



The Worshipful Company of Cutlers  
**The Cutlers' Surgical Fellowship**



**To enable surgeons to go abroad to learn and bring back a skill.**

**THE ANCIENT GUILDS OF THE CITY OF LONDON**

The ancient guilds of the City of London, more commonly referred to as livery companies, continue to flourish after a history of more than a thousand years. They were first established to regulate the various crafts and trades and at the same time created a common fellowship. Each member subscribed to a common fund; hence is derived the word *gild* or *guild* from *guildan* ('to pay').

**THE CUTLERS' COMPANY**

The first mention of the Cutlers' Company seems to be the reference in 1285 to the 'House of the Cutlers' which stood near the site of the present Mercers' Hall in Ironmonger Lane in the City of London. It is apparent that early in the 13th century the Cutlers were an organised craft and ruled under Articles granted by the Mayor and Aldermen. The business activities conducted from the House were many and defined as the making of swords, daggers, rapiers, hangers, wood knives, penknives, razors, surgeons instruments, skeynes, hilts, pommels, battle-axes, halberds, etc. Many crafts were involved, each with its own organisation and ordinances. The word 'cutler' is derived from the Latin *coutellarius* and the French *coutelier* and signifies a maker or seller of knives or other cutting instruments. The art has existed from the earliest times, when weapons for domestic use and warfare were fashioned from stone, flint, wood and bone; later, stone was replaced by bronze, and later still, by iron and steel.

The Worshipful company of Cutlers Surgical Fellowship is to allow Members and Fellows of The Royal College of Surgeons working in hospitals throughout the UK to undertake a period of time overseas to learn a surgical technique, procedure or treatment which they can then practice on their return to the UK to benefit their patients in the NHS.

**THE CUTLERS' SURGICAL FELLOWSHIP**

The value of this Fellowship is up to £7,500 to cover costs related to travel and accommodation. Particular emphasis in determining the recipient of this Fellowship is placed on the career progress of the applicant to date, their cv, the opportunities provided at the centre of excellence where the Fellowship will be undertaken, the innovative qualities of the skills to be learnt and how gaining such skills will be applied in the UK for the benefit for patient care.

**APPLICATION PROCESS**

Candidates will be required to apply in the following way:-

1x Hardcopy posted  
1x PDF file emailed.

- Complete application form by the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022
- Provide a CV (4 A4 sides maximum)
- Letter of support from head of department or appropriate consultant with whom you have or are working for
- Letter of support from head of unit where you will undertake the fellowship
- The deadline for the Application will be 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022
- The applications will be initially assessed by the RCS and recommendations made to the Worshipful Company of Cutlers to make the award