

Call for Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships (IF)

H2020-MSCA-IF-2015

Objective:

The goal of Individual Fellowships is to enhance the creative and innovative potential of experienced researchers wishing to diversify their individual competence in terms of skill acquisition through advanced training, international and intersectoral mobility.

Individual Fellowships provide opportunities to acquire and transfer new knowledge and to work on research in a European context (EU Member States and Associated Countries) or outside Europe. The scheme particularly supports the return and reintegration of researchers from outside Europe who have previously worked here. It also develops or helps to restart the careers of individual researchers that show great potential, considering their experience.

Scope:

Support is foreseen for individual, trans-national fellowships awarded to the best or most promising researchers for employment in EU Member States or Associated Countries, based on an application made jointly by the researcher and host organisation in the academic or non-academic sectors.

Fellowships are either European Fellowships or Global Fellowships. European Fellowships are held in EU Member States or Associated Countries and are open to researchers either coming to Europe or moving within Europe. The researcher must comply with the rules of mobility in the country where the European Fellowship is held. Global Fellowships are based on a secondment to a third country and a mandatory 12 month return period to a European host. The researcher must comply with the rules of mobility in the country where the Global Fellowship secondment takes place, not for the country of the return phase.

Return and reintegration of researchers into a longer term research position in Europe, including in their country of origin, is supported via a separate multi-disciplinary reintegration panel of the European Fellowships. For the reintegration panel, there shall be mobility into Europe.

Support to individuals to resume research in Europe after a career break, e.g. after parental leave, is ensured via a separate multi-disciplinary career restart panel of the European Fellowships. To qualify for the career restart panel, researchers must not have been active in research for at least 12 months immediately prior to the deadline for submission.

Researchers receiving an Individual Fellowship may opt to include a secondment phase in Europe, notably in the non-academic sector, within the overall duration of their fellowship. For a fellowship of 18 months or less, the secondment phase may last up to three months. For a fellowship of more than 18 months, the secondment phase may last up to six months. The secondment phase can be a single period or be divided into shorter mobility periods. The secondment should significantly add to the impact of the fellowship.

A Career Development Plan should be established jointly by the supervisor(s) and the researcher. In addition to research objectives, this plan comprises the researcher's training and career needs, including training on transferable skills, planning for publications and participation in conferences.

Expected impact:

- Individual Fellowships are expected to add significantly to the development of the best and most promising researchers active in Europe, in order to enhance and maximise their contribution to the knowledge-based economy and society.
- The action will also strengthen the contact network of both the researcher and the host organisation.
- The fellowship will contribute to realising the full potential of researchers and to catalysing significant development in their careers in both the academic and non-academic sectors.
- Some researchers will be resuming a research career in Europe after a break, or reintegrating within Europe after living abroad.

Type of action: Marie Skłodowska-Curie action.

CONDITIONS FOR THIS CALL

Opening date: 12 March 2015²¹

Deadline(s): 10 September 2015 at 17.00.00 Brussels time²²

Indicative budget: EUR 215.00 million from the 2015 budget. Of this amount, EUR 27 million is allocated to Global Fellowships.²³

Eligibility and admissibility conditions: The eligibility conditions for Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions apply. Please read the dedicated section in this part of the work programme. The admissibility conditions are described in part B of the General Annexes to the work programme, with the following exception:

The following supporting documents will be required to determine the operational capacity:

- A curriculum vitae of the researcher;
- A description of any significant infrastructure or any major items of technical equipment, relevant to the proposed work;
- A description of any partner organisations that are not represented as beneficiaries, but who will nonetheless be contributing towards the work.

²¹ The Director-General responsible for the call may publish it up to one month prior to or after the envisaged date of opening.

²² The Director-General responsible may delay this deadline by up to two months.

²³ The budget amounts for 2015 are subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the draft budget for 2015 after the adoption of the budget for 2015 by the budgetary authority or, if the budget is not adopted, as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.

Evaluation criteria: The selection and award criteria for Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions apply. Please read the dedicated section in this part of the work programme.

Evaluation procedure: The evaluation procedure for Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions apply. Please read the dedicated section in this part of the work programme.

- Proposal page limits and layout: The maximum length of the proposal is 10 pages, excluding the CV of the researcher and the annexes. Experts will be instructed to disregard any excess pages.

The minimum font size allowed is 11 points. The page size is A4, and all margins (top, bottom, left, right) should be at least 15 mm (not including any footers or headers). Ensure that the font type chosen is clearly readable (e.g. Arial or Times New Roman).

- Indicative timetable for evaluation and grant agreement:

Information on the outcome of the evaluation (*one stage*): Maximum 5 months from the final date for submission.

Indicative date for the signing of grant agreements: Maximum 3 months from the date of informing applicants.

Consortium agreement:

Not applicable - this is a mono-beneficiary action.