

Rudi Mattmüller Educational Grant

In 2018, the International Society of Intraoperative Neuromonitoring (ISIN) started the “ISIN advanced travel grant”, with the support of the company Inomed™. The purpose of this program is to help individuals that are not new to the field, but still early in their neuromonitoring careers, to learn the “tricks of the trade” in specialized centers all over the world, reflecting the high level of ISIN’s expertise and its international character. This first program was very successful with strong positive feedback from the participants.

In May 2023, the founder and former CEO of Inomed™, Rudi Mattmüller, passed away. He was not only a successful entrepreneur, but also widely recognized and well respected for his contributions to the field of Intraoperative Neurophysiological Monitoring (IONM). In order to honor his memory and his contributions to IONM, the ISIN decided to launch a new program under the new name “Rudi Mattmüller Educational Grant” in 2024. This new, ambitious program was made possible by a generous, personal donation of Lisa Disch, Rudi Mattmüller’s widow, complying with her husband’s last will, who wished to help young professionals in the field of IONM on their personal journey to excellence as a part of his legacy. After a very successful program in 2024, the ISIN is happy to announce that registration for the next iteration in 2026 is now open again!

For this program, the IONM-experience offered is not necessarily limited to a single center. Applicants can make their individual pick from a list of IONM centers associated with or approved by ISIN. Some of these centers may offer the full range of IONM, and some may offer expertise in specialized aspects of IONM. Applicants are supposed to stay at least for one month in each of the centers on their individual list. Overall time scale of the experience is intended to be 3-6 months, which must not be necessarily consecutive. All the rotations are expected to finish before the ISIN Course & Congress which will take place in the year 2028.

In order to learn more about specific details (potential help with accommodation, types of procedures/IONM offered, etc.), applicants are asked to contact the centers that they are interested in by email (as provided below). Furthermore, it is possible to find more information about the previous travel grants in the ISIN web page under the following link: [Travel Grant Stories - Isin](#).

Currently, the list of centers providing training in this program includes, but is not limited to (more information about each center and contact information upon request):

- **Complejo Universitario de Navarra**
 - Director: Xabi Urriza, MD
 - Department of Neurosurgery
 - Pamplona, Spain
 - Email: xabi.urriza.iom@gmail.com
- **Inselspital, Bern university Hospital**
 - Director: Prof., Dr. Kathleen Seidel
 - Department of Neurosurgery
 - Bern, Switzerland
 - Email: Kathleen.Seidel@insel.ch
- **King’s College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust**
 - Director: Ana Mirallave Pescador, MD
 - Department of Neurosurgery
 - London, UK
 - Email: a.mirallave-pescador@nhs.net

- **LMU University Hospital**
 - Director: Prof., Dr. Andrea Szelényi
 - Department of Neurosurgery
 - Munich, Germany
 - Email: Andrea.Szelenyi@med.uni-muenchen.de
- **Martin-Luther-University of Halle-Wittenberg**
 - Director: Prof. Dr. Julian Prell
 - Department of Neurosurgery
 - Halle (Saale), Germany
 - Email: julian.prell@uk-halle.de
- **Medical University of Vienna**
 - Director: Klaus Novak, MD
 - Department of Neurosurgery
 - Vienna, Austria
 - Email: novak.neurochirurgie@aon.at
- **Mount Sinai West Hospital IONM Service, Ichan Medical School, Mount Sinai Health System**
 - Director: Sedat Ulkatan, MD
 - Department of Neurosurgery
 - New York City, New York, USA
 - Email: sedat.ulkatan@mountsinai.org
- **University Hospital of Bellvitge, Barcelona, Spain (email)**
 - Director: Isabel Fernandez Conejero, MD
 - Department of Neurophysiology
 - Barcelona, Spain
 - Email: isabelfernandez@bellvitgehospital.cat
- **University Medical Centre Groningen**
 - Director: Gea Drost, MD
 - Department of Neurology
 - Groningen, Netherlands
 - Email: g.drost@umcg.nl
- **University of California, San Francisco**
 - Director: John Clark
 - Department of Neurosurgery
 - San Francisco, USA
 - Email: John.Clark2@ucsf.edu
- **University of Verona**
 - Director: Prof. Dr. Francesco Sala
 - Department of Neurosurgery
 - Verona, Italy
 - Email: francesco.sala@univr.it

In order to be considered for the ISIN advanced travel grant, you need to be/have/prepare:

- i. Age <40years
- ii. MD or PhD
- iii. Personal IOM experience of >1year
- iv. Academic or hospital based
- v. Letter of recommendation including:

1. You have and will still have a position on return
- vi. Letter of intent (1-2 pages) including, but not necessarily limited to:
 1. What do you want to learn?
 2. How will you apply the new knowledge?
 3. Which centers are you interested in?
 4. Type of present center
 - a. How is IONM organized in your present center?
 - b. How many surgeries may profit from IONM? What kind of procedures?

After finishing your training in the context of this program, you are supposed to provide a written report to the ISIN board. In addition, we would like you to present your IONM experience with this program to the general assembly during the ISIN congress taking place in 2028. You will be invited as well to attend the next ISIN congress in Mumbai, India, in 2026, where you will be introduced as the current grant winner. The registration fee of both congresses will be waived for you.

We are looking forward to your participation. Send your application documents now to info@neurophysiology.org by August 15th. The results of the decision will be informed on 15th of September.