

Sponsorship Guidelines

EASO aims to promote research into obesity, facilitate contact between individuals and organisations, and promote action that tackles the epidemic of obesity. EASO's goals are:

- Enhancing understanding and treatment of obesity across Europe
- Improving the quality of obesity education in Europe
- Developing a coherent approach to obesity management throughout Europe
- Forging European and global links between individuals and organisations concerned with the study of obesity
- Connecting active researchers from diverse disciplines who contribute to the development of a European perspective on obesity.
- Providing optimal input at the international level from this European perspective

One of EASO's major activities is its annual congress - the European Congress on Obesity. The objectives of the European Congress on Obesity are:

- To provide an annual forum for the dissemination of information about research advances in the field of obesity
- To identify, debate and promote innovative preventive and treatment strategies to reduce the prevalence of obesity and its associated burden of diseases.

The association is conscious that our congress and other projects would not be possible without industry funding. Whilst acknowledging this fact, the EASO Executive Committee firmly believes that it is important that EASO's reputation is upheld at all times and we therefore accept that funding from industry is something that needs to be approached with caution.

EASO will generally accept funding from the following organisations:

Pharmaceutical Companies	Diagnostic/Body Composition Technology
Food and Nutrition Companies	Providers
Weight Management Programmes	Sports Product Companies
Government Health Departments/Organisations	Publishers
Medical Instrument Companies	Groups involved in the Promotion of Healthy Lifestyles
	Education Providers

However, EASO will not accept funding from Organisations or industries directly engaged in:

Production, distribution, advertising, marketing or sponsorship of:

- Tobacco and tobacco products
- Arms production

Or from organisations which engage in unethical practices. For example:

- Violations of the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes or other unethical marketing practices
- Other breaches or failure to comply with national guidelines on the promotion of food and drink
- Exploitation of children or child labour
- Discriminatory business practices

When accepting sponsors/exhibitors, EASO has adopted the following policies:

General Funding

- All sponsors must be approved by the EASO Executive Committee
- All sponsors will be openly declared on the EASO website
- It should be noted that companies shall not use their donation in promotional or other materials and EASO **must** approve all usage of its name and logo, in either print or electronic formats
- EASO will periodically review and revise its rationale and strategy for industry funding and these guidelines may change accordingly

Congress Sponsors (Industry Sponsored Sessions)

- All congress sponsors must be approved by the EASO Executive Committee
- All congress sponsors will be openly declared on the EASO/Congress websites and in printed congress material
- The use of commercial promotional material on audio visual aids for scientific sessions is not permitted
- Any conflicts of interest must be disclosed in written documentation for:
 - chairs of sessions
 - speakers at sessions
 - discussants at sessions (verbally, when appropriate)

Examples of conflict of interest include:

- employment of self or close family members in commercial organisations relevant to content of the session
- funding of research by commercial organisations
- funding of delegate's registration/travel/accommodation at the meeting
- Industry Sponsored Session programmes must be approved by the EASO Executive Committee and the International Scientific Committee. Final programmes must be submitted no later than 8 weeks in advance of the congress.
- All sponsors must adhere strictly to the Congress Terms and Conditions of Contract

Congress Exhibitors

- All exhibitors must be approved by the EASO Executive Committee
- All exhibitors will be openly declared on the EASO/Congress websites and in printed congress material
- Commercial exhibits must be for educational purposes only and open only to registered delegates
- All exhibitors must adhere strictly to the Congress Terms and Conditions of Contract and to all regulations set out in EASO congress Exhibitor Manuals