





Recovery and Resilience Plan for Romania

INVESTMENT 9 - "19. Support for the holders of certificates of excellence received in the Marie Sklodowska Curie Individual Fellowship Award"

Frequently Asked Questions

The following document contains a list of general questions regarding the Romanian funding scheme 19. Support for the holders of certificates of excellence received in the Marie Sklodowska Curie Individual Fellowship Award, funded under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan.

The general FAQ may not address all specific issues regarding the funding instrument. Should you require more in-depth details, please refer to the <u>Applicant's Guidelines</u> on the Romanian Ministry of Research's website. The call documents on the funding scheme are available in both English and Romanian.

> To whom is the funding instrument addressing?

Investment 9 is aimed at holders of Seal of Excellence certificates received under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) as from 2020, provided that their research project is carried out at a Romanian host institution¹.

What are the eligible host institutions for this funding instrument?

The researcher /holder of MSCA Seal of Excellence can fully carry out the research project under this funding scheme as long as the host institution fulfills the following conditionⁱⁱ:

It is a Romanian based higher education institution, research organization or enterprise
with RDI as their main activity mentioned in their statute or in their legal act of
establishment, or its main object of activity is the dissemination of results of RDI activities
on a large scale, through teaching, publishing or knowledge transfer

Will the project proposal be re-evaluated under this call?

No. The project proposals will be accepted for funding on a *first come*, *first served* basis, as they have already been evaluated under Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe MSCAⁱⁱⁱ.

> How many projects can be funded under the call?

The target for the funding scheme is for 50 recipients of the MSCA Seal of Excellence for excellent Individual/Postdoctoral Fellowships to receive a grant to carry out Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe research projects.

What are the eligible expenses?

For both *Individual Fellowship* and *Postdoctoral Fellowship* projects, the eligible expenses under the call are the following: Salary costs (living allowance), mobility allowance, family allowance and institutional expenses^{iv}.

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The maximum amounts are based on the Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe work programme specifications, having been adjusted with the Romanian country correction coefficient. The amounts vary depending on the type of project (Individual Fellowship or Postdoctoral Fellowship) and are gross lump sums, being subjected to national taxation legislation.

Mobility and Family Allowance costs can be eligible only in the specific cases where the researcher fulfills the required conditions.

What are the conditions of eligibility for Family Allowance?

These costs are eligible only in the specific cases where the researcher, holder of a certificate of excellence, has family obligations. In this context family is defined as persons linked to the researcher by: a) marriage or b) a relationship with equivalent status to a marriage recognized by European, national or regional legislation in the country where this relationship has been recognized or c) children who are in researcher's care.

What are the conditions of eligibility for Mobility Allowance?

These costs are eligible only in the specific cases where the researcher, holder of a certificate of excellence has not been a resident or had an individual employment contract in Romania for a cumulative period of 12 months in the last 3 years.

> What documents are eligible as proof for the Mobility Allowance?

Documents (in English or Romanian^v) that can prove that the researcher has resided, nor have they been employed in Romania for a cumulative period of 12 months in the last 3 years (e.g. documents proving employment, residence, employment contracts etc.).

> Where will the applications be submitted?

Projects are submitted in a single step using the online platform https://proiecte.pnrr.gov.ro. The Romanian research institution submits the project proposal on behalf of the holder of the Seal of Excellence.

> Does the researcher / holder of Seal of Excellence need to create an account on the platform?

No. All required documents are uploaded on the platform **by the host institution**, once they are digitally signed by the institution's legal representative^{vi}.

> Does the researcher need a certified digital signature?

A certified signature is not required for documents that need a co-signature from the researcher. It is, however, **required from the legal representative** of the host research institution.

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Full details for this call are available on the Romanian Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digitalisation website, under Lansări competiții - 19 Sprijin pentru posesorii de certificate de excelență primite la competiția pentru burse individuale Marie Skłodowska-Curie.

For more information regarding the funding scheme, please refer to the contact details below.

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¹ Applicant's Guide, 4. Eligibility criteria (project director)

[&]quot; Applicant's Guide, 4. Eligibility criteria (host institution)

iii Applicant's Guide, 12. Procedure for submitting, evaluating and selecting applications for funding

^{iv} Applicant's Guide, 5. Type of funding granted (Eligible expenses)

^v Certified translations of documents in other languages (besides English and Romanian) are acceptable

vi Applicant's Guide, 16. Call for proposals timeline