



Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Postdoctoral Fellowships
ERA Fellowships

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The MSCA under Horizon Europe



Pillar 1
Excellent Science

European Research Council

**Marie Skłodowska-Curie
Actions**

Research Infrastructures



Pillar 2
Global Challenges and
European Industrial
Competitiveness

Clusters

- Health
- Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society
- Civil Security for Society
- Digital, Industry and Space
- Climate, Energy and Mobility
- Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

Joint Research Centre



Pillar 3
Innovative Europe

European Innovation Council

European innovation
ecosystems

European Institute of Innovation
and Technology

Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area

Widening participation and spreading excellence

Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I system

Results 2014 - 2020 (Horizon2020)

+65,000

Researchers,
including
25,000 PhD
candidates

37%

Researchers
from outside of
the EU

6.2 billion €

Under Horizon
2020

+1,000

Doctoral
programmes

+4,500

Companies
supported

42%

Female
researchers

Introduction to the MSCA

EU's programme for doctoral and postdoctoral training, contributing to:

- A highly **skilled** research-based **human capital** able to detect and tackle upcoming challenges, communicate scientific evidence to policy-makers and the public, and work across disciplines;
- Provide researchers with **skills needed in the labour market**, to innovate and to convert knowledge and ideas into products and services for economic and social benefit;
- Develop excellent doctoral programmes enhancing the **global attractiveness** and visibility of institutions involved in them;
- **Promote the EU's global** attractiveness for talents.

Budget under Horizon Europe: **6.6€ billion** (slight increase)

Key features of the MSCA



Researchers' training, skills and career development (all stages of career)



Excellent research in all domains (bottom-up approach)



International, cross-sectoral & interdisciplinary mobility



Attractive working and employment conditions



Structuring impact on organisations through excellent programmes



Strong collaboration with industry and SMEs

MSCA in HE - principles and novelties

- Towards “**greener MSCA**” to promote sustainable behaviors and policies, support policy and decision making (MSCA Green Charter, Green Deal)
- More **gender-friendly** and **inclusive** MSCA:
 - Family allowances will be accessible to all, even if parental status changes during the duration of the project;
 - Long-term leave allowance, including maternity, paternity, parental, sick or special leave;
 - Broader definition of family to ensure full access to these allowances.
- Encourage **inter-sectoral** exposure through incentives with the aim to develop transferable skills (e.g. innovation, entrepreneurship) leading to improved employability and career prospects within and outside academia

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

Main Objectives:

- Foster excellence through the implementation of a research project;
- Enhance the creative and innovative potential of researchers holding a PhD (training on transferable skills & career development);
- Focus on i3 (international, inter-sectoral, interdisciplinary) mobility;
- Bridges with and exposure to the non-academic sector.

Research areas:

- All scientific fields
- new • Euratom areas are eligible (indicative amount EUR 1 million annually)

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships (1)

Activities

PF is a mono-beneficiary action to support post-doctoral research and careers with:

- European Postdoctoral Fellowships coming to Europe from any country in the world or moving within Europe;
- Global Postdoctoral Fellowships going for a period of time, outside EU Member States and Horizon Europe AC. Return to Europe is compulsory.

Participating organisations*

- Legal entity in an EU Member State or HE Associated country

**Specific eligibility criteria for PFs supported by Euratom:*

Organisation: legal entity established in an EU Member State or Euratom AC

Researcher: nationals or long-term residents of an EU Member State or a Euratom AC

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

- **Researchers** - target groups:

- any nationality (Global Fellowships: nationals or long-term residents of MS or HE AC);
- in possession of PhD at the call deadline;
- up to 8 years research experience after PhD (with exceptions: career breaks, work outside research, research outside Europe for reintegrating researchers,...);
- mobility rule: not resided / had main activity in the country of the beneficiary (or host organization for GF) more than 12 months in the 36 months before call deadline.

new

new

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

Duration

- European Fellowships: 12-24 months;
- Global Fellowships: 24-36 months (12-24 outgoing phase & 12 months mandatory return phase in Europe).

new

Secondments *worldwide* up to 1/3 of the fellowship duration (or outgoing phase of GF)

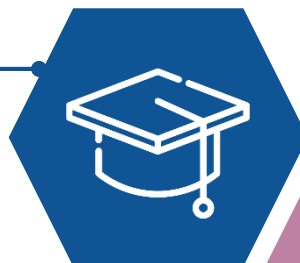
new

Optional additional placement of up to 6 months in a non-academic European organisation at the end of the regular duration of the Fellowship

Academic and non-academic sectors

Academic sector

- ✓ public or private higher education establishments
- ✓ public or private non-profit research organisations
- ✓ International European Research Organisations



Non-academic sector

- ✓ any socio-economic actor not included in the academic sector

Evaluation and award criteria

Excellence	Impact	Quality and efficiency of the implementation
Quality and pertinence of the project’s research and innovation objectives (and the extent to which they are ambitious, and go beyond the state of the art)	Credibility of the measures to enhance the career perspectives and employability of the researcher and contribution to his/her skills development	Quality and effectiveness of the work plan , assessment of risks and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages
Soundness of the proposed methodology (including interdisciplinary approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects if relevant for the research project, and the quality of open science practices)	Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts , as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities	Quality and capacity of the host institutions and participating organisations , including hosting arrangements
Quality of the supervision, training and of the two-way transfer of knowledge between the researcher and the host	The magnitude and importance of the project’s contribution to the expected scientific, societal and economic impacts	
Quality and appropriateness of the researcher’s professional experience , competences and skills		
50%	30%	20%

Budget structure

Contributions for recruited researchers Per person-month					Institutional unit contributions Per person-month	
Living allowance	Mobility allowance	Family allowance (if applicable)	Long-term leave allowance (if applicable)	Special needs allowance (if applicable)	Research, training and networking contribution	Management and indirect contribution
EUR 5 080	EUR 600	EUR 660	EUR 5 680 x % covered by the beneficiary	Requested unit ¹ x (1/number of months)	EUR 1 000	EUR 650

* A country correction coefficient applies to the living allowance in order to ensure equal treatment and purchasing power parity for all researchers

Allowances - novelties

Family allowance – increases from 500€ to **660€** - paid during the project life-time

Long-term allowance – personnel costs incurred by the beneficiaries in case of researchers' leave, including **maternity, paternity, parental, sick or special leave** – during the project life-time

Special needs allowance – additional costs for the acquisition of **special needs items and services** for researchers with disabilities (up to 60 000€ per researcher) - during the project life-time

ERA Fellowships

- Widening activities: “**ERA Fellowships**”
- **No separate application or evaluation** – integral part of the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships call application form
 - For specific countries – available in Work Programme
 - Only for European Fellowships, Global Fellowships do not qualify
 - **Attention:** “*call specific question*” to be completed in the PF submission for EF to indicate willingness to participate in this call (only if host organisation is a qualifying country)
 - Only proposals scoring over 70% in the PF call will be considered
 - Timing aligned with PF call

Next calls

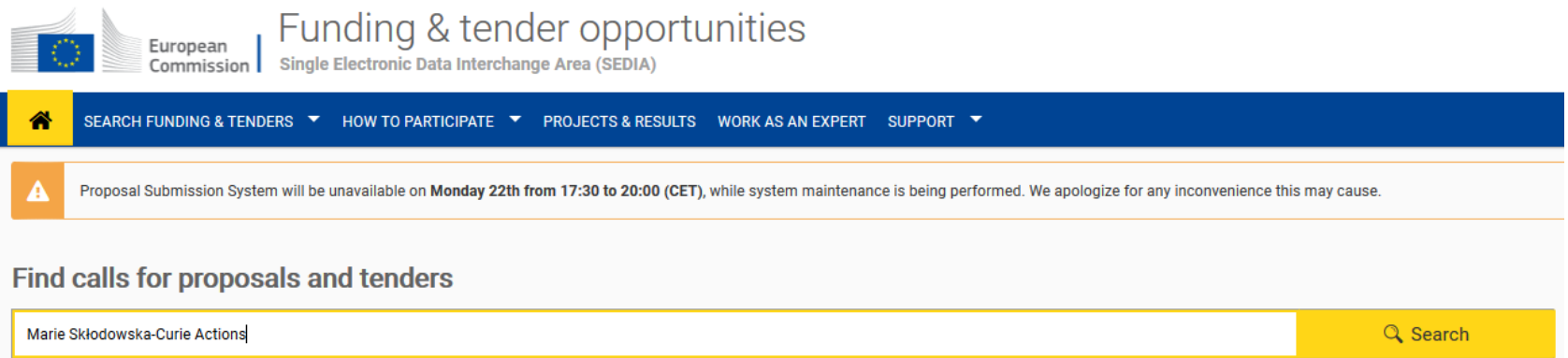
- **2021 tbc** 242 M€ [+indicative: EUR 1mln for Euratom and EUR 10mln for ERA]
- **2022: tbc** 257 M€

One call per year during HE

new Resubmission restrictions applying as of 2022 for applications receiving a score below 70% in the previous call.

How to apply?

- All calls are published on the Funding and Tender Opportunities Portal
- Applications are submitted through the portal:



The screenshot shows the top section of the European Commission's 'Funding & tender opportunities' portal. At the top left is the European Commission logo. To its right, the text 'Funding & tender opportunities' is displayed in a large font, with 'Single Electronic Data Interchange Area (SEDIA)' in a smaller font below it. A dark blue navigation bar contains a home icon and several menu items: 'SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS', 'HOW TO PARTICIPATE', 'PROJECTS & RESULTS', 'WORK AS AN EXPERT', and 'SUPPORT'. Below this bar, an orange warning banner states: 'Proposal Submission System will be unavailable on Monday 22th from 17:30 to 20:00 (CET), while system maintenance is being performed. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.' The main content area is titled 'Find calls for proposals and tenders'. It features a search bar with the text 'Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions' entered, and a yellow 'Search' button with a magnifying glass icon.

How to apply?



Funding & tender opportunities Single Electronic Data Interchange Area (SEDIA)



SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS ▼

HOW TO PARTICIPATE ▼

PROJECTS & RESULTS

WORK AS AN EXPERT

SUPPORT ▼

Part A (structured data)

General information

Participants & contacts

Budget

Ethics

Call-specific questions

Section	Yes	No
General information		
Participants & contacts		
Budget		
Ethics		
Call-specific questions		

Part B (description of action)



**10 page
limit**

Resources and guidance

- Read all **guidance documents**:
 - **Guide for applicants**: overview of rules, financial aspects, etc.
 - **MSCA Work Programme** and annexes
 - Proposal **templates**
 - Model Grant Agreements
 - Online **manual** on how to submit an application
 - **Frequently Asked Questions**
 - Guidelines on Supervision: <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2766/508311>
 - Green Charter: <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2766/720690>
- Ask for advice to your **MSCA National Contact Point** (list available on Funding and Tenders Portal)
- Submit specific queries to the **Research Enquiry Service** (funding, validation of participants, etc.)

Resources and guidance



Marie Skłodowska-Curie Website

https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/node_en

Research Enquiry Service

https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/contact/research-enquiry-service_en

National Contact Points

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/ncp>

Funding and Tenders Portal (applications)

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen>

Thank you