

Pillar 1: Excellent Science: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

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Horizon Europe (2021-2027)

- EU's reference programme for doctoral and postdoctoral training
- MSCA support researchers' mobility, training and career development



Budget : 6.6 billion EUR

Types of projects

Doctoral Networks Doctoral programmes in and outside academia incl. joint and industrial doctorates

Postdoctoral Fellowships Support to excellent

> postdoctoral researchers

Staff Exchanges Support for research

and innovation staff exchanges

COFUND

Co-funding doctoral and postdoctoral programmes MSCA and Citizens Public outreach events (Night)



Key features of the MSCA





MSCA Doctoral Networks

At institutional level:

- Consortium including at least three institutions, each established in a different EU Member States (EU MS) and Horizon Europe Associated Countries (HE AC) and with at least one of them established in a EU MS prepares a training programme of max. 4 years for PhD students
- Types of programmes:
 - Doctoral Networks
 - Industrial Doctorates
 - Joint Doctorates

At individual level:

- DN are open to Doctoral Candidates = not have been awarded a doctoral degree at the date of the recruitment
- PhD students have to be enrolled in a doctoral programme

Grant (person-month):

 Living allowance (3 400 EUR – country correction), Mobility allowance (600 EUR) and Family allowance (660 EUR) for Doctoral Candidates; Research, training and networking contributions (1 600 EUR), Management and indirect contributions for institution (1 200 EUR)





MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

At individual level:

- Individual research project: training-through-research under direct supervision
- Researchers who receive funding have to move from one country to another to acquire new knowledge, skills and competences (mobility rule)
- Two types of fellowships:
 - European Postdoctoral Fellowships: coming to Europe (EU MS/HE AC) from any country in the world or moving within Europe, 12-24 months
 - Global Postdoctoral Fellowships: 24-36 months, outgoing phase in a third country (12-24 months, outside EU MS/HE AC) + mandatory return phase in Europe (12 months)
- Eligible researchers:
 - In possession of **PhD** at the call deadline (successfully defended PhD thesis)
 - 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 organisation for GF) more than 12 months in the 36 months before call deadline

At institutional level:

- Institution can recruit excellent foreign postdocs who come with their grants
- Experienced reseachers can become supervisors of MSCA fellows



MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships and Calls complementary with MSCA PF

Typical Postdoctoral Fellowship

- Two way transfer of knowledge between researcher and host
- Hands on training: scientific skills (new techniques, instruments, etc.) and transferable skills (proposal preparation, patent applications, management of IPR, gender issues, Open Science, etc.)
- **Dissemination** (publications, conferences) and Communication activities (Researchers ´ Night, blog, video)
- Secondments can take place in Europe and outside, up to 1/3 of project duration, additional period of up to 6 months in a non-academic organisation in EU MS/HE AC at the end of the project
- <u>Grant (person-month)</u>: Living allowance (5 080 EUR country correction), Mobility allowance (600 EUR) and Family allowance (660 EUR) for Postdoctoral researcher; Research, training and networking contributions (1 000 EUR), Management and indirect contributions for institution (650 EUR)

Alternative funding

- ERA Fellowships (Horizon Europe)
 - In order to promote fellowships in the countries with low participation = Widening Countries, e.g. Czech Republic
 - When submitting your proposal to the Postdoctoral Fellowships Call, you can opt in for this type of grant, the evaluation is based on the evaluation of MSCA PF
- International Mobility of Researchers Fellowships MSCA (Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports)
 - Proposals which obtained a high score (70 %) in the MSCA PF call but were not funded under that call



MSCA Staff Exchanges

At institutional level:

 Consortium of at least three institutions in three different countries, two of which in a EU MS/HE AC, prepares a collaborative research and innovation project of max. 4 years based on staff exchanges which are intersectoral (academia x non-academic sector), international (incl. third countries outside Europe) and interdisciplinary

At individual level:

 Any type of staff can carry out their secondments of 1-12 months (Doctoral Candidates, Postdoctoral Researchers, administrative, managerial and technical staff)

Grant (person-month):

 Top-up allowance (2 300 EUR) for seconded staff members, Research, training and networking contributions (1 300 EUR), Management and indirect contributions for institution (1 000 EUR)



MSCA COFUND

- European Commission supports financially national, regional, or international schemes for doctoral training and postdoctoral fellowships
 - Doctoral Programmes
 - Postdoctoral Programmes

At institutional level:

- These programmes can be managed by a regional authority, funding agency, university, research organisation, enterprise etc.
- EU contribution is limited to 10 million EUR per beneficiary per call
- Duration of projects: max. 5 years

At individual level:

- Doctoral Candidates/Postdoctoral Researchers of any nationality can submit their application if they fulfill selection criteria
- Fellowships: min. 3 months
- EURAXESS portal: <u>COFUND Programmes</u>

Grant (person-month):

- COFUND allowance
 - Doctoral Programmes: 2 800 EUR
 - Postdoctoral Programmes: 3 980 EUR



MSCA and Citizens

- Bring research and researchers closer to the public at large, with a focus notably on families, pupils and students
- Through the organisation of the European Researchers' Night: Europe-wide public event, which displays the diversity of science and its impact on citizens' daily lives
- In 2022: 30 September
- Grant:
 - to organise a one-year event 50-150 000 EUR
 - to organise a two-year event 100-300 000 EUR





MSCA Calls: 2022-2024 (for 2023-2024 preliminary calendar)

Action	Call	Opening	Deadline
MSCA Doctoral Networks	2022	12 May 2022	15 November 2022
	2023	30 May 2023	28 November 2023
	2024	29 May 2024	27 November 2024
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships	2022	12 May 2022	14 September 2022
	2023	12 April 2023	13 September 2023
	2024	10 April 2024	11 September 2024
MSCA Staff Exchanges	2022	6 October 2022	8 March 2023
	2023	5 October 2023	28 February 2024
	2024	10 October 2024	5 March 2025
MSCA COFUND	2022	11 October 2022	9 February 2023
	2023	10 October 2023	8 February 2024
	2024	8 October 2024	6 February 2025
MSCA and Citizens	2023	20 June 2023	25 October 2023

National support to MSCA applicants: Events in 2022 – INVITATION

Date	Venue	Event*	
29 March	on-line	National Information day on MSCA (presentations and recording)	
26 April	on-line	Information day on MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships (presentations and recording)	
19 May	on-line	Training on MSCA Doctoral Networks	
24 May	on-line	Školení pro projektové manažerky a manažery k přípravě MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships	
30-31 May	on-line	On-line workshop on MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2022 for applicants and their supervisors (deadline for registration – 19 May)	
2 June	on-line	Information day on MSCA COFUND	









* Title according to the language of the event



Useful links

- MSCA newsletter (subscribe)
- <u>Euraxess</u> (jobs and funding opportunities)
- <u>ERA4Ukraine</u> (Euraxess website, EU initiative)
- <u>Researchin</u> (Czech initiative to support Ukrainian researchers)
- MSCA Green Charter
- <u>Guidelines for inclusion of researchers at</u> <u>risk</u>
- <u>Guidelines on Supervision</u>
- Synergies between the MSCA and Erasmus+ in the area of higher education



Sources: European Commission



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION.

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