations Coordinator.
3. The national organisation representative is expected to share about their recent activities on a regular basis, highlighting achievements, relevance to pharmacy and lessons learnt. This will be documented as part of the global efforts by early career pharmacists and published in FIP ECPG newsletters.
4. With the use of available toolkits and resources from ECPG and FIP, the organisation and FIP ECPG can organise a joint event or collaborate on projects or initiatives. To access resources and materials, see the FIP Library (members only): <https://www.fip.org/publications>.

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01/2024 | FIP ECPG