

EFDA 2013 Work Programme

Call for Participation

Fusion Researcher Fellowships

1. Specific objectives of the action

At its 37th meeting, held in Bruxelles on 21 March 2007, the CCE-FU endorsed the recommendations made by the Ad-Hoc Group « Survey of Human Resources in the European Fusion Programme ». Among the two training actions to be implemented under EFDA in the FP7 fusion research programme, the present action aims at “*provid(ing) encouragement for excellence and career development by awarding grants similar to the Marie Curie type fellowships*”. This cohesive, but flexible framework should encourage excellence and career development of researchers who are already in the programme or attract high quality potential candidates from outside the programme. These grants should be attributed at post-doctoral level or equivalent.

A first programme was launched at the end of 2007 covering the period 1 January to 31 December 2007. Afterwards four other programs were launched in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011. A sixth programme has been approved at the 52nd EFDA Steering Committee meeting held in Marseille on 3-4 October 2012 as part of the 2013 EFDA Work Programme. The Community funding of the fellowships will be provided under Article 8.2e of the Contract of Association. The grants 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.

In view of creating a recognised brand of excellence, EFDA will organise selection according to the criteria recommended by the AHG.

2. Eligibility

The Eligibility criteria have been elaborated according to the AHG Recommendations endorsed at 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, **all candidates in possession of a doctoral degree and having started a first post-doctoral or equivalent contract after PhD in a European fusion laboratory during the period 1st October 2011 to the deadline of the present Call are eligible as well as engineers with professional experience of at least 3 years and up to 5 years.** The candidates shall work on a scientific or technical subject relevant to the Euratom fusion programme.

Details are provided in the Guide for applicants.

3. Applicable evaluation criteria

“In view of ensuring the excellence of the selected fellowships 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 EFDA SC recommended to introduce as additional selection criteria the mobility of the researchers.

Details are provided in the Guide for applicants.

4. Timetable of Implementation

Deadline for proposals: 19 November 2012

EFDA SC: March 2013

Task Agreements: March 2013

5. Community contribution

The maximum Community contribution will be up to 52,000€ per year and per researcher for his/her salary, up to 6,000€ per year and per researcher for expenses related to the participation to research and training activities (meeting and conference attendance, participation in training actions, research costs, etc.), with an additional 3% of the direct costs for management activities and 10% of direct costs as contributions to overheads, excluding costs for subcontracting. The use of the mobility agreement to support mobility of the participants for their training actions will ensure the pan-European nature of the joint training actions. The duration of the fellowship supported by this action will be up to 2 years.

The eligible expenditures supported by the Commission are those which are paid during the period covered by the Task Agreements to be placed further to the selection process. The start date of every Task Agreement will be at the earliest, the deadline of submission of the proposals to the call, even if the grantee was hired before.