

PET Policy Statement

Background

The Program for Endoscopic Teachers (PET) is an educational program by the WEO with the aim of addressing the challenges of teaching how to perform safe, high-quality GI endoscopy.

The goals of the PET Courses are:

- To provide endoscopists with didactic skills needed to teach endoscopy and assess trainee performance.
- To provide a forum of interaction for teachers in the field of endoscopy to interact, exchange ideas and thoughts, and to develop new approaches in teaching endoscopy.

Model

The typical PET course lasts 1-2 days and consists of lectures, large group discussion sessions, hands-on, and breakout sessions, tailored to the specific needs of the local organizer. Faculty is usually comprised of 4-6 international and 3-5 local experts. International faculty is suggested by the WEO program director in close communication with the local host. Attendees include approximately 30 qualified medical doctors who practice and teach digestive endoscopy.

The courses are organized jointly by a WEO Course Director and local Course Director, in concert with a local healthcare facility, society and/or conference. WEO Office staff plays a vital role in the management and execution of PET courses. The Office is responsible for the full spectrum of administrative coordination, promotion of the event, and ongoing support throughout the planning and implementation process. A WEO Office team member also accompanies the faculty to the course location to ensure seamless onsite coordination.

Participants who complete the course receive official certificates of participation, recognizing their involvement in this professional development program.

In general, 1–2 PET courses per year are estimated, covering diverse geographical areas.

Application Process and Approval

Interested parties are encouraged to contact the WEO Office to submit their interest in hosting a PET course. The application should clearly identify the following entities:

- Requestor: Usually a healthcare professional (often a medical doctor endoscopist) representing a healthcare institution such as a hospital or university. The requestor is commonly the same person as the Local Course Director.
- Institution: The healthcare facility (e.g., hospital or university) where the course will be held, or the organizing body under whose auspices the course is conducted.
- Local Course Director: A qualified medical doctor endoscopist who is responsible for developing the course agenda in collaboration with the WEO Course Director, and for selecting and inviting faculty. Often, this person is also the requestor.
- Local Organizer: A non-medical staff member, typically an employee of the Institution, who supports logistical arrangements on the ground and acts as the main local contact for WEO Office coordination.

These details, along with the type and length of PET they are requesting and other relevant information, are collected via the PET Course Request Form (see the form section at the end of this document) and reviewed by the PET Program Directors and WEO Office.

A meeting (virtual or in person) is scheduled to further discuss the course and outline the course agenda. The course is then approved by the PET Directors along with a proposed date. The Executive Committee is informed of the planned course and given opportunity to provide guidance and feedback including approval to proceed.

It is the obligation of the local organizers to liaise or inform the relevant local, regional or national endoscopic/GI societies of the plan for the upcoming course.

Notification of Zone Societies

Once the course is approved by WEO, the course program, proposed date, and preliminary faculty information are forwarded to the respective zone where the course is planned: ESGE for European Zone, SIED for American Zone, APSDE for Asian Zone. Any concerns raised within 2 weeks by the zones will be addressed via direct communication between the PET Directors, local course directors and WEO Office with the respective zone contacts. Any unresolved issues will be forwarded to the WEO Executive for adjudication.

Finances

The WEO Office will work with local organizers to create a budget and plan for fund raising. PET courses have been offered free of charge for attendees. At a minimum, WEO will cover the flight costs for the Director and one WEO Office team member, as well as costs related to administrative support and promotion. The local organizers are responsible for all other costs including but not limited to the venue, hotels, ground transportation, meals, social functions, etc.

WEO encourages industry sponsorship and offers a package of benefits including networking with key opinion leaders, exhibition space, and company logos on all PET communications and signage.

Any profits from the course are shared between WEO and the local organizing institution. In the case of a deficit, the responsibility for covering the shortfall will be shared between WEO and the local organizing institution.

Program for Endoscopic Teachers (PET) Application Form



Program Objectives

The Program for Endoscopic Teachers (PET) is an educational program by the WEO with the aim of addressing the challenges of teaching how to perform safe, high-quality GI endoscopy. The goals of the PET Courses are to equip endoscopists with effective teaching and assessment skills, foster collaboration and innovation among educators, and create a flexible, regionally adaptable curriculum for endoscopy education.

Features:

- Duration: 1–2 days
- Content Format: Lectures, large group discussions, and hands-on and breakout sessions
- Customization: Tailored to the specific needs of the local organizer
- Faculty Composition: 4–6 international and 3–5 local experts
- Participants: ~30 qualified medical doctors and/or surgeons who practice and teach digestive endoscopy
- Organizational Structure: Jointly organized by WEO and local course directors, in partnership with local healthcare facilities, societies, or conferences

Please complete and submit this form to the WEO Office at secretariat@worldendo.org to have your proposal for hosting a PET Course at your institution evaluated.

Name and Address of Institution	
Brief Description of Your Institution	
Name of Requestor (the healthcare professional, typically a doctor endoscopist, representing the host institution and often serving as the Local Course Director)	
Contact Information of Requestor	
Name of Local Course Director (if different from the requestor) (a medical doctor endoscopist responsible for creating the course program and selecting faculty, in collaboration with the WEO Course Director)	
Name of Local Organizer (a non-medical staff member from the host institution supporting logistics and coordinating with WEO Office)	
Proposed Course Duration	
Expected Number of Attendees	
Description of Attendee Profiles	
Number of Local Faculty Involved	
Description of Facilities for Lectures and Break-Out Sessions	
Will the Course Include Hands-On Sessions? If yes, please describe the facilities available for hands-on training	
Facilities Available for Reception and Faculty Dinner	

Is There Local Financial Support? If yes, please provide details	
Why Would You Like to Host a PET Course?	
What Are the Needs of Your Local Training Centers, and How Could a PET Course Address Them?	
Are There Any Language Barriers to Conducting the Course in English?	