University of Trento
Call for Expressions of Interest
Marie Skłodowska Curie Individual Fellowship

Agriculture, Food, Environment

The University of Trento (Italy) welcomes expressions of interest from excellent postdoctoral researchers who want to apply, with a research supervisor from the University of Trento, to the European Commission Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowship (MSCA).

Selected candidates will be offered academic support from professors and research groups located in one of the departments of the university. They will also receive administrative support by the Research office of the university. The research office will also offer a two-day workshop in the second half of July 2019, that individual candidates may want to attend, either physically or online.

MSCA applicants having chosen the University of Trento as host institution will be able to participate in two additional selections. First, if applicants will receive the Seal of Excellence (projects judged excellent but not funded), they will be able to apply for a 1-year fellowship targeted to improve and re-submit the proposal. Second, researchers that have successfully completed their MSCA fellowship may apply for a year of extra funding at the end of their scholarship.

The Marie Skłodowska Curie Action
The Marie Skłodowska Curie Action is a funding scheme that supports the mobility of researchers: Individual Fellowships may last 12-24 months. Fellowships involve research activities as well as advanced training and knowledge exchange at the host institution. MSCA Fellowships offer a competitive salary, mobility and family allowances plus a budget for research and training costs. Applicants are expected to have an excellent CV and a strong publication record.

Eligibility Criteria:
At the date of the call deadline (11 September 2019) the researcher must:
- be in possession of a doctoral degree or have at least four years of full-time equivalent research experience¹.
- Have not resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of their host organisation (Italy) for more than 12 months in the three years immediately before the call deadline (11 September 2019).

For further information please see:
- MSCA Work Programme 2018-2020
- MSCA Guide for Applicant 2019

Full details on the funding scheme and the application process can be found here: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/msca-if-2019

¹‘Full-time equivalent research experience’ is measured from the date when the researcher obtained the degree entitling him/her to embark on a doctorate (either in the country in which the degree was obtained or in the country in which the researcher is recruited) – even if a doctorate was never started or envisaged. This must be detailed and documented in case the EOI is accepted by the University of Trento.
The deadline for applications is **11 September 2019 at 17:00 (CET - Brussels time)**.

**Why Choosing the University of Trento to apply for a MSCA?**

Established in 1962, the University of Trento is one of Italy’s top research universities. In the last 10 years, it has always been ranked in the top positions in Italy in both national Research Assessment Evaluations (RAE) and University Surveys. In the latest RAE the University of Trento as a whole is ranked first among medium universities. Ten out of twelve of its departments have been ranked first for their disciplines. Trento is ranked in the 251-300 group in the 2018 World University ranking of The Times Higher Education. The university scores as first among the 25 Italian universities included in the European Teaching Rankings (2018) and 36th in the general ranking of the 240 European universities included in the exercise.

The first step for all those interested in applying for a MSCA fellowship with a supervisor from the University of Trento is to look closely to the many research areas actively explored in the university.

Those interested in agriculture, food and environment can find information here: [https://www.centro3a.unitn.it/en/336/research](https://www.centro3a.unitn.it/en/336/research)

Other important information can be found in Trento’s digital university (searchable by keywords, [https://webapps.unitn.it/du/en/Experti](https://webapps.unitn.it/du/en/Experti)) and IRIS, the bibliographic databases of publications by Trento staff ([https://iris.unitn.it/](https://iris.unitn.it/)). Both of them are available in English.

**How to Apply**

If an eligible candidate is interested in applying to the European Commission Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowship with a University of Trento supervisor, here are the key steps:

- **by June 14th 2019** express your interest by sending:
  1. The **application form** duly filled in and signed (it must contain the 2 pages proposal description);
  2. A **cover letter**;
  3. A **CV** (max 2 pages plus full list of publications);
  4. A copy of a valid **ID or passport**.

Submit your candidature to: [c3a@unitn.it](mailto:c3a@unitn.it)

- Selected applicants will be notified by **July 5th** and invited to prepare their full proposal in collaboration with a supervisor at UniTrento;
- In **July 2019** the University of Trento will organize a 2-day training workshop, that can be attended either in person or online, providing applicants with information on how to prepare a successful proposal, and giving them the possibility to meet their potential supervisors and discuss the details of their proposal.
- A **complete draft of the application has to be ready by July 29th 2019**;
- The final version of the project **MUST be ready by August 30th, 2019**, otherwise the University of Trento retains the right to withdraw its support to the proposal.