Marie Sklodowska-Curie actions

**Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA)**

**The Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA)**

provide grants for all stages of researchers’ careers – be they doctoral candidates or highly experienced researchers – and encourage transnational, intersectoral and interdisciplinary mobility. The MSCA enable research-focused organisations (universities, research centres, and companies) to host talented foreign researchers and to create strategic partnerships with leading institutions worldwide.

The MSCA aim to equip researchers with the necessary skills and international experience for a successful career, either in the public or the private sector. The programme responds to the challenges sometimes faced by researchers, offering them attractive working conditions and the opportunity to move between academic and other settings.

The MSCA are open to all domains of research and innovation, from fundamental research to market take-up and innovation services. Research and innovation fields are chosen freely by the applicants (individuals and/or organisations) in a fully ‘bottom-up’ manner.

**How to apply for Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions research fellowship programme**

Funding decisions for Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions are made on the basis of proposals submitted following calls published on [**Participants portal**](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/home.html), your single-entry point for interactions with the research and innovation programmes of the [**European Commission**](http://ec.europa.eu/index_en.htm). The sequence of steps is summarised below. Marie Curie Actions are implemented by [**Research Executive Agency (REA)**](http://ec.europa.eu/rea/index_en.htm).

**1. Proposal preparation and electronic submission**

You will find all information necessary to prepare and submit a proposal for a Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions call on the call page of Participants portal.

[**The Participants portal**](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/index.html) contains the essential information to guide you through the process of preparing and submitting a proposal, including the Guide for Applicants. Proposals are submitted electronically via the Commission’s Participants portal – Electronic Proposal Submission Service (EPSS) before a strictly-enforced deadline.

**[Work programme 2016-17](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2016_2017/main/h2020-wp1617-msca_en.pdf)** Choose translations of the previous link provides a detailed description of the action, its objectives and scope, the eligibility criteria, the EU contribution and the evaluation criteria.

Guides for Applicants and Work programmes are revised each year, so make sure you refer to the latest version before preparing your proposal.

The Guide and the Work programme are essential reading. However, you may also wish to consult other reference and background documents, particular those relating to negotiation and the grant agreements, which are available from the [**How to manage my project English**](http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/funded-projects/how-to-manage/index_en.htm).

**Proposal evaluation**

**Research Executive Agency**

evaluates all eligible proposals in order to identify those whose quality is sufficiently high for possible funding. The basis for this evaluation is a peer-review carried out by independent experts. The results of the evaluation will be made available on the call page of the Participants portal.

**Negotiation and Selection**

**Research Executive Agency**

then negotiates with some or all of those applicants whose proposals have successfully passed the evaluation stage, depending on the budget available. If negotiations are successfully concluded, grant agreements providing for an EU financial contribution are established with the participants.

**Types of Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA)**

**Research networks**

**Research networks (ITN): support for Innovative Training Networks**

ITNs support competitively selected joint research training and/or doctoral programmes, implemented by European partnerships of universities, research institutions, and non-academic organisations.
The research training programmes provide experience outside academia, hence developing innovation and employability skills. ITNs include industrial doctorates, in which non-academic organisations have an equal role to universities in respect of the researcher’s time and supervision, and joint doctoral degrees delivered by several universities. Furthermore, non-European organisations can participate as additional partners in ITNs, enabling doctoral-level candidates to gain experience outside Europe during their training.

**Individual fellowships**

**Individual fellowships (IF): support for experienced researchers undertaking mobility between countries, optionally to the non-academic sector**

Individual Fellowships support the mobility of researchers within and beyond Europe – as well as helping to attract the best foreign researchers to work in the EU. The grant usually covers two years’ salary, a mobility allowance, research costs and overheads for the host institution. Individual researchers submit proposals for funding in liaison with their planned host organisation. Proposals are judged on their research quality, the researcher’s future career prospects, and the support offered by the host organisation. Fellows can also spend part of the fellowship elsewhere in Europe if this would boost impact, and those restarting their career in Europe benefit from special eligibility conditions.

**International and inter-sectoral cooperation through the Research and Innovation Staff Exchanges (RISE)**

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RISE supports short-term mobility of research and innovation staff at all career levels, from the most junior (post-graduate) to the most senior (management), including also administrative and technical staff. It is open to partnerships of universities, research institutions, and non-academic organisations both within and beyond Europe. In worldwide partnerships, academia-to-academia exchanges are permitted.

**Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes that finance fellowships involving mobility to or from another country**

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The MSCA offer additional funding to regional, national and international programmes for research training and career development. COFUND programmes encourage the movement of researchers across borders and provide good working conditions. The scheme can support doctoral and fellowship programmes.

**Open Calls**

**Apply now for Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions research fellowship**

[**http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/apply-now/open-calls/index\_en.htm**](http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/apply-now/open-calls/index_en.htm)

**Online resources**

**for Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions research fellowship**

**Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions website**
[**http://ec.europa.eu/msca**](http://ec.europa.eu/msca)
**Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions on Facebook**
[**https://www.facebook.com/Marie.Curie.Actions**](https://www.facebook.com/Marie.Curie.Actions)
**Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions on Twitter**
[**https://twitter.com/MSCActions**](https://twitter.com/MSCActions)