

UPDATED November 2024



# EYES ANNUAL MEETING

## HOST SELECTION CRITERIA AND PROCESS FOR THE 13<sup>TH</sup> EYES ANNUAL MEETING 2026



## 1. Introduction

The ESE Young Endocrine Endocrinologists and Scientists (EYES) Committee warmly invites the early career groups of the National Societies involved in ECAS (ESE Council of Affiliated Societies) to submit expressions of interest to **host the upcoming 13<sup>th</sup> EYES Annual Meeting 2026**. Please see [list of ECAS member national societies here](#).

The EYES Annual Meeting ('the EYES Meeting') is an ESE meeting which is organised by the EYES Committee – ESE's early career Committee. The EYES Annual meeting is managed by the selected host National Society's early career group who form a Local Organising Committee (LOC). The National Society shall take responsibility for the overall delivery, management and financial support of the course, via the LOC. Within this document there are the requirements set out by ESE and the EYES Committee that should be adhered to.

The EYES Annual Meeting combines the latest cutting-edge basic, clinical, translational and pre-clinical research, encouraging scientific networking and opportunities for collaboration in a unique and friendly environment.

### Aims of the EYES Annual Meeting

- To share knowledge among early career investigators (ECIs);
- To stimulate research and collaboration across Europe;
- To stimulate scientific networking among ECIs;
- To develop presentation skills of ECIs.

The EYES Annual Meeting Host Selection Criteria and Process is designed to support the EYES Committee to achieve these aims and deliver a successful and sustainable meeting that is both accessible and relevant to the community. Outlined below is important information on the meeting, including management structure and venue requirements, to facilitate the application process.

### Instructions for Local Host

By submitting the application, the Local Host fully expresses the willingness to take on the tasks and responsibilities associated with the role and liaises with EYES during the organisation of the EYES Annual Meeting. The Local Host is invited to carefully read these documents and accept the general and specific conditions outlined before submitting a bid.

Please read the attached documents carefully as these outline the Responsibilities of the Local Host – the Local Organising Committee and the National Society, and the ESE EYES Annual Meeting Agreement to be signed by the National Society with the European Society of Endocrinology (ESE).

## 2. Deadline for applications

The deadline for applications is Friday 4 April 2025 for the next available term (i.e. 4 April 2025 for the EYES annual meeting 2026). The Local Host will be notified of the final decision by email no later than two months after the submission deadline and the location will be announced at the EYES Symposia at the annual European Congress of Endocrinology (ECE).

Please send your BIDs to: [info@ese-hormones.org](mailto:info@ese-hormones.org)

## 3. Timeline:

### 13<sup>th</sup> EYES Annual Meeting 2026

Early December 2024:	Call for bids to host the 2026 EYES Annual Meeting open
4 April 2025:	Deadline for bids to be received by EYES Committee
April/May 2025:	Evaluation and selection
May 2025:	Announce host location for 2026 at ECE 2025, during the EYES Session

## 4. Requirements for Local Host

### 1. Requirements for Local Host

- The Local Host is a person, or a group of persons, who are experienced in congress programme planning, with good command of English.
- The Local Host nominates at least five local organising committee (LOC) members.
- A written letter of support from the National Society. This letter should address how the National Society will contribute to the success of the EYES Annual Meeting (marketing, press coverage, budget, link to other groups, etc.) along with confirmation that they will sign a standard agreement with ESE for the EYES Annual Meeting. A copy of the agreement can be provided to any bidders, for review.

### 2. General information about the Local Host

The Local Host should provide a one-page CV and motivation letter, including a brief description of their personal, or their group's, congress programme planning experience.

### 3. Support organisations to be included on the contract

The Local Host can organise the EYES Annual Meeting with OR without the support of Professional Conference Organiser (PCO) or other organising agents (especially for Registration, contracts and logistics).

If the LOC wish to use an agency to support the meeting planning or activities this needs to be detailed in the bid and the 'EYES Meeting Roles and Responsibilities' document for the Meeting, clearly outlining which party is responsible for each area (including signing contracts, collecting income and paying invoices). The 'EYES Meeting Roles and Responsibilities' document can be requested from the ESE Office during the bid process. Please contact [info@ese-hormones.org](mailto:info@ese-hormones.org)

### 4. Work plan and Programme

A preliminary programme, taking in consideration the pre-specified timetable (see Table 2, page 9), should be prepared, and presented by the Local Host.

ESE's eight key focus areas should be covered in the programme ([ESE's Focus Areas | ESE](#)) and consideration given to allowing all (or the majority) of abstract submitters an oral communication.

A short presentation from each of the ESE Office representative (on ESE), the EYES Committee (ESE's activities for ECIs and from the ECAS Chair (on the Early Careers Workshop at EndoBridge) should be included. The ECAS Chair will contribute virtually.

At least four follow-up meetings with the delegated EYES Committee member and an ESE Office representative are expected to take place before the EYES Annual Meeting and suggested timing is outlined in the Timetable.

**IMPORTANT: The preliminary programme needs the final approval of the EYES Committee.**

## 5. General conditions

### 1. Date of EYES Annual Meeting

The preferred period for EYES Annual Meeting is the second weekend of September. All efforts must be made by the Local Host to avoid overlap with other ESE events, as well as local and international meetings taking place.

### 2. Local Organising Committee

As mentioned above, at least five people should form the LOC established by the Local Host. The Local Host will be assisted by a delegated EYES Committee member and a representative of the ESE Office where needed on congress management queries and scientific matters.

As detailed in 1.3 above, if the LOC wish to use an agency to support the meeting planning or activities this needs to be detailed in the bid and the 'EYES Meeting Roles and Responsibilities' document for the Meeting updated to clearly outline which party is responsible for each area (including signing contracts, collecting income and paying invoices).

### 3. Delegates

Delegates must be early career investigators (ECIs) who are <10 years post-PhD, post-specialisation, Masters/PhD student or a clinician in-training. The EYES Annual Meeting is capped at 200 delegates, of which 80% must be comprised of delegates not from the Host country.

All delegates must meet ESE's sanctioned country policy ([see here](#)). ESE has procedures in place for checking individuals or institutions who work or reside in countries that are subject to financial sanctions by the UK Government (see list below).

Delegates attending an in-person event: *Event attendance permitted from sanctioned countries but all individuals from sanctioned countries and their institution to go through a compliance check. No sanctioned individuals or individuals from sanctioned institutions are permitted to attend.*

Speakers and Chairs at an in-person event: People from Russia and Belarus are not allowed to speak (including *giving an oral or poster presentation*) or chair. *No restrictions for other sanctioned countries but all individuals from sanctioned countries and their institution to go through a compliance check. No sanctioned individuals or individuals from sanctioned institutions permitted.*

For the EYES Annual meeting, the scope covers delegates, speakers (including oral and poster session speakers) and chairs. A process will need to be followed where all delegates who are from a country on the sanctioned country list will need to be checked by the ESE Office team through a third-party compliance checker. If there is a flag raised on the individual, or the institute or organisation where they work, then they will not be able to attend the EYES Meeting.

The delegate list must be provided to the ESE Office at regular agreed times from when Registration opens until it closes. The list must include the delegate's full name, institution/place of work and country of residence.

**Current (December 2024) List of countries subject to governmental financial sanctions**

Afghanistan	Mali
Belarus	Myanmar
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Nicaragua
Central African Republic	Russia
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Somalia
Democratic Republic of the Congo	South Sudan
Guinea	Sudan
Guinea-Bissau	Syria
Haiti	Venezuela
Iran	Yemen
Iraq	Zimbabwe
Libya	
Lebanon	

#### 4. Invited Speakers

Taking into consideration that ECIs have a central role in the EYES Annual meeting, we recommend the Local Host to invite only well-established ECIs for plenary speakers (i.e., no senior plenary speakers), unless the Plenary is of a motivational (and not scientific) nature.

The total number of plenary lectures is ~3-4 plenary lectures (~30 minutes). We encourage that at least one of the invited speakers is from the host country. Speakers do not receive any payment but should have travel and accommodation provided by the Local Host.

If a request comes from one of the sponsoring companies supporting the meeting to include a speaker in their sponsorship package, this must be discussed with the EYES Committee Representative and the ESE Office before it is confirmed.

#### 5. Abstracts

The LOC must provide an electronic platform for abstract submission (this can be via a third-party supplier). The deadline for abstracts submission is after the annual European Society of Endocrinology (ECE) meeting (i.e., early June).

The LOC compiles the preliminary programme, reviews the abstracts; an abstract marking sheet will be provided by the EYES Committee member. Delegates should be notified of the final decision approximately two weeks after the abstract submission deadline.

Please note the information above about Delegates from sanctioned countries as the compliance check needs to be completed before abstracts are accepted. The Abstract submission list must be provided to the ESE Office at regular agreed times from when Registration opens until it closes. The list must include the Author's full name, institution/place of work and country of residence.

Please also note that abstracts from delegates residing in Russia or Belarus can ONLY be accepted IF they pass the sanction check and ONLY as a poster (not an oral communications).

### 5.b Please use the following abstract guidelines:

#### Abstract:

1. Abstracts should report **original studies or case reports** that have not been:
  - Published in manuscript form prior to abstract submission
  - Previously presented at an international scientific meeting
  - Previously published as abstracts
2. Abstracts must be written in English.
3. Abstracts must be attached as a Word file on the required field of submission system.
4. Abstracts, excluding title, authors' names and institutional affiliations, should be of maximum **250 words** and text must be justified.
5. Use **Arial 11-point, single space**.
6. For **original studies**, please divide up your abstract using the headings: **Objective, Methods, Results and Conclusions**.
7. For **case reports**, please divide up your abstract using the headings: **Background, Case Presentation, Conclusions**.
8. For title, please use bold lowercase letters. Please, avoid using abbreviations.
9. Authors' names should appear below the title of the abstract in lowercase and must be given in full.
10. The institutional affiliation of each author and the city, country should appear in a new line below the name(s) of the author(s) and should be written with lowercase letters in *Italics*. If more than one institution, please separate by using superscript Arabic numerals <sup>(1,2,3)</sup>.
11. Please, underline the name of the presenting author who has been registered for and will attend the Meeting.

### 5.c Abstract Publication

From 2025 the EYES Annual Meeting Abstracts are published as a supplement to the *European Journal of Endocrinology (ESE's flagship Journal)* to provide the best visibility and options for citations for these abstracts.

ESE will hold the contract with the publisher and negotiate a favourable rate for the publication of the proceedings each year. The LOC will work with the designated contact at the publisher to work out a

timeline and supply the abstract files in the required format to the publisher. The cost of this proceedings publication is circa €4,600 and this cost should be included in, and covered by, the overall budget for the Meeting.

#### 6. Oral Communications and Poster Sessions

One of the purposes of the EYES Annual Meeting is to develop the presentation skills of the ECIs attending. Therefore, oral presentations should be preferred over poster presentations. We recommend a maximum of 60 oral presentations are selected from the abstracts. Consideration should be given to allow all (or the majority) of abstract submitters an oral communication.

The EYES Committee members attending the EYES Annual Meeting must be allocated to chair sessions in their field of expertise.

#### 7. EYES Annual Meeting Format and Scope

The Local Host directs the Meeting planning and conduct. Each EYES Annual Meeting should have the following format (see Table 1). Additional sessions, for example a pre-meeting workshop, can be included in the format upon discussion and agreement with ESE. The scientific programme should cover the eight ESE Focus Areas (see below) and geographical distribution.

**IMPORTANT: The preliminary programme requires final approval of the EYES Committee.**

##### ESE Focus Areas:

- 1 Adrenal and Cardiovascular Endocrinology
2. Calcium and Bone,
3. Diabetes, Obesity, Metabolism and Nutrition
4. Endocrine-related Cancer
5. Environmental Endocrinology
6. Pituitary and Neuroendocrinology
7. Reproductive Endocrinology
8. Thyroid



**Table 1. EYES Annual Meeting Format**

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>Half day meeting</b>	<b>Full day meeting</b>	<b>Half day meeting</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Set up exhibition and posters</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Registration attendees</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Opening ceremony (starting ~ 2:00 PM)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> EYES Update aims and initiatives, discussion with EYES community</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Oral communications and one plenary lecture (i.e., keynote speaker)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Closing day 1 (closing ~ 6:00 PM)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Welcome reception</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Conference dinner</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Opening day 2 (starting ~ 9:00 AM)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Oral communications and one plenary lecture</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Refreshment break</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Lunch</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Social event (e.g., city tour)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Conference dinner + EYES networking event</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Opening day 3 (starting ~ 9:00 AM)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Oral communications and one plenary lecture</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Refreshment break</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Award and Closing ceremony (closing ~ 1:00 PM)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Lunch</li> </ul>

### 8. EYES Update Meeting

A round table update session on ESE and the EYES Community activities must be included in the programme (~ 30-40 min) to give the EYES community an opportunity to listen to the aims and initiatives that are being developed by the EYES Committee, and where the EYES community can contribute to the discussion and speak about the issues faced by endocrinologists and scientists (both ECIs) in their respective countries. This should be timetabled in the Opening Session of the programme to encourage delegates to talk to the EYES Committee about the various programmes and to get fully involved in the early career community within ESE.

### 9. Societies Sessions

Collaborations with other Endocrine Societies or other early career groups in related disciplines during the EYES Annual Meeting is possible but should always first be approved by the EYES Committee and the ESE Office representative. Depending on the collaboration, they may also be asked to sign the ESE EYES Annual Meeting agreement.

### 10. Meeting Awards

At the end of the meeting the following Awards should be presented:

- Best oral communication
- Runner up best oral communication
- Honourable mentions for best oral communication in each session

Certificates of the awards shall be prepared by the LOC.

The Best Oral Communication will receive an invitation to deliver their talk at the following year's ECE during the EYES Symposium and a Meeting/Travel Grant of up to €400 provided by ESE.

The runner up Best Oral Communication should receive an invitation to deliver their talk at the Host Country's next Annual Meeting (if possible) or another key meeting in the Host Country. ESE will support their attendance with a Meeting/Travel Grant of up to €400.

#### **Criteria for the Award selection:**

The EYES Committee members will split the oral sessions so that there are three members scoring the sheet together per session. The EYES Committee will nominate from each session one "best" presentation based on scoring on various aspects of the presentation. This will result in seven oral presentations shortlisted for best oral prize. The first prize will then be awarded to the delegate with the highest abstract score from this shortlist, and the runner up prize to the second highest scoring abstract. The rest of the shortlisted presentations will receive honourable mentions. The final decision rests with the EYES Committee.

#### **11. Registration**

The registration fee for delegates should be a minimum of €180. The fee should be discussed between the EYES Committee, the LOC and the ESE Office and then the proposal taken to the ESE Executive Committee for approval.. Higher registration fees are only acceptable if agreed with and approved by the EYES Committee. ESE provides a number of ESE Meeting Grants for this meeting, and all delegates are encouraged to apply. All delegates who wish to register **MUST** be a current ESE Member (early career).

Registration must be online and open around 1 June and closed on 15 August.

The LOC shall make clear that the registration fee covers accommodation only for the first 100 paying delegate registrations. Only if budget allows accommodation for more than 100 registrations will be offered.

Please note the information above on Sanctions Policy for delegates, and ensure that a list of all delegates who reside in countries on the Sanctioned Countries list is submitted to the ESE Office to be run through the third-party compliance checker before their registration is confirmed.

#### **12. Funding**

Budget development and financial management are key to planning the EYES Annual Meeting. The EYES Committee member and the ESE Office Representative need to approve the budget and see revisions at the arranged LOC meetings.

**ESE will provide a grant of €10,000 for the EYES Annual Meeting.** Part of this will be used to cover the meeting insurance (unless the National Society has adequate and appropriate meeting insurance in place), the CME accreditation costs and the publication of the Abstracts in EJE, all of which will be

arranged by ESE unless otherwise agreed. ESE will transfer the remaining balance to the appropriate bank account for further meeting costs.

The LOC is responsible for arranging all the funding necessary for the meeting. The LOC is encouraged to obtain sponsorship from Industry, National Society, Charity Organisations and Universities.

Regular budget updates must be shared with the ESE Office and EYES Committee lead before each of the agreed planning meetings, in addition to:

- At least every three months in the nine months leading up to the Meeting
- Monthly for the two months prior to the Meeting
- Immediately before the meeting
- One month after the Meeting date (a final budget).

The budgets must provide detail about the income and expenditure items and be updated as quotes and final numbers are available.

**Any concerns or issues about income not covering expenditure forecast must be highlighted to the ESE Office immediately and a plan to correct this agreed.**

**IMPORTANT:** The LOC should be confident that they can cover the overall costs of the EYES Annual Meeting by the anticipated delegate revenues and corporate sponsorship when they submit the application, and the National Society should support this. **Any deficit (as well as any surplus) will be shared equally between the National Society and ESE, however, all efforts must be made to ensure that there is not a deficit and if this is likely this must be brought to the attention of the ESE Office and a plan agreed.**

### 13. Access to Host Destination

Details of airports and train stations close to the destination that can be easily reached from major European cities should be included. General information on public transportation should also be detailed. (i.e., specify access to city centre and Conference Venue).

### 14. Conference Venue

The conference venue must provide dedicated and controlled access to delegates only (i.e. not an open area) and should include a lecture room and registration area. The lecture room should be one room for up to 200 delegates in theatre style seating. The registration area should accommodate two desks with laptops along with space for exhibition tables and poster boards. Information and expenses for technical equipment (hire of projector, microphones and sound system, etc.) should also be included in the bid.

### 15. Accommodation

The LOC must guarantee accommodation for ~100 delegates for two nights (twin-share rooms for the Friday and Saturday of the meeting). The accommodation expenses are to be covered by the meeting income and paid for by the meeting budget and are part of the fee for all registered delegates.

The accommodation should be comfortable and close to the meeting venue. It is ideal to have a preferred hotel connected to or within walking distance of the meeting venue to minimise the need for organised transport. General information on the hotel and vicinity of the proposed Congress Venue must be provided in the bid.

#### 16. Catering

The LOC must provide two dinners (Friday and Saturday), two lunches (Saturday and Sunday) and two refreshment breaks (Saturday and Sunday). Catering should be arranged at the meeting venue.. Please cater for vegetarians and other specific dietary requirements.

Saturday evening must include a social event for networking for ~150 (up to 200) delegates. A welcome reception on Friday can be included but is not mandatory. Please provide information and expenses for catering and social event(s) in the bid.

If the LOC wishes to host the EYES Committee at a dinner the night before the Meeting starts this should also be included in the meeting budget.

#### 17. Materials

The LOC should prepare a slide kit and flyers to be displayed during the EYES Symposium at the ECE meeting.

At the EYES Meeting, delegates should be provided with a:

- Hard copy of the up-to-date programme and timetable
- Event badge stating name, country, identification (whether the individual is a participant, delegate, organiser, speaker, etc.).

#### 18. Website

A dedicated website with full information, abstract submission and registration should be established well in advance of abstract and registration opening (i.e. no later than 1 January of the year of the meeting).

#### 19. Advertising

The LOC is responsible for regular updates and announcements about the important news and dates of the planned meeting via EYES social networks, EYES News and via email.

The ESE Office representative will assist with promotion through the ESE channels to ESE early career members.

## Timetable

**Table 2. Timetable**

Deadline of applications	Early April
Notification of award to the Local Host	mid May
1 <sup>st</sup> work plan meeting with EYES Committee	June of the preceding year to prepare for announcement at that year's EYES Annual meeting in September
2 <sup>nd</sup> work plan meeting with EYES Committee	September at EYES Annual meeting or soon after.
3 <sup>rd</sup> work plan meeting with EYES Committee	During ECE meeting
4 <sup>th</sup> work plan meeting with EYES Committee	End July
Meeting website deadline	1 January
Opening for abstract submissions	1 May
Deadline for abstract submissions	15 July
Notification of abstracts acceptance decision	31 July
Opening of registration	1 June
Deadline for registration	15 August

## 6. Post meeting requirements

### Budget/Finances:

- A final reconciled budget with all income and expenditure must be submitted to ESE Office within 90 days following the Meeting.
- A final surplus/deficit position will need to be reviewed by both the ESE Office and the ECAS National Partner Society lead along with the LOC Chair.
- Once the final reconciled budget has been presented, the National Society can invoice ESE for the Grant (unless it is required to support meeting expenditure during the months before the Meeting in which case this must be discussed with the ESE Office).

### Final report:

Along with the final reconciled budget, a Report providing a detailed overview of the Meeting should be provided to the ESE Office within two months of the meeting end date.

In addition, a report on the Meeting along with photographs, award winners etc should be provided for the Winter issue of *EYES News* within two weeks of the meeting end date.

### 1. Documents to be submitted

Please submit your bid/application as follows

- i. In one file and executed in the following order and manner:
  - i. All pages of the application documents must be numbered;
  - ii. The application documents must be clearly and concisely written and certified with the signature of the LOC and a member of the governing board of their National Society;
- ii. The application must include
  - i. Written letter of support from the National Society.
  - ii. Overview of the local organising committee from the LOC.
  - iii. Details of any third-party suppliers or agencies who will support the organisation.
  - iv. A draft preliminary programme, taking in consideration the pre-specified timetable (see Table 2) including the social programme.
  - v. Completed EYES Annual Meeting Overview form detailing the proposed venue including room capacities and technical capabilities and costs (and a website link), accommodation, social events and transport. [Form can be downloaded here.](#)
  - vi. A draft budget
- iii. The application documents must be submitted via email to [info@ese-hormones.org](mailto:info@ese-hormones.org) with the following subject: "EYES Annual Meeting Host bid/application".

We look forward to receiving your application!

Walter Vena and Juan Jiménez Vacas  
Co-Chairs, EYES Committee

## Letter of Invitation to Local Host

January [year]

### Reference: EYES Annual Meeting Proposal

Dear Sir, Madam,

This is a warm invitation to tender for the above-mentioned meeting contract. Please find enclosed the following documents, which constitute the bid documentation to assist you in your application:

- I. Instructions for Local Organising Committee (LOC)
- II. Requirements for Local Organising Committee (LOC)
- III. General Conditions
- IV. Timetable
- V. Documents to be submitted
- VI. Appendix
  - a. Responsibilities of the Local Organising Committee and the National Society (*will be supplied to shortlisted applicants*)
  - b. ESE EYES Annual Meeting Agreement to be signed by the National Society with the European Society of Endocrinology (ESE) (*will be supplied to shortlisted applicants*)

We look forward to receiving the application before the submission deadline of 4 April 2025.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us at [info@ese-hormones.org](mailto:info@ese-hormones.org)

Walter Vena and Juan Jiménez Vacas  
Co-Chairs, EYES Committee