

MSCA-PF: Expression of Interest

1. European Postdoctoral Fellowships

Purpose

- Support excellent researchers of **any nationality** who want to conduct research in Europe or move within Europe.
- Enhance scientific excellence, mobility, and acquisition of new skills through advanced training.
- Improve talent and facilitate knowledge transfer across Europe.

Mobility & Eligibility

- Supported fellows must be **postdoctoral researchers** at the date of the call deadline.
- At the call deadline, researchers must have a **maximum of 8 years** full-time equivalent experience in research, measured from the date of award of the doctoral degree.
- Researchers must comply with the **mobility rule**: they must not have lived or worked in the host country for more than 12 months in the last 36 months before the call deadline.
- Researchers can be of **any nationality**.

Duration

- 12 to 24 months hosted in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country.
- An **additional period of up to six months at the end of the project** can be awarded to researchers who will spend that period in a non-academic organisation established in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country.

Impact for Fellows

- Improved research and transferable skills.
- International, inter-sectorial and interdisciplinary experience
- Stronger employability inside and outside academia.
- Broader networks and enhanced communication skills.

Allowance

There are two types of contributions:

- a) Contributions for the recruited researcher (per person-month)
- **Living allowance: 6350€** (minus all compulsory deductions under national legislation).
 - **Mobility allowance: 710€**. This allowance covers their additional, private mobility-related costs (e.g. travel and accommodation costs).
 - **Family allowance: 660€**. If the postdoctoral researcher has or acquires family obligations during the action duration
 - **Long-term leave allowance: 7060€ * % covered by the beneficiary**. This allowance contributes to the personnel costs incurred by the beneficiary in case of the researcher's leave, including maternity, paternity, parental, sick or special leave, longer than 30 consecutive days.
 - **Special needs allowance: Requested unit * (1/number of months)**. This allowance contributes to the additional costs for the acquisition of special needs items and services for researchers with disabilities
- b) Institutional unit contribution (per person-month)
- **Research, training and networking contribution: 1000€**. This should cover, for example, costs for training and networking activities that contribute directly to the researchers' career development.

A country correction coefficient (CCC) applies to the living allowance to ensure equal treatment and purchasing power parity for all researchers. For Spain, the CCC is **94.2%**.

For more information, you can access the full work programme [here](#).

2. Brief description of IRB CatSud

The Institut de Recerca Biomèdica Catalunya sud (IRB CatSud) is an institution that integrates research in the field of biomedicine in the Camp de Tarragona and the Terres de l'Ebre. IRB CatSud is the instrument that the university hospitals of both health regions have been endowed with (Joan XXIII University Hospital of Tarragona, Verge de la Cinta Hospital of Tortosa, Sant Joan de Reus University Hospital, Institut Pere Mata University Hospital of Reus) and Rovira and Virgili University, in order to bring together and manage biomedical research and innovation in the territory.

Seu Reus:

Hospital Universitari Sant Joan de Reus
 Avda. Josep Laporte, 2
 Planta 0 - E2 color taronja
 43204 (Tarragona)

Seu Tarragona:

Parc Sanitari Joan XXIII
 C/ Doctor Mallafre, 4
 Edifici IRBCatSud
 43005 (Tarragona)

The research we lead aims to answer relevant questions related to the health of the population through the scientific method, the most advanced technology and the talent of the people who work in our teams. We listen to patients, we look for strategies to develop our projects, we seek financing to carry them out and, finally, we transfer the results achieved to society by promoting spin-offs or medical devices that we patent.

IRB CatSud and the research groups that belong to it have enormous international prestige. We are part of the CERCA institution (Institution of Research Centers of Catalonia Foundation (I-CERCA) of Catalonia).

For more information about our Institute, visit the following website:
<https://www.iispv.cat/en/>

3. Short presentation about the group and research lines

Research Group in Oncological Pathology and Bioinformatics (PO&B)

Our group conducts clinically driven translational research, mainly focused on breast cancer and lymphoid malignancies, integrating experimental, computational and clinical approaches, including:

- Histopathology and digital pathology (whole-slide imaging, WSI)
- Quantitative analysis of the tumour immune microenvironment
- AI-based image analysis, machine learning and deep learning
- Bioinformatics and integrative analysis of clinical, histological and molecular data
- Current research lines include:
 - Immune response characterization in primary tumours and axillary lymph nodes
 - Quantification and spatial analysis of immune biomarkers (e.g. TILs, immune subpopulations)
 - Development of AI pipelines for automated analysis of whole-slide images
 - Predictive modelling of relapse and metastasis using ML, network-based and agent-based models
 - Integration of histological, clinical and transcriptomic data for precision oncology
 - Translational and innovation-oriented projects linked to clinical validation and regulatory frameworks

More information: <https://www.iispv.cat/en/grup/recerca-en-patologia-oncologica-i-bioinformatica-pob/>

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Candidate profile

We are specifically looking for postdoctoral researchers who meet the eligibility criteria of the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships, including:

- A doctoral degree at the time of the call deadline
- Compliance with MSCA mobility rules
- A strong research track record and motivation to develop an independent research project
- Relevant backgrounds include one or more of the following areas:
- Cancer immunology
- Digital pathology and AI-based image analysis
- Bioinformatics, computational biology or genomics
- Machine learning applied to biomedical data
- Translational oncology research

Candidates should be interested in co-developing a competitive MSCA proposal aligned with the group's research lines and strategic priorities.

Supervisor profile

- Strong translational orientation with direct access to clinical data and samples
- Multidisciplinary and collaborative research environment
- Active involvement in national and European research projects
- Institutional support for MSCA proposal preparation, mentoring and project management
- Integration within IRB CatSud's international research and training ecosystem

If you are interested in this opportunity, send your expression of interest to upi@irbcatsud.cat, indicating the MSCA-PF + research group in the subject.