

CfP-AWP17-TRA-01

2017 Annual Work Plan

Call for Participation

EUROfusion Researcher Grants

1. Specific objectives of the action

The 2014-2018 Work Plan for the implementation of the Fusion Roadmap in Horizon 2020 foresees support for Education and Training of a new generation of scientist and engineers. The EUROfusion Researcher Grants programme will encourage excellence and career development of researchers who are already in the programme or attract high quality potential candidates from outside the programme.

The Researcher Grants will be attributed at post-doctoral level or equivalent. They will cover the salaries of the selected candidates and part of the cost of their research activities and missions for the duration of up to 2 years.

It is foreseen to award about 10 grants starting in 2017.

2. Eligibility

The Eligibility Criteria for the EUROfusion Researcher Grant Programme are similar to those of the former EFDA Fusion Researcher Fellowship Programme, and have been elaborated according to the Ad-hoc-Group (AHG) Recommendations endorsed at the former CCE-FU, namely that *“the competition should be as broad as possible, therefore all recently attributed post-docs ... should be allowed to compete for this funding, although the proposals should be channelled through the Heads of Associations.”* Thus, the action is directed exclusively at researchers of all nationalities, during the first years of their careers, namely:

- Researchers in possession of a doctoral degree (PhD) who have completed the PhD and defended their thesis in the two years preceding the deadline for proposal submission of the present call;
- Engineers/technicians, not having a PhD degree, but who are in possession of a master degree in Engineering (or any equivalent university degree in Engineering) with a professional experience of at least 3 years up to 5 years after the master degree.

The candidate must be employed by a European member or its Third Party. In case the researcher/engineer has not yet started her/his contract at the time of the application for the grant, the Consortium member will have to provide a declaration of intent to recruit the researcher/engineer under an employment contract or equivalent contract compatible with the national legislation. He/she must be recruited by 30 June 2017.

The candidate shall work on a scientific or technical subject relevant to the Work Plan for the implementation of the Fusion Roadmap in 2014-2018.

Details are provided in the Guide for Applicants.

3. Applicable evaluation criteria

“In view of ensuring the excellence of the selected grants and thereby creating a recognised “brand”, the Eligibility Criteria have been elaborated according to the AHG Recommendations endorsed at CCE-FU, namely that “the fellowship should be awarded according to the sole exceptional quality of the candidate and his/her proposal.”

At its 50th meeting on 22-23 March 2012 the former EFDA Steering Committee recommended to introduce as additional selection criteria the mobility of the researchers. At its 5th meeting on 2-3 June 2014 the EUROfusion General Assembly has agreed to continue with the same criteria.

Details are provided in the Guide for Applicants.

4. Timetable of Implementation

Deadline for proposals: 8th September 2016

Awarding of the grants: General Assembly meeting 15-16 December 2016

Earliest starting date of the Task Agreement: 1 January 2017

5. Financial support

Costs claimed for reimbursement have to comply with the applicable conditions of the Grant Agreement and need to be in line with the Funding Rules of the EUROfusion Consortium.

The financial support for the researchers takes the form of a grant covering the directly related costs only. The host organisation must cover any other costs connected to hosting the grantee in its premises and related to the implementation of the project.

The contribution will support the following costs:

- Salary cost (including fees, superannuation and social charges) up to €117.000 for 2 years;
- Training expenses related to the successful execution of the research project (e.g. purchase of hardware, consumables, participation in

- conferences and training courses, fees for scientific journals, memberships in scientific associations, etc.) up to € 19.200 for 2 years;
- Missions costs of the researcher up to 6 months (taken over the full duration of the grant – this can be broken up in a number of shorter missions);
 - Indirect costs 25% flat rate (not applied to Unit Costs)

The duration of the grant supported by this action will be up to 2 years; **however the financial support beyond 31st December 2018 is subject to the extension of the Grant Agreement n. 633053 in 2019-2020.**

The eligible costs are those incurred during the period covered by the Task Agreement to be drafted after a successful selection process.