

# Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Horizon Europe

Postdoctoral Fellowships Call 2021 – MSCA PF 2021

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# Content

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- Postdoctoral Fellowships Call 2021 – MSCA PF 2021:
  - ✓ Objectives
  - ✓ Timelines
  - ✓ Participation modes
  - ✓ Eligible institutions and researchers
  - ✓ What is a PF project?
  - ✓ Budget
  - ✓ Summary table
- Evaluation and general tips
- Useful resources

# MSCA PF 2021: aim

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- Support **excellent researchers** and **foster excellence** through the implementation of research projects.
- Focus on **I3** (international, inter- sectoral, interdisciplinary) mobility.
- Improve **employability** and **career prospects** within academia and beyond.
- Enhance the **creative and innovation potential** of researchers holding a PhD.
- Bridges and exposure to the **non- academic sector**.

## ***WHO?***

An individual  
postdoctoral  
researcher and a host  
organisation

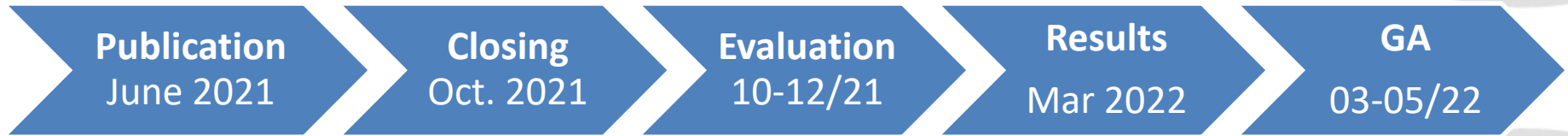
## ***HOW?***

An excellent research  
deployed to the  
scientific proposal

# MSCA PF 2021: timeline

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Call ID	Opens	Closes	Budget
TMA-MSCA-PF-2021	22/06/2021	12/10/2021	242M€ + 1M€ Euratom



# MSCA PF 2021: European Fellowships

## EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIPS

MS/AC



- For fellows coming to or moving within European countries.
- **Panels are discontinued**, new incentives apply
- **EURATOM areas** now included

- Open to all nationalities
- Mobility rule applies
- 12-24 (+6 months) duration
- For EU nationals or long-term residents who wish to reintegrate time outside of EU will not count towards scientific age
- Possibility to carry out secondments worldwide
- Possibility to have a placement at the end of the fellowship

# MSCA PF 2021: Global Fellowships

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## GLOBAL FELLOWSHIPS

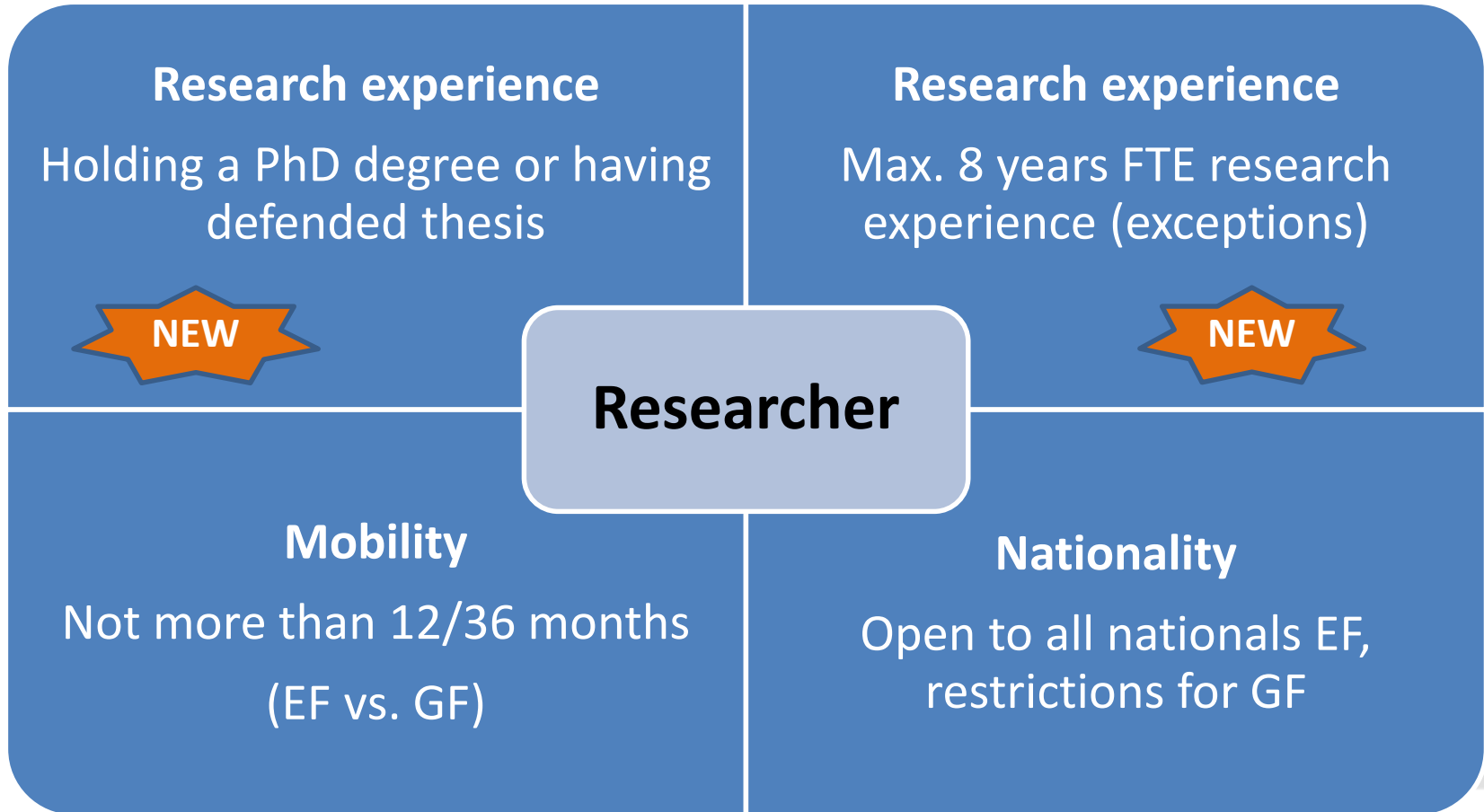
TC  
MS/AC



- National or long term residents of EU MS/AC to do a **research in a Third Country**
- Transfer of knowledge, through a **Return Phase to Europe** is mandatory.

- Open to EU/AC nationals or long-term residents
- Mobility rule applies in Third Country
- 24 - 36 months duration
- Possibility to carry out secondments in the outgoing phase

# MSCA PF 2021: who can apply



**Eligibility aspects measured at call deadline**

# MSCA PF 2021: Research experience

## MSCA-PF: self-assessment tool - 8 years of research experience - INSTRUCTIONS

### STEP 1

1. Indicate the date of PhD award (mandatory)
2. Indicate the gender of the researcher (optional)
3. Consult the initial outcome of the self-assessment, and if needed proceed to step 2

### STEP 2

1. Fill out any relevant category of deduction (using full days) - do not deduct the same period in multiple categories:

Maternity leave:	Minimum 548 days per child born after the PhD award date, or the exact duration, whichever is longest.
Paternity leave:	Exact duration per child born after the PhD award date.
Time spent not working in research:	<p>The period spent in a non-research position should be completely deducted from the FTE experience in research. However, for a period spent in a research position, the time spent outside of your main research activity (including teaching) could be deducted as a percentage of FTE provided that it can be documented by e.g. work contract/job description and quantified based on documentation/proof which the host organisation (beneficiary) needs to keep for their records (not to be included in the proposal).</p> <p>Please use the embedded calculator in the wizard for each of your employment contract(s) for a calculation of the FTE to be deducted from the research experience.</p>
Career breaks:	Any other career breaks, such as unemployment.
National service:	Time spent in national service.
Long term sick leave:	Only documented periods of more than 30 days are considered as long term sick leave.
Research experience in third country:	Such research activities can be deducted only for nationals or long-term residents of Member States or Associated Countries, wishing to reintegrate in Europe, and participating in European Postdoctoral Fellowships.

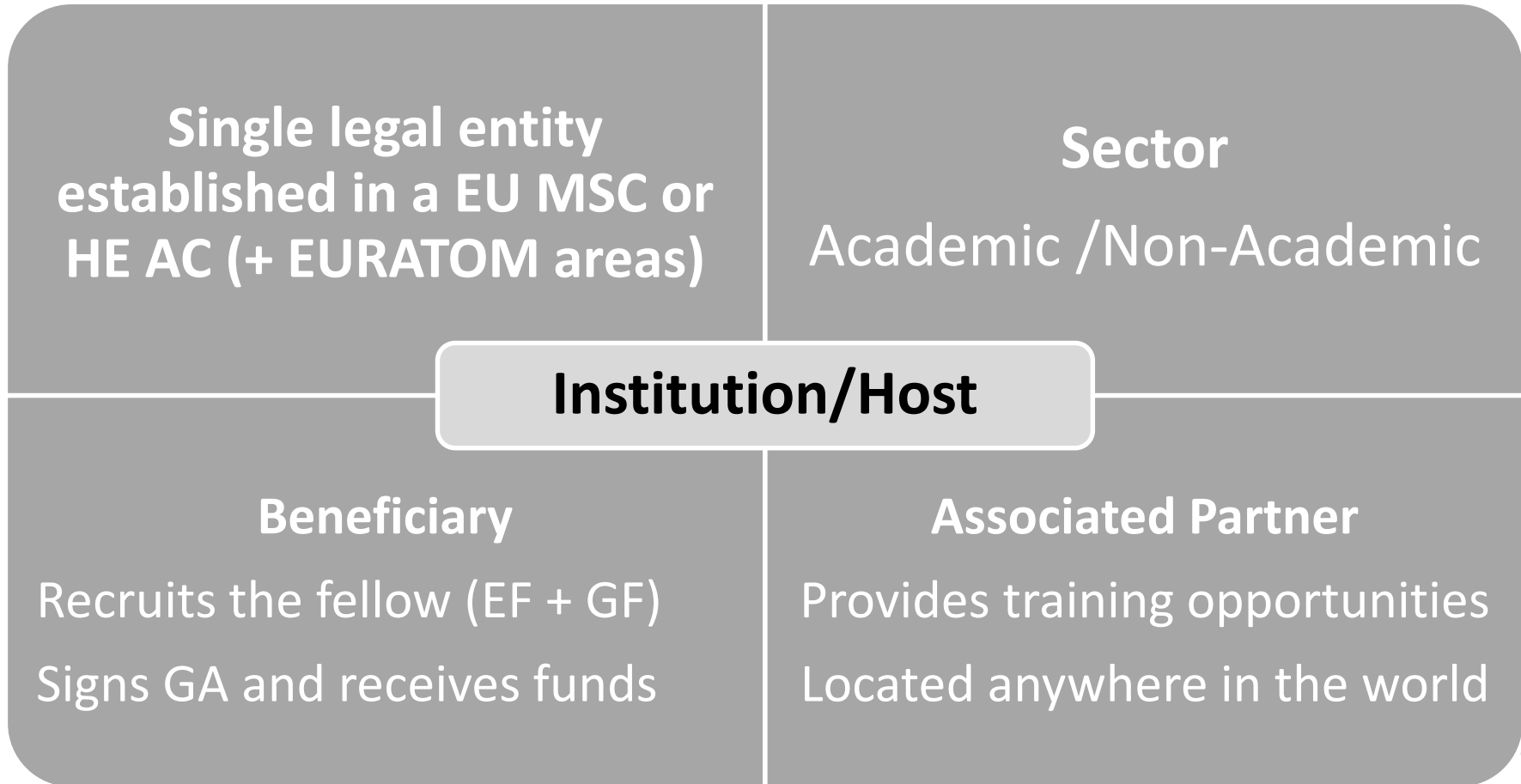
2. Consult the final outcome of the self-assessment

[Horizon Europe MSCA - How to apply \(europa.eu\)](https://europea.eu)



# MSCA PF 2021: who can apply

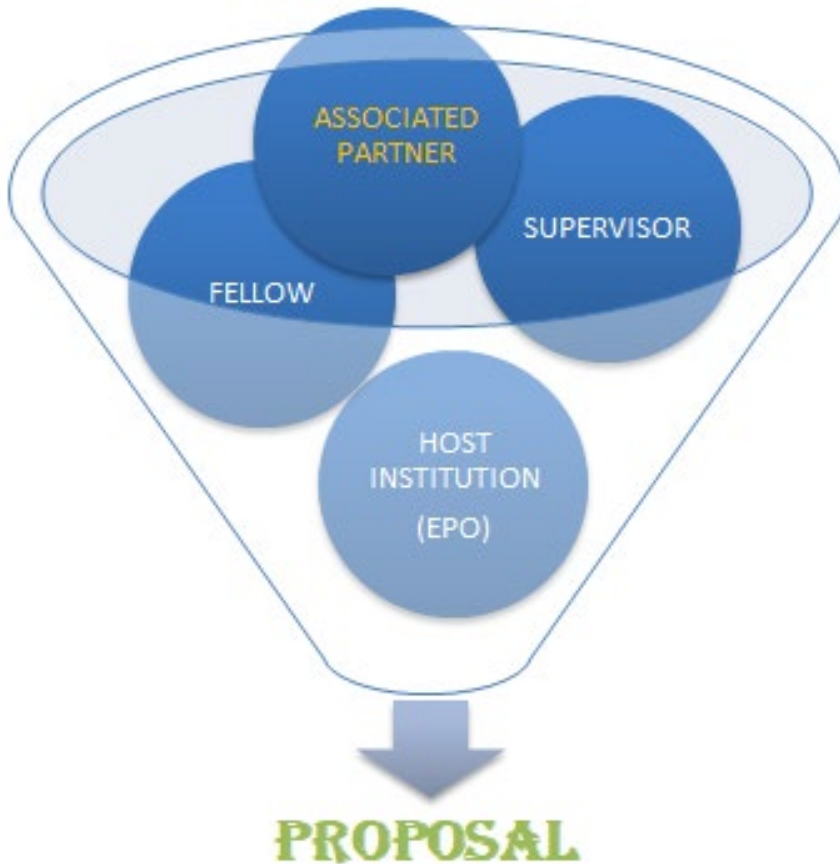
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**Letters of commitment will apply for Placements (EF) and outgoing phases (GF)**

# MSCA PF 2021: how does it work?

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- Individual project supported by Host Institution
- Ensure the supervisor and European Project Office (EPO) participation in the process

# MSCA PF 2021: how does it work?

## Knowledge exchange

- Between the fellow and host and any partner organisations

## Career development (training)

- **Research Skills:** These are core skills relating to your project. Training Through Research
- **Additional Research Skills:** These are research skills that will advance your competencies in the research areas.
- **Transferable & Complementary Skills:** Transferable skills are the skills you acquire and transfer to future employment settings. Training Through Research or additional courses.
- **Training Through Research:** detail the core & advanced research skills you will develop and how your supervisor/host environment/partner organisations/short visits will enable you to develop them

## Brings together

- Research and Training
- Researcher and Supervisor/host

# MSCA PF 2021: secondments and placements

	Secondment	Non-academic Placement
Maximum Duration	EF: Up to 1/3 of the normal project duration GF: Up to 1/3 of the duration of the outgoing phase	Additional. Up to 6 months
Timing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- At any time during the normal duration of the project (except during the return phase of a GF)</li> <li>- Can be divided in several smaller periods</li> </ul>	After the end of the normal project duration
Mobility	Any country worldwide	EU MS or HE AC
Sector	Any sector	Non-academic sector only
Encoding in Part A	Yes. In "Call Specific Questions" - complete all required information.	Yes. The associated partner must be encoded as participant.
Description in Part B-1	Yes. Its relevance and quality will be assessed by the evaluators.	Yes. Its relevance and quality will be assessed by the evaluators.
Supporting Document in Part B-2	None.	Yes. A letter of commitment is required.

- Not obligatory, must be well defined in the project
- Supervisors are needed in both cases

# MSCA PF 2021: Unit Costs

## Contributions for recruited researchers

Per person-month

## Institutional unit contributions

Per person-month

Living allowance	Mobility allowance	Family allowance (if applicable)	<b>NEW</b> Long-term leave allowance (if applicable)	Special needs allowance (if applicable)	Research, training and networking contribution	Management and indirect contribution
EUR 5 080	EUR 600	EUR 660	EUR 5 680 x % covered by the beneficiary	Requested unit x (1/number of months)	EUR 1 000	EUR 650

- Budget pre-calculated by EC, base on unit costs
- 100% financing

# MSCA PF 2021: Unit Costs

MSCA	Researcher Unit Cost (person/month)			Institutional Unit Cost (P/M)	
	Living Allowance*	Mobility Allowance	Family Allowance	Research, training and networking	Management and overheads
IF	5.080	600	660	1.000	650
IF ES	4.638,04	600	660	1.000	650
IF 24 months ES	111.312,96	14.400	15.840	24.000	15.600
TOTAL IF 2 years	181.152,96€				

## RESEARCHER UNIT COST

### Living Allowance:

- CCC: country correction factor applies (host country) **91,3**
- Gross EU contribution living allowance (- cuota patronal, - taxes, - S.S...) before taxes!

## INSTITUCIONAL UNIT COST

### Research, training and networking costs:

- Purchase of material, organisation and travel to events, payment of conferences fees, etc.

### Management and overheads:

- Indirect costs for institutions

# MSCA: Evolution, not revolution – PF 2021

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Unique mobility rule

Eligibility of researcher

Bottom up  
+  
Euratom

European and Global  
Fellowships

World wide  
secondments up to  
1/3 of the duration

Additional placement  
to the EU/AC non-  
academic organisation  
for 6 months

Increased budget  
categories

Evaluation criteria

Resubmission  
restriction

# MSCA PF 2021: Proposal Structure

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## Part A

Administrative  
aspects

## Part B

Technical part

Doc B1

Doc B2

- **Electronic Submission**
- **Download Part B template from the official site**
- **Get familiar with the submission procedure**



# MSCA PF 2021: Evaluation Procedure

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- Proposals will be evaluated by one of the eight main evaluation panels:



- Each panel will establish two ranked lists, one for European and one for Global Postdoctoral Fellowships
- Seals of Excellence will be awarded to applications with a total score **equal to or higher than 85%**, but which cannot be funded due to lack of budget available to the call.

# MSCA PF 2021: Evaluation Procedure

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- Only one proposal per individual researcher can be submitted.
- In case of several proposals involving the same individual researcher, only the last submitted one will be considered eligible.
- If proposals with the same research objectives and work plan are submitted for different researchers, only the first submitted one will be considered eligible

# MSCA PF 2021: Criteria and Equal Scores

- PART A
- PART B
  - ✓ B1 (10 pages)
  - ✓ B2

Criteria	Weight	Priority (ex.aequo)
Excellence	50%	1
Impact	30%	2
Implementation	20%	3

1. The proposals will be prioritised according to the scores they have been awarded for the criterion 'Excellence'. When these scores are equal, priority will be based on scores for the criterion 'Impact'.
2. If necessary, the gender balance among postdoctoral fellows will be used as a factor for prioritisation.
3. If a distinction still cannot be made, the panel may decide to further prioritise by considering other factors such as gender and other diversity aspects in the research activities, participation of the non-academic sector (including involvement of SMEs), geographical diversity, favourable employment and working conditions or relationship to the Horizon Europe objectives in general.

# MSCA PF 2021: Award Criteria

Excellence (50%)	Impact (30%)	Quality and efficiency of the implementation (20%)
Quality and pertinence of the <b>project's research and innovation objectives</b> (and the extent to which they are ambitious, and go beyond the state of the art)	Credibility of the measures to <b>enhance the career perspectives and employability</b> of the researcher and contribution to his/her skills development	Quality and effectiveness of the <b>work plan</b> , assessment of risks and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages
<b>Soundness of the proposed methodology</b> (including interdisciplinary approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects if relevant for the research project, and the quality of open science practices)	Suitability and quality of the measures to <b>maximise expected outcomes and impacts</b> , as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities	Quality and capacity of <b>the host institutions and participating organisations</b> , including hosting arrangements
Quality of the <b>supervision, training and of the two-way transfer of knowledge</b> between the researcher and the host	The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the <b>expected scientific, societal and economic impacts</b> .	
Quality and appropriateness of the <b>researcher's professional experience</b> , competences and skills.		

The information in this presentation is preliminary and subject to the adoption of the work programme



# MSCA PF 2021: Award Criteria

## Excellence (50%)

Quality and pertinence of the **project's research and innovation objectives** (and the extent to which they are ambitious, and go beyond the state of the art)

**Soundness of the proposed methodology** (including interdisciplinary approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects if relevant for the research project, and the quality of open science practices)

Quality of the **supervision, training and of the two-way transfer of knowledge** between the researcher and the host

Quality and appropriateness of the **researcher's professional experience**, competences and skills.

## Changes to H2020

- H2020 subcriterion 1.1 split in two parts in HE (now 1.1 and 1.2)
- H2020 subcriteria 1.2 and 1.3 merged into one in HE (now 1.3)

## New in HE:

- Optional placement in non-academic sector assessed under HE criterion 1.3
- Gender dimension and open science to be addressed

# MSCA PF 2021: Award Criteria

## Impact (30%)

Credibility of the measures to **enhance the career perspectives and employability** of the researcher and contribution to his/her skills development

Suitability and quality of the measures to **maximise expected outcomes and impacts**, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities

The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the **expected scientific, societal and economic impacts**.

## Changes to H2020

- H2020 subcriteria 2.2 and 2.3 merged into one in HE (now 2.2)

## New in HE:

- Addition of subcriterion 2.3: Impact assessed not only in scientific area, but also on societal and economic levels

# MSCA PF 2021: Award Criteria

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## Quality and efficiency of the implementation (20%)

Quality and effectiveness of the **work plan**, assessment of risks and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages

Quality and capacity of **the host institutions and participating organisations**, including hosting arrangements

### Changes to H2020:

- Re-arranging and merging of three H2020 subcriteria into 2 HE subcriteria



# MSCA PF 2021: General tips for proposal writing

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## About the project :

- A PF proposal is **not a research proposal** as such, but a **proposal for training in research**
- **Don't be over-ambitious** –it is a common flaw that the work plan is not realistic
- Be precise – less is sometimes more; structure the proposal well
- Try to have the best match researcher/supervisor/Host Institution

## About the researchers' CV:

- CV don't have to be perfect, but the **training should mend any shortcomings**
- The **employability** after the fellowship is key



# MSCA PF 2021: General tips for proposal writing

## General Approach:

- It is an individual project but a collaborative work.
- **Involve the HOST institution:** European Projects Offices / Transfer of Technology Offices / HR Departments, other colleagues...
- National Contact Points...
- Get familiar with the Funding and Tenders ' Portal, upload a version, you will be able to rewrite it

## About the evaluation:

- The **weighting of criteria** is 50% -30% -20%. You need to perform at close to 100% on each
- **Follow the template** –the evaluators need to find all key points
- The reviewers may not be specialists in the field
- **“Una imagen vale más que mil palabras”:** use visuals to provide global information at a glance



# MSCA: Where to find the information

European Commission | Funding & tender opportunities  
Single Electronic Data Interchange Area (SEDIA)

SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS | HOW TO PARTICIPATE | PROJECTS & RESULTS | WORK AS AN EXPERT | SUPPORT

Horizon Europe (HORIZON)

Type your Keywords...

Match whole words only

GRANTS  TENDERS

Submission status

Forthcoming  Open for submission  Closed

Programming period

Select a Programme period...

Horizon Europe (HORIZON) X

Programme part

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

Funding and tenders (0)  
The search did not give any results.

[Search Funding & Tenders  
\(europa.eu\)](https://europa.eu)

**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
READ THE GUIDE  
FOR APPLICANTS**

# MSCA PF 2021: where to find the information

Pilar 1: CIENCIA EXCELENTE

Acciones Marie Skłodowska-Curie (MSCA)

Sesiones informativas y documentación de apoyo Convocatoria Proyectos Posdoctorales MSCA 2021

## Sesiones informativas y documentación de apoyo Convocatoria Proyectos Posdoctorales MSCA 2021 | Horizonte Europa

### Sesiones informativas y documentación de apoyo Convocatoria Proyectos Posdoctorales MSCA 2021

14 de Mayo de 2021

Acciones Marie Skłodowska-Curie (MSCA)

La Convocatoria Proyectos Posdoctorales (MSCA PF 2021) abrirá el próximo 27/05/2021 con fecha de cierre 15/09/2021 y cuenta con un presupuesto de 243 millones de euros (242 M€ MSCA + 1 M€ Programa Euratom). Estos datos son provisionales a falta de fecha de aprobación del Programa de Trabajo.

La convocatoria MSCA PF 2021 está abierta a personal investigador de cualquier nacionalidad que cuente con un máximo de 8 años de experiencia investigadora y que desee adquirir nuevas habilidades a través de la formación avanzada y la movilidad internacional, interdisciplinar e intersectorial.

Las actividades de difusión y promoción están dirigidas al personal investigador y al personal de supervisión/gestión encargado de apoyar las solicitudes en las instituciones españolas.

Las sesiones informativas son las siguientes:

<b>Convocatoria MSCA PF 2021  Proyectos Posdoctorales</b>	21/05	Webinario nacional. Aspectos generales de la convocatoria
	26/05	Webinario autonómico Andalucía
	01/06	Webinario autonómico País Vasco
	09/06	Webinario autonómico Castilla y León
	17/06	Webinario autonómico Galicia
	22/06	Webinario nacional. Aspectos prácticos preparación propuestas
	Mes de Julio:	Cafés con los Puntos Nacionales de Contacto (actividad abierta a personal de gestión y supervisión centros)

La documentación se irá actualizando a medida que tengan lugar las diferentes sesiones.

Webinario nacional 21/05/2021.

En esta sesión se ofrecerá información sobre las novedades, reglas de participación, aspectos de elegibilidad y demás aspectos generales de esta primera convocatoria MSCA en Horizonte Europa. Se contará igualmente con el testimonio de una investigadora y supervisora en un centro español beneficiaria de una Acción Individual (MSCA-IR) en el anterior programa marco, que nos contarán su experiencia. Finalmente, explicaremos el apoyo que los Puntos Nacionales de Contacto vamos a ofrecer para esta convocatoria en España.

La sesión se realizará en español y en inglés y no está prevista ningún tipo de traducción.

Inscripción: <https://bit.ly/2faXmUB>

Webinario nacional 22/06/2021.

Esta sesión se centrará en aspectos más prácticos relacionados con los diferentes criterios de evaluación y pautas para escribir una propuesta competitiva. Los Puntos Nacionales de Contacto de MSCA serán los encargados de impartir este seminario.

Inscripción: <https://bit.ly/2hmwYET>

Sesiones "Cafés con tu NCP": 2 fechas a fijar en el mes de julio 2021.

Sesiones informales de resolución de dudas concretas sobre cuestiones predeterminadas abiertas al personal de gestión y supervisión de las instituciones españolas. Impartidos por los Puntos Nacionales de Contacto de MSCA.

 [@horizonteeuropa](https://twitter.com/horizonteeuropa)

# MSCA Useful links

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## Marie Curie Actions Website

<http://ec.europa.eu/mariecurieactions>

 [marie.curie.actions](https://www.facebook.com/marie.curie.actions)

 [@MSCActions](https://twitter.com/MSCActions)

## Net4mobility+ Project

<http://www.net4mobilityplus.eu>

## Euraxess Portal (vacancies, more information)

<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/>

Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less

¡Muchas gracias!

**Cristina Gómez**

MSCA NCP in Spain

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