

IARC POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS FOR TRAINING IN CANCER RESEARCH

Further information for applicants

1. ELIGIBILITY

The IARC fellowships are intended for junior scientists who are engaged in research in medical or allied sciences, and wish to pursue a career in cancer research.

IARC wishes to stimulate research in those areas of cancer research related to its activities, namely, epidemiology (including genetic and molecular), biostatistics, bioinformatics, and areas related to, mechanisms of carcinogenesis including molecular and cell biology, molecular genetics, epigenetics, and molecular pathology, with emphasis on interdisciplinary projects, and applicants can only be accepted in these fields. **Applicants are eligible from any country.** The IARC is particularly keen to promote the development of expertise in cancer research in low- and medium-income countries (LMICs) by training postdoctoral researchers from these countries who can return to apply their new skills and expertise. **Therefore, applications from candidates from low- and medium-resource countries or from any part of the world but with projects related to low- and medium-resource countries are encouraged.**

It is anticipated that with widened experience gained from working at the Agency, the Fellows will return to their home institute, able to make an increasing contribution to cancer research. As an international Agency with an interest in capacity building in LMICs, an important selection criterion is return home, especially with regard to candidates from LMICs: **additional points will therefore be granted to applications from LMIC candidates who are likely to return to their country of origin.**

Candidates are required to have finished their doctoral degree (Ph.D.) within five years of the closing date for application or be in the final phase of completing their doctoral degree. The working languages at IARC are English and French. Candidates must be proficient in English at a level sufficient for scientific communication.

Candidates attached to commercial entities or who have an association with the tobacco industry are not eligible.

Candidates currently working as IARC-funded postdoctoral scientists, or candidates who have worked at the Agency as a postdoc for a period greater than six months, cannot be considered.

2. APPLICATIONS

Applications should be made on-line via the Agency's web site: <http://www.iarc.fr>. More information can be obtained from the Fellowship Programme, International Agency for Research on Cancer, 150, cours Albert-Thomas, 69372 Lyon Cedex 08, France (tel.: 33 472 73 84 48, fax: 33 472 73 80 80; e-mail: fel@iarc.fr). When applicable, applications must be supported by the Director of the applicant's own institution. The closing date for receipt of applications will be 30 November.

3. SELECTION OF CANDIDATES

The selection of candidates is made by a Selection Committee composed of scientists of international reputation in the field of cancer research who are not members of the IARC staff, together with scientists working in the IARC. Eligibility of candidates is checked. Applications from technically eligible candidates are assessed through a 2-step process: (1) review and ranking of all applications; (2) interview and scientific review of the candidates in the top of the ranking (corresponding to 2-2.5 x the number of fellowships to be funded), by two different external members of the Selection Committee, usually during February or March.

The Selection Committee meets at the Agency in March/April and reviews and ranks all applications that were retained for interview and for which all required references have been received. Provided that applications reach the required high standard, the number of awards is determined by the available funds.

Successful applicants will be notified before 30 April and will be sent in detail all the conditions of the fellowship and the amount of their stipend and allowances.

4. TENURE

The fellowships are tenable in any research Group at the Agency in Lyon, France. They are awarded for a period of two years, the second year being subject to satisfactory appraisal. Fellowships must be taken up by **30 November** of the year of award. Applicants are encouraged to contact the host Group(s) of their choice at IARC **before application** in order to interact closely to establish a proposed programme of mutual interest. Details regarding the IARC's research programmes are available on the Agency's web site: <http://www.iarc.fr> (see Research Sections), through which contact can be made with the Group Heads.

5. REPORTS

Fellows are required to submit a report to the IARC at the end of their fellowship. The supervisor is also asked to submit a confidential report on the fellowship.

6. STIPENDS

The annual stipend is currently 33 000 Euros and will be paid monthly in advance. Stipends are not considered as a substitute for any salary paid to a Fellow at home.

7. RETURN GRANT

A small grant to start up an independent research programme linked to IARC's activities upon return to the home country may be provided on a competitive basis to selected IARC postdoctoral fellows from low- and medium-resource countries upon successful completion of the training period at IARC. The Fellow will submit a project to the Fellowship Committee for consideration at the Committee meeting preceding their departure. The amount and duration of the grant will be decided on a case-by-case basis. The grant may not be used to pay the returning Fellow's salary.

8. TRAVEL ALLOWANCES & HEALTH INSURANCE

Travel allowance up to a maximum of a tourist (economy class) return fare will be provided for the Fellow. Normally air and/or rail tickets will be provided by the IARC. Fellows will be responsible for meeting passport, visa, immigration and vaccination requirements. The IARC can assist only to the extent of providing letters as evidence of appointment and financial support. The cost of health insurance cover for the Fellow and agreed accompanying dependants will also be reimbursed up to the ceiling rates applied by IARC.

9. DEPENDANTS' ALLOWANCES

The IARC may provide travel for one dependant who accompanies the Fellow for a period of at least 8 months, under the same conditions as those for the Fellow, or reimburse travel for the Fellow and dependants accompanying for at least 8 months, up to a maximum of 2 full economy class adult return air fares; family allowances are paid: for a dependent spouse 310 Euros and for each dependent child 350 Euros annually.

Any matters of detail not expressly provided for above will be dealt with, as appropriate, in accordance with the fellowship regulations and travel rules of the IARC.

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**An individual researcher cannot benefit at the same time from more than one Marie Curie Action.*

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