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Long-Term Fellowships Information for applicants

Eligibility

Applicants must hold a doctorate degree or equivalent before the start of the fellowship but not necessarily when applying. For clarity, it is deemed that this requirement is fulfilled only when the thesis has been stamped as submitted for final examination by the university. As a minimum, applicants must have at least one first author publication in press or published in an international peer reviewed journal at the time of application. This rule is strictly applied as experience shows that those with weaker CVs are never successful.

Publication updates are not accepted after the application deadline.

Candidates can only submit applications for one project at one host laboratory at each round of selection

The long term fellowships are aimed to support those who have recently completed their Ph.D. Applications are only considered from candidates with a maximum of 3 years post-doctoral experience. Exceptions are made for applicants with career breaks due to military service or childcare.

All applications must involve either a laboratory of origin or a receiving institute from one of the member states. There are three types of applications possible:

(1) The applicant and the receiving institute are both in or from the member states. This is the favored application but must involve movement between countries. International laboratories such as EMBL are technically extraterritorial and movement e.g. from Germany to EMBL Heidelberg is, therefore, permitted. It is to be noted that scientists from a member state but currently working in a non-member state (e.g. North America) are very welcome to apply to return to a different member state.

(2) Applicants from a non-member state who wish to work in a laboratory in a member state. These applications will be considered under the same criteria as above, but a further justification as to the benefit to the host laboratory (as opposed to the applicant) must be made and generally should be due to some special skill which can be attributed to the applicant.

(3) Applications from scientists from member states for support for a research project in a non-member state. In recent years approximately 20% of the fellowships have been for this category. Higher scores are required for an award and the applicant must provide a justification for the choice of a laboratory outside the member states. A comparison with options available within the member states is made by the selection committee.

As the aim of the EMBO is to promote international research, it follows that mobility is a crucial element in deciding the eligibility of an application. Occasionally the nationality of an applicant is not the same as the country in which the work for the Ph.D. was performed. This gives rise to the notion of "Ph.D. nationality". The above movements can, therefore, be interpreted using either the applicant's member state nationality or his/her Ph.D. nationality. This concept will be used in a way which is most favorable to the applicant while ensuring that the overriding principle of mobility is maintained.

Please NOTE!!!

Non-EMBC nationals with a Ph.D. from a member state will **not be eligible** for a fellowship in a non-member state.

Applications for long term fellowships to be held in the laboratory, institute or department in which the candidate obtained his or her PhD, or to work again with the candidate's PhD supervisor, no matter where the latter is located, **are not considered**.

Applications to move from one laboratory to another in the **same** country are only considered if the applicant has been working in the country for less than 3 months before the closing date for the application. **Candidates who interrupted their career due to childcare for at least 1 year** will also be given special consideration when applying to stay within the same country
(Please indicate career breaks in your application).

Applications to perform research in the country where, on the basis of the C.V, the applicant normally works will **not be considered**.

Applications to work in an industrial research laboratory with a view to developing new products or procedures will **not be considered**. However, research centers for basic research, which are endowed by industries, will be eligible.

In case **candidate's nationality** is the same as the **PhD nationality**, applications back to the country of origin will not be considered.
The selection committee will be asked to give special attention to all cases where the mobility and involvement of a member state is in question.

How to apply

Application is only online at
<http://longterm-fellowships.embo.org/index.php>

There are two deadlines each year: 15 February and 15 August.
The online application system opens 6 weeks before the deadline.
Please find below a list of the documents to be submitted:

- A scientific CV and list of publications.
- Synopsis of current work.
- A 200 words summary of the proposed activity and a 200 words justification of the biological significance of the proposed research.

- Synopsis of proposed activity at the receiving institute, all references to publications given in full (written by the applicant and no longer than 1500 words, excluding references).
- Two letters of reference and the Receiving Institute form to be submitted online before the deadline
- In the case of non-European applicants, a justification from the receiving institute in Europe explaining how the scientific programme of the receiving institute would benefit from the award of the fellowship.
- In the case of applications to go to a non-European laboratory, a short justification of the choice of this laboratory and the reasons for selecting it rather than a European laboratory.
- An APEX travel estimate of the cost of the travel to and from the receiving institute.

Selection procedure of EMBO Long Term Fellows

The application is examined at the EMBO office to ensure that it is complete and eligible. All eligible applications are then sent to the Fellowships Committee for a pre-screening and approximately 50% of all applications are selected for an interview.

For selected applicants resident in member states, an interviewer, who is expert in the area of the application, will be selected from among the EMBO members and both the applicant and the interviewer will be informed. The interviewer will then endeavor to arrange the interview at the earliest mutually convenient date (see separate note on interviews). It is not always possible to have an interview for practical reasons, and in particular when the applicant resides outside the member states. In this case the dossier of the candidate is sent for written review to an expert in the relevant area of research.

All dossiers are then considered by an international committee of EMBO members, who are leading European molecular biologists. Each application is scored independently and the scores forwarded for compilation to the secretariat.

The selection committee then meets to consider together the applications and the scores. Typically the outcome of the selection is known approximately 16 weeks after the closing date and is provided on the EMBO website immediately after the meeting of the selection committee.

(http://www.embo.org/fellowship/fellow_info.html)

The fellowships can be started without any further significant delay. The basis for selection is a combination of the C.V. of the candidate (with due recognition given to the laboratory context in which the candidate had worked), the project as presented and the record of the receiving laboratory.

Please Note - a request to change laboratory or project once a fellowship has started, will have to be considered by the Committee.

Requests for such changes have to be fully justified by the candidate and are granted only in extreme circumstances.

Duration

The fellowship may be awarded for a period of up to 24 months, depending on a positive interim request from the supervisor (nine month after the starting date). The reviewing committee may also award a shorter period than requested.

It is possible to apply while the applicant is currently at the receiving institute (for a maximum of 19 month within the EMBC Member states and 7 month in non-member state at the relevant closing date for application).

In fact, the maximum time for a combination of previous support and EMBO funding will be 36 months in case the laboratory is within a member state and 24 months in non-member states. *(Please consider that the fellowship duration has to be at least 12 months and that about five months are required to process the application.)*

e.g. if an applicant has already been at the proposed institute for 12 months at the start of the EMBO fellowship the applicant will only be eligible for a further 12 months funding in a non member state (24 months in total) and 24 months in a member state (36 months in total).

Fellowship must be started within one calendar year from the relevant closing date for applications.

Exception will be made to those who are simultaneously offered a Marie Curie fellowship, where this requirement could be waived.

Maternity leave

Fellows are entitled to 3 months maternity leave during their fellowship. Fellows who take maternity leave during the fellowship are entitled to an extension of their fellowship for a period of up to 3 months. For childcare reasons it is also possible to work part-time during the fellowship. The maximum time *(full-time plus part-time)* shall not exceed 36 months at the same laboratory.

Member States

Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Finland, France, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom.

Special agreements are made for Cyprus.