



Netherlands Enterprise Agency

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Calls 2023-2024

Opportunities for research training and mobility within Horizon Europe

*>> Sustainable. Agricultural. Innovative.
International.*

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions provide a series of fellowship opportunities aimed at research, training and knowledge transfer. The programme has an inherent ‘transnational dimension’: in order to be eligible for a MSCA fellowship, the researcher must move to a different country, where he or she has not lived or carried out their main activity for more than 12 months during the previous 3-year period¹.

Calls 2023	Budget (million €)	Deadline
Doctoral Networks (DN)	434.80	28-11-2023
Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF)	260.47	13-09-2023
Staff Exchanges	78.50	28-02-2024
Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes (COFUND)	96.57	08-02-2024
Calls 2024	Budget (million €)	Deadline
Doctoral Networks (DN)	441.15	27-11-2024
Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF)	270.75	11-09-2024
Staff Exchanges	81.23	05-03-2025
Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes (COFUND)	99.28	06-02-2025

There are two main types of Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions:

- **Host driven actions:** means that an organisation or a group of organisations submit a proposal for research training and/or knowledge transfer. The proposal specifies which type of training, how many fellowships, and of which duration, will be provided by the host organisation(s). Once the proposal has been evaluated and funded, the host organisation will publish ‘vacancy announcements’ and start to select suitable researchers for the fellowship positions.
- **Individual actions:** means a researcher, or ‘fellow’, who applies for a specific research training project, to be carried out at a specific host organisation. The name of the researcher and the host group are specified in the proposal, and may not be changed.

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions: for whom?

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) distinguish researchers according to their level of experience. Age is not a relevant criterion.

- **Doctoral candidates:** means persons not already in possession of a doctoral degree at the date of the recruitment
- **Postdoctoral researchers:** means researchers who are in possession of a doctoral degree at the date of the call deadline and have max. 8 years of research experience²

¹ As far as international European interest organisations or international organisations are concerned, this rule does not apply to the hosting of eligible researchers, however, the appointed researcher must not have spent more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the reference deadline in the same appointing organisation. This rule does not apply to researchers involved in MSCA Staff Exchange activities.

² measured from the date of award of the doctoral degree. Years of experience outside research and career breaks (e.g. due to parental leave), will not count towards the amount of research experience.

All types of organisations can be host organisation to MSCA fellows: universities, research centres, companies including small and medium-sized enterprises, and other organisations. The organisations will need to describe in what way they are able to provide training or knowledge transfer on state-of-the-art research issues or techniques.

The core consortium or the main host organisation will need to be based in Europe, but there are ample opportunities for researchers from outside Europe to be involved. These are highlighted in the description for each MSCA action below.

Any research subject can be proposed for a MSCA fellowship, with the exception of nuclear energy research and research with unacceptable ethical issues.

Definitions

‘Europe’ or ‘European countries’ in this document refers to all the countries eligible to participate in Horizon Europe, i.e.:

- **The EU 27 Member States (MS)**
- **Associated Countries (AC):** Countries that are associated to Horizon Europe by an international agreement.
- **Third Countries:** Countries which are neither EU Member States nor associated to Horizon Europe (Associated Countries). Some Third Countries are eligible for funding, this can be found in the General Annexes (see link below).

For a full list of MS, AC and Third Countries we refer to the [General Annexes](#) to the Work Programme 2023-2024 (section B-Eligibility).

Types of Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Doctoral Networks (DN)

What	A network aimed at providing research training to doctoral candidates, focusing on a specific research topic. Host organisations must organise an open and transparent selection, published internationally.
Which organisations	<p>Doctoral Networks (DN): international consortia of universities, research institutions, businesses, SMEs and other non-academic organisations. The networks should include at least three organisations from Europe. Typically, a network has between six and ten partners. It is highly recommended to include industrial partners.</p> <p>Besides standard Doctoral Networks, incentives have been introduced to promote two specific types of doctorates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Industrial Doctorates : Individual participants must be jointly supervised by the academic and non-academic partners and spend at least 50% of their time in the non-academic sector. - Joint Doctorates : PhD candidates must be enrolled in a joint programme and be jointly supervised, leading to a joint doctoral degree or multiple doctoral degrees awarded by the participating institutions.
Which fellows	Researchers without a doctoral degree
Duration	<p>Duration of the project: maximum 4 years (5 years for Joint Doctorates)</p> <p>Duration of the fellowship: 3-36 months (3-48 months for Joint Doctorates)</p>

Deadline	28 November 2023 (Publication 30 May 2023) 27 November 2024 (Publication 29 May 2024)
Budget	434.80 (deadline 2023) 441.15 (deadline 2024)
Third country participation	Host organisations from third countries can participate above the minimum partnership of three European organisations. Funded host organisations can grant MSCA fellowships to researchers from any nationality, so third country nationals are eligible to apply for open fellowship positions at any funded DN.

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships

What	Individual fellowship for experienced researchers wishing to diversify their individual competence in terms of skill acquisition at multi- or interdisciplinary level through advanced training, international and intersectoral mobility.
Which organisations	Two options: - European Fellowships: One host organisation in Europe (academic or non-academic). - Global Fellowships: One host organisation outside Europe, and one host organisation in Europe (academic or non-academic) which will host the researcher for one year after the training outside Europe.
Which fellows	One researcher in possession of a doctoral degree with max. 8 years of full time research experience after PhD. The researcher should comply with the mobility rule: they must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the beneficiary (for European Postdoctoral Fellowships), or the host organisation for the outgoing phase (for Global Postdoctoral Fellowships) for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the call deadline
Duration	Between 12 and 24 months (for Global Fellowships followed by an obligatory stay of 12 months at the European return host organisation). Optional additional period of 6 months non-academic Placement after the standard duration.
Next deadline	13 September 2023 (Publication 12 April 2023) 11 September 2024 (Publication 10 April 2024)
Budget	260.47 (deadline 2023) 270.75 (deadline 2024)
Third country participation	Third country nationals can apply for a European Fellowship. Global Fellowships are only open to nationals or long-term residents of EU Member States or Associated Countries. Long term residence means a period of full-time research activity of at least 5 consecutive years.

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Staff Exchanges

What	International and/or inter-sector collaboration through research and innovation staff exchanges. The aim is to develop sustainable collaborative projects between different organisations from the academic and non-academic sectors (in particular SMEs), based in Europe and beyond.
Which organisations	Participants shall be established in at least three different countries of which at least two must be European.

Which fellows	Researchers at any career stage, as well as technical staff and research managers. Participants can be of any nationality but must be engaged in or linked to an organization participating in the Staff Exchange project.
Duration	Duration of the project: maximum 4 years Duration of the fellowship: 1-12 months
Next deadline	28 February 2024 (Publication 5 October 2023) 5 March 2025 (Publication 10 October 2024)
Budget	78.50 (deadline 2024) 81.23 (deadline 2025)
Third country participation	Host organisations from third countries can participate above the minimum partnership of two European organisations.

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes (COFUND)

What	Co-funding for transnational doctoral and fellowship programmes for doctoral candidates and post-docs. Programmes can be regional, national or international.
Which organisations	One European participant, that funds or manages doctoral or post-doctoral programmes for researchers.
Which fellows	Doctoral candidates and post-doc researchers.
Duration	36-60 months
Next deadline	8 February 2024 (Publication 10 October 2023) 6 February 2025 (Publication 8 October 2024)
Budget	96.57 (deadline 2024) 99.28 (deadline 2025)
Third country participation	Funded host organisations can grant MSCA fellowships to researchers from any nationality, so -depending on the eligibility criteria of the funded programme- third country nationals are eligible to apply for open COFUND fellowship positions.

Further opportunities of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

MSCA and Citizens	Organisation of festive activities for the European Researchers' Night, to raise broad awareness for the importance of researchers' work.
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How can I apply?

Host organisations and individual experienced researchers can apply to any of the above calls via this information [webpage](#). The application procedure is entirely Internet-based and deadlines are strictly enforced, so please start the application procedure well in advance of the deadline.

Individual early-stage researchers can consult the database of vacant positions at [Jobs & Funding | EURAXESS \(europa.eu\)](#). They do not have to wait for a deadline, they can directly send their CV to the supervisor of the project in which they are interested.

Further information

Marie Skłodowska-Curie National Contact Points in the Netherlands: Mariëlle Brouwer and Marleen van den Berg. E-mail: horizon.mariecurie@rvo.nl .

For other international research vacancies, fellowships and for practical information on moving to a different country for researchers, see the Euraxess portal: ec.europa.eu/euraxess



For brevity's sake, the rules have been slightly simplified. This text is intended as a first guidance to become acquainted with the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions. Before preparing and submitting an application, please always verify whether you are eligible based on the relevant information in the latest update of the 'work programme', containing the legally binding information, or check with a Marie Skłodowska-Curie National Contact Point.



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