

Introduction to the Marie Skłodowska Curie (MSCA) programme in Horizon Europe

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Pillar 1
EXCELLENT SCIENCE

European Research Council

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Research Infrastructures



Pillar 2
GLOBAL CHALLENGES &
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

**Total Marie-Curie
budget of €6.6 billion!**

WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND STRENGTHENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

Widening participation and spreading excellence

Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I system

What are Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)?

- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) are **completely bottom up** and **open to all areas** of research at all stages - from **basic frontier research to near market uptake**.
- Provide funding for all researcher career stages as well as managerial, administrative or technical staff



MSCA aim to:

- **Enhance the career development & training** of researchers and innovators for **all nationalities**
- Promote **international, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary collaboration and mobility**
- **Bridge academic and non-academic** sectors in and outside of Europe
- **Promote sharing of knowledge and ideas** from research to market (and vice versa)
- Foster a shared culture of R&I that welcomes and **rewards creativity and entrepreneurship**

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions in Horizon Europe - An Overview:



1. MSCA Doctoral Networks (formerly ITNs)

- Funds consortium based research projects
- Provides recruited researchers with training through research
- Mobility is key – intersectoral, interdisciplinary and international!
- Provides full funding for PhD students



2. MSCA Post-Doctoral Fellowships (formerly IFs)

- Provides full funding for an individual postdoctoral researcher
- Mobility is key – intersectoral, interdisciplinary and international!
- Training through research
- Opportunities for European or internationally hosted fellowships with opportunities for secondments.



3. MSCA COFUND Doctoral and Fellowship Programme

- Collaborative funding through a mono beneficiary scheme
- Training through research
- Mobility is key – intersectoral, interdisciplinary and international!
- EC provides a contribution to the funding for a cohort of PhD students or Post-Docs



4. MSCA Staff Exchange Scheme (formerly RISE)

- Funds short-term exchanges of personnel between academic, industrial and commercial organisations throughout the world
- Funds consortium based research projects
- Project implemented through the secondment of staff for a period between 1 and 12 months



MSCA Doctoral Networks in Horizon Europe

- Funds consortium based research projects
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- Provides full funding for PhD students

- **Funding:** Up to **36 months** of the PhD including living, mobility and family allowances. Project maximum is 48 months.
- **Eligibility:** Early Stage Researcher (ESR) requirement: **not already in possession of a doctoral degree and enrolled on a PhD programme**. (See EURAXESS UK portal for opportunities).
- **Mobility Rule:** Researchers may not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies etc.) in the country of their (main) host organisation for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately *before the recruitment date* .

2021 call: 18 May - 16 Nov; Budget: 402,95M€

2022 call: 3 May - 15 Nov; Budget: 427,28M€

- **Resubmission restrictions** applying as of 2022 for applications receiving a score below 80%

For Consortia: Reduction in the maximum size of grant from 540 researcher months to 360 (the equivalent of 10 ESRs on 36 month contracts); expect for Industrial/Joint Doctorates (up to 540 person months)



MSCA Doctoral Networks in Horizon Europe

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Contributions for recruited researchers

Per person-month

Institutional unit contributions

Per person-month

**All figures are EUR gross amounts and will be subject to taxation in accordance with UK employment law and a rate of exchange from EUR to GBP.*

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 3 400	EUR 600	EUR 660	EUR 4 000 x % covered by the beneficiary	Requested unit ¹ x (1/number of months)	EUR 1 600	EUR 1 200



MSCA Post Doctoral Fellowships

- Provides full funding for an individual postdoctoral researcher
- Mobility is key – intersectoral, interdisciplinary and international!
- Training through research
- Opportunities for European or internationally hosted fellowships with opportunities for secondments.

Funding:

- European Fellowships: 12-24 months
- Global Fellowships: 24-36 months (12-24 outgoing phase & 12 months mandatory return phase in Europe)
Secondments worldwide up to 1/3 of the fellowship duration
- Optional additional placement of up to 6 months in a non-academic European organisation at the end of the fellowship applicable to both European and Global PF

Eligibility : A PhD at the time of submission, with no more no-more than 8 years of full time research experience after PhD (with exceptions for those who have had a career break or wishing to reintegrate back to the EU/AC-current proposed scientific age limit)

Mobility rule: Researchers may not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies etc.) in the country of their (main) host organisation for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the call deadline.

Resubmission restrictions applying as of 2022 for applications receiving a score below 70%



MSCA Post Doctoral Fellowships

- Provides full funding for an individual postdoctoral researcher
- Mobility is key – intersectoral, interdisciplinary and international!
- Training through research
- Opportunities for European or internationally hosted fellowships with opportunities for secondments.

Contributions for recruited researchers Per person-month

Living allowance	Mobility allowance	Family allowance (if applicable)	Long-term leave allowance (if applicable)	Special needs allowance (if applicable)
EUR 5 080	EUR 600	EUR 660	EUR 5 680 x % covered by the beneficiary	Requested unit ¹ x (1/number of months)

Institutional unit contributions Per person-month

Research, training and networking contribution	Management and indirect contribution
EUR 1 000	EUR 650

**All figures are EUR gross amounts and will be subject to taxation in accordance with UK employment law and a rate of exchange from EUR to GBP.*



MSCA COFUND Doctoral and Fellowship Programme

- Collaborative funding through a mono beneficiary scheme
- Training through research
- Mobility is key – intersectoral, interdisciplinary and international!
- EC provides a contribution to the funding for a cohort of PhD students or Post-Docs

- **Co-funding:** Max 10 M€ per beneficiary per call
- The EU contribution covers minimum remuneration (70% living + mobility allowance) and can be used more flexibly
- **Duration:** Programme: max. 60 months Fellowship: min 3 months Secondments: up to 1/3 of the fellowship duration

Target groups

- Doctoral candidates, i.e. researchers without a doctoral degree at the deadline of the co-funded programme's call; mandatory enrolment in a doctoral programme
- Postdoctoral researchers, i.e. researchers with a doctoral degree at the deadline of the co-funded programme's call



MSCA Staff Exchange Scheme

- Funds short-term exchanges of personnel between academic, industrial and commercial organisations throughout the world
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- Project implemented through the secondment of staff for a period between 1 and 12 months

- **Consortium** of at least 3 legal entities in 3 different countries, 2 of which in a different EU Member State or HE Associated Country
- **Duration:** 4 years for project implementation:- Maximum 360 person-months per project & Secondments: 1-12 months per staff.
- Interdisciplinary secondments in the same sector possible within Europe (max 1/3 of project's person-months)
- **2021:** 7 Oct 2021 – 9 March 2022; 72.5 M€
- **2022:** 6 Oct 2022 – 8 March 2023; 77.5 M€
- Any type of staff contributing to R&I activities & Researchers at any career stage.

Other opportunities and novelties:

MSCA and
Citizens

*Public outreach
events (Night)*

- Streamlined actions, clearer identity
- Simpler rules, harmonised conditions
- Demand management to maintain high quality
- Reinforced synergies within Horizon Europe and with other EU funding programmes
- New guidelines on supervision to ensure that researchers are adequately supervised
- Towards “greener MSCA”
- Encourage inter-sectoral exposure through incentives
- More gender and LGBT+ inclusivity.

Next steps and further resources:

- Access the UK [EURAXESS](#) portal for available opportunities and advice on immigration, visas, etc.
- Access the UKRO NCP pages for a brief description of the various [MSCA opportunities](#) in Horizon Europe and [call deadlines](#).
- Attend our UKRO NCP events!

1. MSCA 2021 Postdoctoral Fellowships Call Information Event - Session 1: Overview and Eligibility Rules, 22 April 2021 10:00 – 11:30 UK time

2. MSCA 2021 Postdoctoral Fellowships Call Information Event - Session 2: Practical Matters, 29 April 2021 10:00-11:30 UK time

3. MSCA 2021 Postdoctoral Fellowships Call Information Event - Session 3: Process for Submission and Evaluation, 4 May 2021 10:00-11:30 UK Time.

Call Deadlines

Year	Action	Estimated opening*	Estimated deadline*
2021	Doctoral Networks	18 May 2021	16 November 2021
	Postdoctoral Fellowships	18 May 2021	15 September 2021
	Staff Exchanges	7 October 2021	9 March 2022
	COFUND	12 October 2021	10 February 2022
	MSCA and Citizens (covers 2 editions)	17 June 2021	7 October 2021
2022	Doctoral Networks	3 May 2022	15 November 2022
	Postdoctoral Fellowships	13 April 2022	14 September 2022
	Staff Exchanges	6 October 2022	8 March 2023
	COFUND	11 October 2022	9 February 2023
	MSCA and Citizens	No call foreseen in 2022	

**Dates to be confirmed with the adoption of the Work Programme*

Contact mariecurie-uk@ukro.ac.uk for any further questions!