

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE

## THE EFLM ACADEMY

The European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM) has established the EFLM Academy to create a platform of Laboratory Medicine practitioners in Europe and to support the case for recognition of Specialists in Laboratory Medicine under EU Commission Directive 2013/55/EU (https://www.oflm.ou/upload/docs/Directive

(<u>https://www.eflm.eu/upload/docs/Directive</u> %20201355EU.pdf) – *the Recognition of Professional Qualifications* to reach the goal of the free (unhindered) professional migration across EU member states' borders.

This brochure aims to give the overview of the EFLM Academy, how to become a member and what are the benefits from becoming a member.

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#### JUST A COUPLE OF WORDS ABOUT THE EFLM ACADEMY



The EFLM is a federation of more than 40 national societies active in laboratory medicine in Europe and represents >22.000 European specialists in laboratory medicine. To fulfil its aims and to increase the number of the members of the Register of European specialists in laboratory medicine, the EFLM has established the EFLM Academy. The official launch of the EFLM Academy was on January 1st 2020 and over 5000 members have already joined the EFLM Academy. The EFLM Academy is a unique, exclusive online resource and communication platform through which EFLM aims to support the education, training, and continuous professional development of laboratory medicine practitioners in Europe.

The EFLM Executive Board has carefully tailored the attractive and exciting package of benefits of the EFLM Academy to meet the needs of the laboratory medicine professionals in Europe. Furthermore, the EFLM Executive Board will maintain a strong commitment to further grow the package of benefits and keep offering new opportunities to its members in the future.

### Why should you become a member of the EFLM Academy?

Besides to enjoy numerous benefits, an even more important purpose of being a member of the EFLM Academy is to contribute to the harmonization of the education and training in laboratory medicine and provide support to the recognition of European Specialists in Laboratory Medicine.

Dear colleagues and friends, to become a member of the EFLM Academy cannot anymore be viewed only as a matter of choice. I suggest that being a member of the EFLM Academy is our professional responsibility. Only together we can reach a long-desired goal to achieve the recognition of Specialists in Laboratory Medicine in Europe. I am sure that the EFLM Academy will continue to grow in its size. Every specialist in laboratory medicine in Europe is invited to join. Ever member counts.

Not a member yet? What are you waiting for? <sup>(C)</sup>

Ana-Maria Šimundić EFLM President

### WHAT IS EFLM ACADEMY?

The EFLM Academy is unique, exclusive web-based resource and communication platform through which EFLM aims to support the education, training and continuous professional development of laboratory medicine practitioners in Europe. The EFLM Academy aims to serve as an educational resource not only to Specialists in Laboratory Medicine, but also to all others interested in Laboratory Medicine.

To access EFLM Academy, please visit <u>https://www.eflm.eu/site/page/a/1555</u>.

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO BECOME A MEMBER?

The following individuals are eligible to join the EFLM Academy:

- All individuals who are interested in Laboratory Medicine
- Representatives of In Vitro Diagnostics (IVD) companies

### HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER?

There are two ways how to become an EFLM Academy member:

1. Through the block enrollment of National Societies (NSs) 2. Individual registration

Block enrollment of National Societies can be performed by both EFLM and non-EFLM National Societies. It represents a <u>more convenient way</u> to become a member and it offers <u>more benefits</u>, in comparison to individual registrations.

- 1. The first step is to sign the agreement between the National Society and EFLM. To receive a template of the agreement, please contact EFLM Office at <u>eflm@eflm.eu</u>.
- 2. After the agreement has been signed, National Society is asked to submit the list of its members\* to the EFLM Office within December 10th of the current year, to start enjoying the benefits in the incoming year (starting with the January 1st). EFLM will issue to the National Society one single invoice within January of the year of the registration validity.

\* Important note: NS who have fulfilled the criteria for Equivalence of Standards (EoS) shall be invited to submit the list of members who require/wish to become European Specialist in Laboratory Medicine (EuSpLM). They will be automatically registered in the EFLM Register at no additional cost.

Individual registrations can be submitted online at the following link: https://www.eflm.eu/academy-register/login.

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE ACADEMY?

The EFLM Academy offers many benefits, which are grouped into three main categories:

- Education and training opportunities
- Access to scientific, professional and standardization resources
- Eligibility to apply for different EFLM grants and to the EFLM Academy award

#### EDUCATION AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Education and training opportunities include access to **EFLM** *live and recorded webinars*, available through the EFLM elearning platform (<u>https://elearning.eflm.eu</u>). EFLM offers a number of educational webinars, which cover hot topics and emerging issues in the field of Laboratory Medicine and Clinical Chemistry. Webinar speakers are eminent experts in their field from around the world. Please look at the list of scheduled webinars at

<u>https://elearning.eflm.eu/course/index.php?categoryid=5</u> and the list of recorded webinars at <u>https://elearning.eflm.eu/course/index.php?categoryid=6</u>.



In January 2022 EFLM will launch the EFLM Syllabus Course, the most comprehensive online, on-demand course in Laboratory Medicine. The aim of this top-quality revision course is to increase the knowledge and exam confidence for postgraduate students. It provides a comprehensive source of generic and specialist knowledge in Laboratory Medicine, to enable mastering necessary skills and competencies needed for the practice of Laboratory Medicine, as well as adopting leadership and management skills, which will empower the future specialists of Laboratory Medicine to work autonomously in complex environment of a clinical laboratory. EFLM Syllabus course consists of more than 40 modules and over 300 lectures which cover all four main sections of the EFLM Syllabus, including the generic knowledge, skills and competencies that need to be acquired during training, specialist knowledge within each discipline, skills and competencies required to carry out research, development and audit and leadership skills and competencies. Details of the course are available in the brochure at https://www.eflm.eu/upload/EB/EFLM-

#### Syllabus-Course-

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#### PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

| MODULE                               | COORDINATOR   |  |  |  |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Leadership and management            | Ana-Maria Šimundić  |  |  |  |
| Biostatistics and data analysis      | Ana-Maria Šimundić  |  |  |  |
| Quality management                   | Mario Plebani, Pilar Fernández Calle, Janne Cadamuro, Dalius Vitkus |  |  |  |
| Analytical and clinical evaluation   | Snežana Jovičić   |  |  |  |
| of laboratory methods                |   |  |  |  |
| Pre-analytical phase                 | Pieter Veermersch, Zorica Šumarac, Michael Cornes, María Salinas    |  |  |  |
| Post-analytical phase                | Janne Cadamuro  |  |  |  |
| Biological variation                 | Pilar Fernández Calle   |  |  |  |
| Analytical principles and techniques | Michael Cornes, Josep Miquel Bauçà, Dalius Vitkus                   |  |  |  |
| POCT testing                         | Pilar Fernández Calle, Michael Cornes                               |  |  |  |
| Big-data and artificial intelligence | Janne Cadamuro  |  |  |  |
| Enzymes                              | Dalius Vitkus, Snežana Jovičić                                      |  |  |  |
| Tumor markers                        | Tomris Ozben, Mario Plebani, Josep M. Augé Fradera                  |  |  |  |
| Diabetes mellitus                    | Ana-Maria Šimundić, Snežana Jovičić, Zorica Šumarac                 |  |  |  |
| Lipids and CVD risk markers          | Michel Langlois, Marielle Kaplan, Tomris Ozben                      |  |  |  |
| Electrolytes and blood gases         | Marielle Kaplan   |  |  |  |
| Nutrition                            | Tomris Ozben  |  |  |  |
| Vitamins and trace elements          | Snežana Jovičić, Ana-Maria Šimundić                                 |  |  |  |
| Iron, haem metabolism and porphyrins | Snežana Jovičić, Pieter Veermersch                                  |  |  |  |
| Body fluids                          | Snežana Jovičić   |  |  |  |
| Molecular diagnostics                | Lejla Alić  |  |  |  |



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#### PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

#### COORDINATOR

MODULE

| Therapeutic drug monitoring                       | Pieter Veermersch                                     |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| and pharmacogenomics                              |   |  |  |  |
| Cardiac markers                                   | Snežana Jovičić, Tomris Ozben, Damien Gruson          |  |  |  |
| Renal function and urinalysis                     | Pieter Veermersch, Etienne Cavalier                   |  |  |  |
| Liver and bile                                    | Graham Lee  |  |  |  |
| Inflammation                                      | Marielle Kaplan                                       |  |  |  |
| Immune system                                     | Evgenija Homšak                                       |  |  |  |
| Gastrointestinal system biochemistry              | Snežana Jovičić, Mario Plebani, Ana-Maria Šimundić    |  |  |  |
| Bone and mineral metabolism                       | Harjit Pal Bhattoa                                    |  |  |  |
| Hormones  | Damien Gruson   |  |  |  |
| Reproductive endocrinology and pregnancy          | Evgenija Homšak                                       |  |  |  |
| Paediatric biochemistry and                       | Zorica Šumarac, Josep Miquel Bauçà, Pieter Veermersch |  |  |  |
| inherited metabolic disorders                     |   |  |  |  |
| Biochemical markers of neurological disorders     | Tomris Ozben, Alejandro Gella                         |  |  |  |
| Organ transplantation                             | Mario Plebani   |  |  |  |
| Introduction to haematology                       | Anna Merino, Barbara de la Salle                      |  |  |  |
| Automation and complimentary tests in haematology | Anna Merino, Barbara de la Salle                      |  |  |  |
| Non-malignant haematological disorders            | Anna Merino, Barbara de la Salle                      |  |  |  |
| Malignant haematological disorders                | Anna Merino, Barbara de la Salle                      |  |  |  |
| Haemostasis and fibrinolysis                      | Giuseppe Lippi  |  |  |  |
| General microbiology                              | Avi Peretz  |  |  |  |
| Bacteriology                                      | Avi Peretz  |  |  |  |
| Antimicrobial susceptibility testing              | Avi Peretz  |  |  |  |
| Parasitology                                      | Avi Peretz  |  |  |  |
| Mycology  | Avi Peretz  |  |  |  |
| Virology  | to be announced                                       |  |  |  |

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Finally, within education and training opportunities, the EFLM Academy membership offers reduced fee for all **congresses and conferences as well as postgraduate courses**, organized by EFLM.

The list of EFLM congresses, conferences and postgraduate courses can be found at <u>https://www.eflm.eu/site/events/</u> (please look for the event with the label **EFLM event**)\*.

\*Note: Reduced registration fee is not available for EuroMedLab.



### ACCESS TO SCIENTIFIC, PROFESSIONAL AND STANDARDIZATION RESOURCES

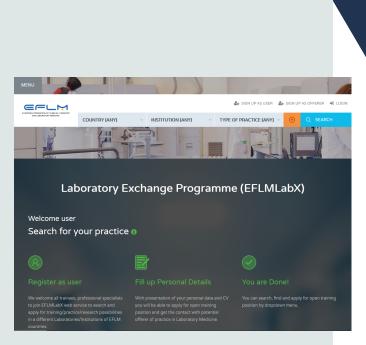
The EFLM academy membership comprises the access to the wide range of educational, scientific and standardization resources, such as the membership in the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) and free access to CLSI documents and some of the top journals in Laboratory Medicine, like Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (CCLM), Clinical Chemistry, etc. (please look at the **Table 1** for a full list of Journals available to Academy members). National Societies using autoregistration of their members to the register (**Block enrollment**) will have the opportunity to publish the abstracts of their national congresses online only in CCLM, as part of a regular issue free of charge. These abstracts will be freely available. Please note that only certain categories of EFLM Academy members are eligible to access these resources.



#### ELIGIBILITY TO APPLY FOR DIFFERENT EFLM GRANTS AND THE EFLM ACADEMY AWARD

EFLM Academy members from the EFLM countries have the opportunity to apply for different EFLM travel grants covering travel expenses to the following **EFLM events:** EuroMedLab Congress, EFLM Conference on Preanalytical Phase and EFLM Strategic Conference (more details available at <u>https://www.eflm.eu/site/page/a/1050</u>).

**EFLMLabX** is an EFLM web service for professionals in Laboratory Medicine for searching and offering the practical training and practice exchange in Laboratory Medicine amongst EFLM countries. More details about the EFLMLabX are available at <u>https://eflmlabx.eflm.eu/en</u>. The EFLM Academy members from the EFLM countries can apply for bursaries covering expenses of the stay during the exchange stay carried out through the EFLMLabX programme.



EFLM Academy members from the EFLM countries have the opportunity to apply for *EFLM Academy Award*. More about this award will be available soon at the EFLM website, under "AWARDS". Lastly, the EFLM Academy members from EFLM countries are eligible to apply to *EuSpLM Register*. Please read more details below.

Please note that benefits within these categories differ whether the applicant comes from an EFLM country (please find list of EFLM societies and countries at <u>https://www.eflm.eu/site/page/a/1046</u>), a non-EFLM country from anywhere in the world or the applicant is an IVD representative.

Specific benefits for every category of membership are presented in the Table 1 below.

#### Table 1. List of benefits of the EFLM Academy membership

|                               |  |                             | EFLM<br>Countries                           |                             | Non EFLM<br>Countries                       |                             |
|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
|                               | EFLM Academy Benefits  | Individual<br>Registrations | National Society<br>en bloc<br>registration | Individual<br>Registrations | National Society<br>en bloc<br>registration | Individual<br>Registrations |
| Education and Training        | Free access to EFLM live webinars  | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | $\checkmark$                |
|                               | Free access to EFLM webinars on demand   | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | $\checkmark$                |
|                               | Free access to EFLM Syllabus Course (available from Jan 2022)  | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | $\checkmark$                |
|                               | Reduced registration fee for EFLM congresses and conferences (*)   | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | $\checkmark$                |
|                               | Reduced registration fee for EFLM postgraduate courses   | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | $\checkmark$                |
| Resources                     | Free access to CLSI Documents  | x                           | $\checkmark$                                | X                           | ✓   | x                           |
|                               | CLSI membership at a reduced rate (25% discount)   | $\checkmark$                | x   | $\checkmark$                | ×   | sc                          |
|                               | Free access to Clinical Chemistry Laboratory<br>Medicine Journal   | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | sc                          |
|                               | The opportunity to publish the congress abstracts (free access, online only) in CCLM, as part of a regular issue free of charge. | ×                           | $\checkmark$                                | ×                           | ×   | ×                           |
|                               | Free access to Clinical Chemistry Journal  | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | )C                          |
|                               | Free access to Journal of Applied Laboratory<br>Medicine   | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | Sc                          |
|                               | Free access to Critical Reviews in Clinical Laboratory Sciences Journal  | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | SC                          |
|                               | Free access to Clinical Biochemistry Journal   | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | Sc                          |
|                               | Free access to Scandinavian Journal of Clinical and Laboratory Investigation   | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | x                           |
|                               | Free access to Annals of Clinical Biochemistry Journal   | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | Sc                          |
|                               | Regular e-mail notifications about all EFLM activities, programmes and opportunities   | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | $\checkmark$                |
| Eligibility to apply for (**) | EFLM travel grants   | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | ×                           | ×   | ×                           |
|                               | EFLMLabX bursaries   | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | ×                           | ×   | x                           |
|                               | EFLM Academy Award   | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | ×                           | ×   | JC                          |
|                               | EFLM EuSpLM Register   | $\checkmark$                | $\checkmark$                                | x                           | x   | x                           |

(\*) - does not apply to EuroMedLab

(\*\*) - specific criteria apply to each listed item (criteria shall be made available with each call for applications) Page 9

# WHAT IS THE COST OF SUBSCRIPTION?

The annual fee for EFLM Academy membership is only **15 euros/per person**. The membership is valid for one calendar year (i.e. from January 1 to December 31).

### EFLM ACADEMY VS. EUSPLM?

EuSpLM Register is a part of the EFLM Academy (see figure below). Those interested in joining the EFLM Register can do that only through the application to the EFLM Academy. Those applicants who meet the requirements for EuSpLM will be automatically enrolled into the EFLM Register (at no additional cost).

The EFLM Register of Specialist in Laboratory Medicine is the database of Specialists in Laboratory Medicine in Europe (EuSpLM). Holders of EuSpLM title are professionals with common set of high levels of knowledge, skills and competences, according to accepted European Syllabus and Common Training Framework for Specialists in Laboratory Medicine.



The register for EuSpLM is an important base for the ongoing efforts of EFLM in the recognition process of Laboratory Medicine profession, according to EU Directive 2013/55/EC for professional recognition across Europe. Details about the EuSpLM Register and eligibility criteria are available at <u>https://www.eflm.eu/site/page/a/1305</u>.



### HOW TO JOIN THE EUSPLM REGISTER?

There are two routes to become a member of the EuSpLM register member:

- 1.as an individual
- 2. via Block enrollment of the National Society

Societies which wish to join the EuSpLM Register, through the EFLM Academy, are invited to submit the evidence demonstrating that they meet the EuSpLM criteria (evidence of standards, EoS). The evidence that the standards are met may be submitted by EFLM National Society Representative to the EFLM Registrar (r<u>egistrar@eflm.eu</u>).

Those interested in becoming a member of the EuSpLM Register are advised to look for more info about the Register at the EFLM website under Profession Committee/WG Register at the following link: <u>https://www.eflm.eu/site/page/a/1302</u>.

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



I am a master student in molecular biology from an Asian country but I am interested in gaining benefits from the EFLM Academy – am I eligible for applying for the EFLM membership?

Yes, all individuals interested in Laboratory Medicine can enroll to the EFLM Academy.

### I am a member of my National Society – can my National Society enroll me into the EFLM Academy?

Yes, please contact your national representative so that your National Society can initiate the block enrollment procedure. This will permit you to benefit of all opportunities offered by the Academy. In case your National Society is not willing to initiate the block enrollment, you can register on individual basis but unfortunately in this case not all benefits are available (for example the access to CLSI documents).

### If I paid for an individual membership, for example in May 2021, is my membership valid until May 2022?

No. The membership is valid starting from January 1st 2022 until December 31, 2022.

#### Does block enrollment include reduced fee per member or is it a fixed price?

The registration fee is Eur 15 per member, regardless of the type of enrollment.

#### My National Society is willing to enroll its members through block enrollment – do I have to provide additional documents or pay additional fee to EFLM? No, the process is handled by the National Society, so please contact your National Society to know how the process is managed internally.

### How do I access content of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine, through its website or through the EFLM Academy website?

Instructions how to access the different benefits are indicated in your personal EFLM Academy area. Once you join the EFLM Academy, you will get your personal credentials to access the Academy section and all benefits from the EFLM website.

### What is the most convenient way to become a member of the EFLM Academy?

The most convenient way is through the block enrollment by the National Society. It offers more benefits in comparison to other types of enrollment and is less demanding for the individual.



#### Do I automatically obtain EuSpLM title when joining the EFLM Academy?

No, to become an EuSpLM you have to be an EFLM Academy members AND meet the EFLM Equivalence of Standards (EoS) in education and training criteria. Detailed criteria are available at the following link: <u>https://www.eflm.eu/site/page/a/1299</u>.

#### Is the procedure of obtaining EuSpLM title one time procedure or it has to be renewed?

Registration to the EFLM Academy has to be renewed annually. The annual fee for the EFLM Academy membership is 15 euros and includes the registration to the EuSpLM Register. To obtain a valid EuSpLM certificate for the particular year, one must be a member of the EFLM Academy in that year.

#### Does the EuSpLM title entitle me to work in different EFLM countries?

No, the EuSpLM title does not grant working permit to work in different EFLM countries. In every country, local regulations for incoming healthcare workers are applied.

#### Does EFLM Academy membership includes reduced registration fee for EuroMedLab?

No, EFLM Academy members are entitled to apply only for the reduced registration fee only for EFLM events. Nevertheless, all EFLM Academy members from Europe are eligible to apply for travel grants to cover the expenses of travel and stay during EuroMedLab.

#### Does NS for block enrollment need to include/apply all their members?

No, it is not necessary to include all members of the National Society, just those interested in joining and gaining benefits.

For all inquiries, please contact EFLM Office Ms Silvia Cattaneo (<u>silvia.cattaneo@eflm.eu</u>)

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