



MSCA-PF 2024

MSCA-PF: Postdoctoral Fellowships Call 2024

MSCA-PF OBJECTIVES

MSCA-PF are aimed at improving the career prospects and employability of **Postdoctoral Researchers (RE)**:

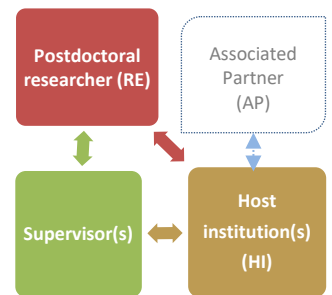
- Encourage excellence through the realization of an original & personalized R&I project.
- Enhance the creative and innovative potential of RE (research training + transferable skills) + career development support.
- Focus on i3 mobility (international, intersectoral and interdisciplinary).
- Build bridges and encourage exposure to the non-academic sector.

**TRAINING
THROUGH
RESEARCH**

MAIN ACTORS INVOLVED

A **Host Institution (HI)** located in an EU Member State or Associated Country (MS/AC) recruits the **Postdoctoral Researcher (RE)** and enters into the **Grant Agreement (GA)** with the EC. The HI also ensures, through a **Supervisor** (a staff member of the HI), specific training and oversees the project's execution.

In addition to the HI, there is the possibility of participation by **Associated Partners (AP)**, which are institutions providing additional training to the RE. AP's may host the RE during secondments (within the project), placements (after the project), or during the *outgoing phase* (for Global Fellowships). The APs do not recruit the RE nor sign the GA with the EC; this is solely the responsibility of the HI.



WHO CAN APPLY?

RE must be in possession of a PhD degree or have successfully defended their doctoral thesis before call deadline with a maximum of 8 years of post-doctoral experience*.

* The limit of 8-years full-time R&D experience is determined based on the date of award of the (first) PhD and the call deadline. In specific cases, RE exceeding this limit can declare deductions, for example for maternity/paternity leave, career breaks, research experience in third countries.

TYPES OF MSCA-PF

EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIP (MSCA-PF-European)	GLOBAL FELLOWSHIP (MSCA-PF-Global)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ It takes place in an EU MS/AC and can have a duration of 1-2 years. Researchers of all nationalities are eligible to apply. ▶ Nationality: RE from any country to the HI, <u>based in MS/AC</u>. ▶ The RE must comply with the mobility rule <u>in Spain</u> (UPO). ▶ IMPORTANT. Try to include (one or both of the following): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ During the project. At least one Secondment in another EU entity, preferably in the non-academic sector. ➢ A final Placement of 6 months in an entity of the non-academic sector. In this case, the project will be extended up to 6 months (with a max. of 30 months (2y+6m)). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ It spans between 2-3 years, during which the first 1-2 years will be spent in a <u>non-associated non-EU countries (TC)</u>¹, followed by a mandatory of 1-year return phase to an organisation based in an EU MS/AC (UPO). ▶ The mobility rule must be fulfilled <u>in the TC</u>. ▶ The RE must be a MS/AC national or long-term resident (>5y). ▶ <i>Secondments</i> and/or <i>Placement</i> are possible and highly advisable. With a final Placement the project will be extended up to 6 months (with a max. of 42 months (2y+1y+6m)). ▶ A Letter of Commitment from the TC entity is necessary.

¹ a TC organisation is considered as **Associated Partner** in the Project.



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MOBILITY RULE

The RE must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the HI (for *European PF*), or the HI for the outgoing phase (for *Global PF*) for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the call deadline.

Call 2024: Mobility eligibility window is from 12th September 2021 until 11th September 2024.

SECTORS

ACADEMIC	NON-ACADEMIC
Universities, non-profit R&D organisations and international European R&D organisations.	Any other entity not included in the academic sector and that meets the requirements of the Horizon Europe Programme.

SUMMARY TABLE

MSCA-PF		EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIPS	GLOBAL FELLOWSHIPS	
RESEARCHES (RE)	Nationality	Any	MS/AC or long-term residents	
	Experience	Maximum 8 years from date of award of the (first) doctoral degree.		
	Mobility rule	From ANY country to a MS/AC	From ANY country to a TC then to MS/AC	
		The RE cannot have resided or carried out his/her main activity <u>in the country of the HI</u> for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately prior to the call deadline.	The RE cannot have resided or carried out his/her main activity <u>in the country of the Associated Partner hosting the outgoing phase HI</u> for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately prior to the call deadline.	
	Hosting organisations	<u>Beneficiary</u> : UPO (Host Institution)	<u>Beneficiary</u> : UPO (Host Institution) <u>Associated Partner hosting the outgoing phase</u> : Legal entity established in a TC.	
	Duration	12-24 months (UPO) + up to 6 months (if placement)	12-24 months (outgoing phase) + 12 months (UPO) + up to 6 months (if placement)	
Restriction	Resubmission restrictions will apply for applications that received a score below 70% the previous year.			

HOW DOES IT RUNNING?

The HI (UPO) acts as the grant beneficiary, enters into the Grant Agreement (GA) with the EC, and employs the Postdoctoral Researcher (RE) for the project duration. The RE's salary is determined by the MSCA programme and is based on unit costs per months. Additionally, part of the budget is allocated for *Research, Training, and Networking* (RTN) expenses, among others.

The Supervisor must be a member of the UPO staff and is responsible for collaborating, integrating, and supervising the RE throughout the project. For Global fellowships, there must also be another Supervisor at the TC entity during the outgoing phase.

The RE is encouraged to undertake Secondments and/or a final Placement in other organizations during the project. The objective of the grant is to enhance the career prospects of the RE and, consequently, contribute to the EU R&D Area's advancement.



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PROPOSAL

The RE must describe a concrete plan for training-based research at the HI facilities. The subject of the proposal is free choice. The [Application Forms](#) are composed of three different parts:

Part A: Administrative forms, ethical aspects and the Budget.

Part B1: *Technical part: Excellence - Impact - Implementation (10 pages.)*

Part B2: *CV of the RE, description of the HI & letter of commitment.*

EVALUATION – Part B1

- ▶ **Excellence** (50% of the score): Quality & pertinence of the project's R&I objectives; Soundness of the proposed methodology; Quality of the supervision, training and of the two-way transfer of knowledge between the RE & HI; and Appropriateness of the RE's professional experience, competences and skills; Gender dimension & Open Science.
- ▶ **Impact** (30%): Credibility of the measures to enhance the career perspectives and employability of the RE; Measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts; Project's contribution to the expected scientific, societal and economic impacts.
- ▶ **Implementation** (20%): Work plan; Assessment of risks and Quality and capacity of the HI's.

Evaluation Form

MSCA priorities under HE

- Green research
- Cooperation beyond academia
- Employability & competitiveness
- International cooperation
- Academic freedom
- Gender & inclusiveness
- Open research

Proposals will be evaluated by one of eight '*main evaluation panels*': Chemistry (CHE), Social Sciences and Humanities (SOC), Economic Sciences (ECO), Information Science and Engineering (ENG), Environment and Geosciences (ENV), Life Sciences (LIF), Mathematics (MAT), Physics (PHY).

SECONDMENTS & PLACEMENT

SECONDMENT(S): During the execution of the Project, it is advisable to carry out at least one in a MS/AC institution.

MSCA-PF European	MSCA-PF Global
Up to 1/3 of the standard project duration	Permitted for up to 1/3 of the outgoing phase or at the beginning of the Project (max. 3 months).

FINAL PLACEMENT: At the end of the project, a 6-month Placement in a non-academic sector organisation.

MSCA-PF European	MSCA-PF Global
Additional period after the standard duration of the fellowship, and has to be carried out in a MS/AC and in the non-academic sector.	

IMPORTANT: Try to include *Secondment(s)* and/or a *Placement* in the proposal, Both should bring a clear added value to the proposal.

----- CALL 2024 -----

TOPIC ID	HORIZON-MSCA-2024-PF-01-01	
Budget	271 M€	
Opening date & Deadline	10 April 2024	11 September 2024
Deadline model	Single-stage	