

## RESPIRE4 (Respiratory Science Promoted by International Research Exchanges 4) Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Programme

### Annex I: OVERVIEW (as of 25 January 2021)



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 847462

#### CONTEXT:

The [European Respiratory Society](#) (ERS) has been awarded co-funding by the European Union (EU) towards the [RESPIRE4](#) fellowship programme within the Horizon 2020 (H2020) / Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) / COFUND programme.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

Kindly note that this is a brief summary only.  
The reference document remains the [Application Guidance](#) for each call of RESPIRE4.  
Further information on the host application process can instead be found via the [Host Online Application Form](#).

#### OBJECTIVES:

RESPIRE4 is an **international, intersectoral and interdisciplinary programme** providing **Marie Skłodowska-Curie** postdoctoral research fellowships to researchers with the potential to become the leaders of tomorrow in the respiratory field.

Particularly, the RESPIRE4 programme aims to:

- Promote excellent science in respiratory research in Europe and worldwide through transnational mobility and transfer of knowledge;
- Enable Europe to become a hub for the exchange of scientists, actively involved in respiratory medicine in both academia and non-academic sector;
- Foster the implementation of novel and innovative techniques and therapies as well as the development of new international collaborations; and
- Gather expertise from various fields, even those not traditionally associated with respiratory research, as well as foster career development.

#### TIMELINE

<b>Host application process</b> (to pre-register on the RESPIRE4 Web Host Registry)	Open until spring 2022
<b>Launch of 2<sup>nd</sup> call for applications</b>	Early February 2021
Timeframe for host centres to apply to pre-register if interested to participate in 2 <sup>nd</sup> call	By Mid-April 2021 at the latest
<b>Deadline for 2<sup>nd</sup> call of applications</b>	1 May 2021
<b>Notification of results for 2<sup>nd</sup> call</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> half of August 2021
<b>Starting date for 2<sup>nd</sup> call fellows</b>	1 October 2021 to end of February 2022
Similar timeline is expected for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> call of RESPIRE4 but in 2022	

### SUMMARY OF KEY FEATURES:

- RESPIRE4 offers two different types of research fellowships: **European Fellowships (24-months)** and **Global Fellowships (36-months)**, as highlighted in Annex I below. It builds on the lessons learnt and external evaluation of the RESPIRE1 (2009-2013), RESPIRE2 (2013-2018) and ongoing RESPIRE3 (2016 – 2021) programmes coordinated by ERS with co-funding from the EU.
- Candidates can **choose and develop** their own research project related to the **respiratory field** as well as the most suitable host centre(s). A pre-registered list of hosts in the form of a [RESPIRE4 Web Host Registry](#) platform is now available to facilitate the applicants' search for suitable centres. It remains up to fellowship applicants to search and get in touch with the most suitable host centre to discuss a potential cooperation and to submit a fellowship application in cooperation with the host supervisor.
- Host centres will need to provide fellowship recipients with a **fixed-term employment contract** covering the duration of the fellowship, in line with EU requirements. A living allowance (adjusted to the country correction coefficient), a mobility and – if applicable – a family allowance will be covered through ERS/EU co-funding, along with a management cost contribution. No further funding (e.g. overheads, research costs, bench fees, consumables) will be provided. Further information in the [Application Guidance](#) for each call.
- RESPIRE4 places a significant emphasis on **career development and outreach** activities, with regard to support provided by the host centres (e.g. high-quality infrastructure, scientific mentoring, state-of-the-art facilities) as well as by ERS (e.g. mentoring programme, assistance towards attending ERS International Congress and Lung Science Conference, dedicated RESPIRE MeetUp, etc).
- All RESPIRE4 fellowship recipients have the possibility to undertake **short secondments in the non-academic sector**, including industry, for a maximum of 6 months (single period or split into short periods), if appropriate and depending on their needs and their research project, in agreement with the host centre.

### MAIN ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- Candidates from **any discipline** (e.g. life sciences, medicine, engineering, mathematics, information technology, etc.) meeting the eligibility criteria are highly encouraged to apply with a research proposal related to respiratory science, in line with the reference document, the [ERS 10 Principles for Lung Health](#).
- **Experienced researcher:** At the time of the call deadline for the recruitment of researchers, applicants must be in possession of a doctoral degree (PhD) or have at least four years of full-time equivalent research experience. Full-time equivalent research experience is measured from the date when a researcher obtained the degree, which would formally entitle him or 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 or seconded, irrespective of whether or not a doctorate is or was ever envisaged.
- **Transnational mobility rule:** Researchers may have not resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the host centre country for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the call deadline. Time spent as part of a procedure for obtaining refugee status under the Geneva Convention, compulsory national service and/or short stays such as holidays are not taken into account.
- **Publications:** Applicants must have at least one 1<sup>st</sup> author (or co-author) paper published (or accepted for publication) in an international peer-reviewed journal by the call deadline.
- **Other funding:** No double funding is allowed and, in addition, RESPIRE4 fellowships cannot be combined with any other Horizon2020 funding. RESPIRE past fellowship recipients are not eligible as the programme aims to support new researchers. Researchers that are already permanently employed by the host centre where the RESPIRE4 research training activities are planned may not be supported, in line with EU rules.

### EUROPEAN VS. GLOBAL FELLOWSHIPS

Please find hereunder a summary with regard to the two types of fellowship offered. Kindly also refer to the [Application Guidance](#) for each call.

Type	Brief description	Nationality (applicant)	Mobility rule (applicant)	Host Centres
<b>RESPIRE4 European Fellowship (EF)</b>  Exactly 24 months	Open to researchers either coming to Europe (MS* or AC**) from any country in the world or moving within Europe (MS or AC)	Open to all nationalities	Transnational mobility rule applies to country where fellowship will be held	Mandatory: ONE pre-registered host centre based in Europe (MS or AC)  Optional: if there is a secondment (e.g. non-academic sector), it must be based in Europe (MS or AC)
<b>RESPIRE4 Global Fellowships (GF)</b>  Exactly 36 months	Fellowship starts with outgoing phase in Third Country (TC)**  + followed by mandatory return phase to Europe (MS or AC)  Duration of TC initial outgoing phase is flexible, provided that return phase to Europe (MS or AC) may not be more than 50% of the total duration of the fellowship  For the return phase, it is possible to return to the any previous home centre or any other centre, provided it is in Europe (MS or AC)	Nationals or long-term residents of MS or AC  Long-term residence means a period of legal and continuous residence within a MS or AC of at least 5 consecutive years. Periods of absence from the territory of the MS or AC shall be taken into account for the calculation of this period where they are shorter than 6 consecutive months and do not exceed in total ten months within this period.	Transnational mobility rule applies to country where the fellowship initial outgoing phase takes place (NOT the country of the return phase to Europe)	Mandatory: TWO pre-registered host centres as follows:  1) Initial outgoing phase: ONE pre-registered host centre based in TC  + 2) Return phase: ONE pre-registered host centre based in Europe (MS or AC)  Optional: if there is a secondment (e.g. non-academic sector), it can be based in MS, AC or TC

**IMPORTANT NOTES:**

\*1) Member states (MS) of the European Union (EU), including their overseas departments as well as Overseas Countries and Territories linked to MS.

\*\*2) H2020 Associate countries (AC) – means an associate country which is party to an international agreement with the Union, as identified in Article 7 of Regulation (EU) No 1291/20132. The latest list of Associate Countries (as of 1 January 2017) can be found on the [EU website](#). Please check for any updates.

\*\*\*3) H2020 Third Country (TC) – Non-associated Third Countries (TC) are countries which are neither EU Member States (MS) nor associated to Horizon 2020 (AC).