Life Sciences Research Network Wales
Early Career progression in life sciences research

EU Opportunities and Beyond

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The first stage in planning your research career is to ask yourself:
Where you want to be in 5, 10 or 15 years?

Do you want to stay in the type of organisation and research area you are in now and advance your activity in this area?

Do you want to move to another type of academic or commercial organisation?

Do you wish to change research fields?

Your career plans and your goals need to be optimistic and challenging but they need to be realistic as well

Remember **your direction is not carved in stone**. There is mobility among the various sectors, so don’t feel like you’re trapped if you’re unhappy
Useful Links – Career Planning

Charting a course for a successful research career (http://cdn.elsevier.com/assets/pdf_file/0019/111835/charting-a-course-for-a-successful-research-career.pdf)

Science Careers (http://sciencecareers.sciencemag.org/)

Vitae (information on career development for postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers) http://www.vitae.ac.uk/
PhD down... where to next?

- Work in academia
  - Developing projects
  - Writing Grant Applications
- Work outside Academia
  - Applying for jobs
Applying for jobs

Looking for jobs using job search websites

Preparing a CV and cover letter

Filling out job application forms

Links to job search websites

*Nature jobs* - [http://www.nature.com/naturejobs/science/](http://www.nature.com/naturejobs/science/)


*Euraxess* - [http://www.euraxess.ie/phd/jobs.aspx](http://www.euraxess.ie/phd/jobs.aspx)
WHAT? Research Area

WHERE? UK/Abroad

WHO? Mentor

HOW? Funding

HOW LONG?
Do you want to:

Stay in UK?

Go Abroad
  UK
  Mainland Europe
  USA
  Canada
  Australia
  New Zealand
  ...

WHERE?
UK/Abroad
Where you look for funding will depend on:

Where you want to go (UK/Abroad)
What you want to do (Develop your own project/Work on a project developed by someone else)

If you don’t have a specific project in mind and want to apply for a postdoc position

EURAXESS Portal - http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/ (research vacancies in Europe + information about moving to another country, etc.)

Find a Postdoc - http://www.findapostdoc.com/ (Postdoc vacancies worldwide)

Nature jobs - http://www.nature.com/naturejobs/science/ (Postdoc vacancies worldwide)

If you want to develop your own project and stay in Europe, you can explore the MSCAs Individual Actions program. Here are the details:

**European Fellowships (EF)**
- Any field of research
- Researchers working within or outside Europe
- Host Institution in Europe
- Duration: 12 to 24 months
- Grant provides:
  - Salary
  - Contribution to research expenses
- Call details: 11 Apr – 14 Sept 17

**Global Fellowships (GF)**
- Any field of research
- Researchers working in Europe
- Duration: 24 to 36 months (includes 12 months reintegration in Europe)
- Grant provides:
  - Salary
  - Contribution to research expenses
- Call details: 11 Apr – 14 Sept 17

**Reintegration/Return Panel (EF)**
- Any field of research
- Researchers returning to Europe (into a long-term research position)
- Must have worked in Europe before moving abroad
- Grant provides: Contribution to research expenses
- Call details: 11 Apr – 14 Sept 16

For more information, visit: [http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/](http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/)
European Fellowships

Standard European Fellowship (EF)
Moving from Europe or from a Non-EU country
Proposals ranked in disciplinary panels

Reintegration Panel (RI)
For those who wish to (or recently have) relocated to Europe from outside
Must be nationals or previous long-term residents (≥ 5 years) of a European country
Relaxed Mobility Rule: no more than 3 years in the 5 years before the call deadline in the country of the host organisation

Career Restart Panel (CAR)
For people who have taken a career break (any reason) for at least 12 months before call deadline
Relaxed Mobility Rule: see above

NEW for 2016 Society and Enterprise Panel
A dedicated panel for European Fellowships hosted in the Non-Academic Sector (e.g. Industry [incl. SMEs], charities, NGOs, government/public bodies, national archives, libraries)
Budget €10 million
~ 50 fellowships available
Option of secondment to academic sector
## MSCA Success Rates (example)

### European Fellowships (2015)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Panel</th>
<th>Funded Threshold</th>
<th>Reserve List Threshold</th>
<th>Success Rate %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHE</td>
<td>90.8</td>
<td>89.4</td>
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<td>ECO</td>
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<tr>
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<td>ENV</td>
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<td>CAR</td>
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<tr>
<td>RI</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>SOC</td>
<td>93.6</td>
<td>93</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The IF submission process at work

**European Fellowships**
- Researcher Applies with European Host
- Host signs contract with EU
- Host employs Researcher

**Global Fellowships**
- Researcher Applies with European Host
- European Host signs contract with EU
- European Host employs Researcher
- Supported by non-European Host
- Non-European Host signs agreement with European Host
- Researcher seconded to non-European host
If you want to develop you own project and stay in Europe – thinking long term

European Research Council
http://erc.europa.eu/funding-schemes

Starting Grant
Scientific Excellence
Any field of research
2 to 7 years post PhD
Track record of early achievements
Up to € 1.5 million for up to 5 years
1 stage submission/2 step evaluation
Call closes 16 October 2016

Consolidator Grant
Scientific Excellence
Any field of research
7 to 12 years post PhD
Track record of early achievements
Up to € 2 million for up to 5 years
1 stage submission/2 step evaluation
Call closes 9 February 2017

Advanced Grant
Scientific Excellence
Any field of research
Leaders in their field (based on track-record of previous 10 years)
Up to € 2.5 million for up to 5 years
1 stage submission/2 step evaluation
Call Closes 31 August 2017
## ERC Success Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ERC Call</th>
<th>Applications received</th>
<th>Of which</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Evaluated*</td>
<td>Funded</td>
<td>Success rates (%)**</td>
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<tr>
<td>Starting Grant 2007</td>
<td>9,167</td>
<td>8,787</td>
<td>299</td>
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<tr>
<td>Starting Grant 2009</td>
<td>2,503</td>
<td>2,392</td>
<td>245</td>
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<tr>
<td>Starting Grant 2010</td>
<td>2,873</td>
<td>2,767</td>
<td>436</td>
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<td>4,080</td>
<td>4,005</td>
<td>486</td>
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<tr>
<td>Starting Grant 2012</td>
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<td>4,652</td>
<td>566</td>
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<tr>
<td>Starting Grant 2013</td>
<td>3,329</td>
<td>3,266</td>
<td>300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Starting Grant 2014</td>
<td>3,273</td>
<td>3,204</td>
<td>375</td>
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<tr>
<td>Starting Grant 2015</td>
<td>2,920</td>
<td>2,862</td>
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<td>Starting Grant 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Starting Grant total</td>
<td>35,821</td>
<td>34,822</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consolidator Grant 2013</td>
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<td>Consolidator Grant 2015</td>
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<td>Consolidator Grant total</td>
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<td>Advanced Grant 2008</td>
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<td>1,526</td>
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<td>1,967</td>
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<td>1,927</td>
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<td>Advanced Grant total</td>
<td>16,996</td>
<td>16,581</td>
<td>2,178</td>
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</table>
H2020 Participant Portal


RESEARCH & INNOVATION

Horizon 2020 Funding
Starting from 1/1/2014

On this site you can find and secure funding for projects under the following EU programmes:

- 2014-2020 Horizon 2020 - research and innovation framework programme
- 2007-2013 7th research framework programme (FP7) and Competitiveness & Innovation Programme (CIP)
- 3rd Health Programme, Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, Consumer Programme, COSME, Internal Security Fund
- Borders, Internal Security Fund Police, Justice Programme, Promotion of Agricultural Products Programme, Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme and Research Fund for Coal & Steel

Non-registered users
- search for funding
- read the H2020 Online Manual & download the legal documents
- check if an organisation is already registered
- contact our support services or check our FAQs

Registered users
- submit your proposal
- sign the grant
- manage your project throughout its lifecycle
- register as expert advising the Commission
Other International Opportunities
France
Campus France - [http://ecolesdoctorales.campusfrance.org/en/phd/offers](http://ecolesdoctorales.campusfrance.org/en/phd/offers) (information on Postdoc Funding in France)

Germany
Research in Germany
[http://www.research-in-germany.de/52/home.html](http://www.research-in-germany.de/52/home.html)

German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)
[http://www.daad.de/deutschland/en/](http://www.daad.de/deutschland/en/) (information on PhD Funding in Germany)

Sweden
Swedish Research Council
[https://www.vr.se/inenglish/researchfunding/applyforgrants/overviewcalls2017.4.44482f6612355bb5ee780002186.html](https://www.vr.se/inenglish/researchfunding/applyforgrants/overviewcalls2017.4.44482f6612355bb5ee780002186.html)
If you want to go outside of Europe

**USA**


**Fulbright Commission** - [http://www.fulbright.org.uk/](http://www.fulbright.org.uk/) (information on funding)

**Lindemann Trust Fellowships** (to work in the US – Astronomy; Biophysics; Chemistry; Engineering; Geology; Geophysics; Mathematics; Physics) [https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/pgstudents/money/bursariesandscholarships/lindemanntrustfellowships2017-18/](https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/pgstudents/money/bursariesandscholarships/lindemanntrustfellowships2017-18/)


**Canada**


If you want to go outside of Europe

**Australia**
CSIRO -

**Australian Research Council** -

**New Zealand**
**Royal Society of New Zealand** -

**HRC** - [http://www.hrc.govt.nz/funding-opportunities](http://www.hrc.govt.nz/funding-opportunities)

**Check individual University Websites** – universities in Australia and New Zealand offer Postdoc fellowships

For other opportunities worldwide check out [Research Professional](http://www.researchprofessional.com)
Preparing your next step takes time – Start early!

- Year 0: Plan Fellowship Application & Research Project
- Year 1: Submit Fellowship Proposals
- Year 2: Fellowship Support for 1-3 years
- Year 3: Write & Submit Papers
- Year 4: Write grants; Job Search (Academic)
- Year 5: Job Search (Private sector)

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Making a decision – things to consider

Think about what you want to do in the future (beyond the PhD)
Talk to current Postdocs and ask them about their experience
Do your research on:
  - Potential hosts (university websites have a lot of information for potential students)
  - Potential Mentors (look at their webpages and read some of their papers)
  - Living expenses and social life where you want to go (it’s not just about the university, life outside university is also important)
  - Visa requirements (if going abroad)
  - Fellowships and other sources of funding
Work on your CV and interview skills
Develop any funding application and project plan in conjunction with your future mentor
And remember...
Thank You

Questions?
What do you want to do?

You know what you want to do and you have an idea for a project

You know what general research area you’re interested in but don’t have a specific project in mind