



MSCA Choose Europe for Science 2025

INFO DAY 9th October 2025

This info session is intended for

ORGANISATIONS

entitled to apply for the Choose Europe for Science call



NOT relevant for individual researchers!

What is MSCA Choose Europe for Science?

Mono-beneficiary action:

recruit and train researchers at postdoctoral level with a vision to employment beyond the project period

Focus:

tackling precarity in research careers
spreading best practice through promoting high standards & excellent working conditions
encouraging sustainable structuring effects

MSCA Choose Europe for Science: For whom?

Beneficiary:

Single legal entity established in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country

→ Recruits and hosts researchers

NO implementing partners

Associated Partners:

→ Can contribute to training, secondments, resources, ...

→ Cannot claim costs or recruit researchers

Choose Europe for Science



Co-funding

Max. EUR 3.5m/beneficiary/call



Duration

Programme: max. 72 months
Fellowship: 48 or 60 months



Recruitment

Fellows: min. 3 fellows must be recruited

Choose Europe for Science: Eligible researchers



**PhD holders
(postdoc)**



**Not
permanently
employed by
beneficiary**



Any nationality



Mobility rule

Choose Europe for Science: Award criteria

Excellence (50%) → threshold = 3

Impact (30%)

Implementation (20%)

Choose Europe for Science: Evaluation Criteria

Excellence (50%)

Quality of the **selection / recruitment process for the researchers**

Quality and attractiveness of the **appointment condition**

Quality and attractiveness of the **concrete long-term career prospects**

Quality and ambition of the **research, innovation and/or academic objectives** of the recruitment programme

Threshold for Excellence criterion = 3

Choose Europe for Science: Evaluation Criteria

Impact (30%)

Contribution to addressing **local human resource needs**, to advancing regional/national **specialisation strategies**, and to strengthening **European research, innovation and teaching capacity**

Strengthening human resources good practices at institutional, regional, national, or international level

Choose Europe for Science: Evaluation Criteria

Implementation (20%)

Quality, credibility and effectiveness of the recruitment plan, assessment of risks and appropriateness of the effort assigned towards offering concrete career prospects for recruited researchers

Quality and capacity of the recruiting institutions, including hosting arrangements and institutional procedures' alignment with the European Charter for Researchers (institutions with the HRS4R label are exempted from providing further justification for this criterion) and the Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment

Choose Europe for Science: Describing career options

Concrete prospects

- Post-project prospects should be adapted to national laws and limitations
- They can be:
 - Direct recruitment into an open-ended contract
 - Structured accession and progression system which can include performance evaluations
 - Open recruitment for a position in the field of the project
- The project should train and prepare the fellows for the concrete prospect proposed

Roles

- Work related to research and academic teaching i.e. senior researchers, lecturers, data scientists, research managers, specialised technicians, ...
- Open to needs of institutions, local R&I ecosystems and researchers

Choose Europe for Science: 2 phases

Choose Europe for Science Programme

1st Phase **24 or 36 months**

- EU funding in the form of a Choose Europe for Science allowance
- Minimum remuneration

2nd Phase **24 months**

- Beneficiary covers all costs and sets remuneration

Choose Europe for Science: 1st Phase

EU Contributions for recruited researchers

Per person-month for the 1st Phase of the programmes

Choose Europe for
Science allowance

EUR 6 700*

Long-term leave
allowance
(if applicable)

EUR 6 700

x

% covered by the
beneficiary

Special needs
allowance
(if applicable)

Requested unit**

x

(1/number of months)

* This amount is also the minimum monthly gross remuneration applicable for researchers recruited under these programmes

** The pre-defined categories are as follows: EUR 3 000, EUR 4 500, EUR 6 000, EUR 9 500, EUR 13 000, EUR 18 500, EUR 27 500, EUR 35 500, EUR 47 500 and EUR 60 000



Choose Europe for Science: 1st Phase

Choose Europe for Science allowance

- EUR 6,700 per person/month
- Can be used to support any cost items of the programme***

Monthly gross remuneration

- EUR 6,700 minimum
- No maximum set
- Must be communicated in the proposal and the recruitment call

***This will allow flexibility for institutions using Choose Europe for Science to expand an existing scheme that includes dedicated local, regional or national funds earmarked for salary who wish to deploy this funding already in the first phase.

Choose Europe for Science: 2nd Phase

Monthly gross remuneration****

- To be set by the beneficiary, ensuring it is competitive for the standards of the hosting countries
- Must be communicated in the proposal and the recruitment call

**** i.e. salaries, social security contributions, taxes and other costs or compulsory deductions under national legislation linked to remuneration

Choose Europe for Science: Project implementation



Employment
contract or
equivalent direct
contract



Fixed-amount
fellowships*****

***** An exemption from this rule can be accepted only in cases where national legislation or the equivalent internal regulations of International European Research Organisations (IERO), entities created under Union law, or an international organisation, prohibit this possibility and subject to the prior agreement of the granting authority

Choose Europe for Science: 2025 call



Opening

1 October 2025

Closing

3 December 2025



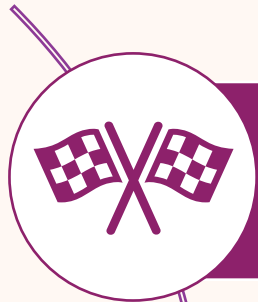
Budget (EUR m)

22.5 Mio Euro



European
Commission

Choose Europe for Science: Potential challenges



Biased selection process



Lack of connection to long-term perspectives



Lack of clarity: remuneration

Cofund vs. Choose Europe for Science 2025 (1)

	COFUND Postdoctoral 2025	Choose Europe for Science 2025
BENEFICIARY TYPE	Mono-beneficiary • WITH Implementing Partners (recruit and host researchers and claim costs) • WITH Associated Partners (support without recruitment or claiming costs)	Mono-beneficiary where only the beneficiary can recruit and host fellows • WITHOUT Implementing Partners • WITH Associated Partners (support without recruitment or claiming costs)
FOCUS	• Best practices • High standards and excellent working conditions, sustainable structuring effects • Synergies with other EU funds	• Tackling precarity in research careers • Best practice through promoting high standards & excellent working conditions • Encouraging sustainable structuring effects
SALARY	Across the entire project period: - EUR 4700 EU co-funding , and a minimum gross monthly remuneration is set	Two phases - 1st phase (24 or 36 months): EUR 6700 EU co-funding, and a min. gross monthly remuneration set - 2nd phase (24 months): beneficiary covers all costs and sets the remuneration at national level
BUDGET	Total budget: around 105.56 M EUR Per beneficiary per call: Max 10 M EUR	Total budget: 22.5 M EUR Per beneficiary per call: Max 3.5 M EUR

Cofund vs. Choose Europe for Science 2025 (2)

	COFUND Postdoctoral 2025	Choose Europe for Science 2025
EXTRA FUNDS	Beneficiaries are responsible for sourcing complementary funds for running their programme. These can be external funds but must be managed by the beneficiary or implementing partners	Beneficiaries are responsible for sourcing complementary funds for running their programme. These can be external funds but must be managed by the beneficiary
ALLOW-ANCE	Equal to the minimum gross monthly remuneration but can be used across all cost categories	(1st phase only) equal to the minimum gross monthly remuneration but can be used across all cost categories
DURATION	Project: Maximum 60 months Fellowship: Minimum 3 months	Project: Maximum 72 months Fellowship: 48 (24+24) or 60 (36+24) months
RESEARCHERS	Minimum 3 researchers recruited Eligibility: - PhD by the call deadline of the selected projects - Mobility rule - Not permanently employed by recruiter	

A stylized, high-contrast portrait of a woman's face, rendered in a light purple or pinkish-grey color. The portrait is composed of fine, intersecting lines that create a textured, almost halftone effect. It is positioned on the left side of the slide, partially cut off by the edge.

QUESTIONS?



THANK YOU
FOR JOINING

