

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship

AAU MSCA Talent Course 2025

May-Sept. 2025
Aalborg University

Information for candidates

What is a MSCA-PF?

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships, European (2 years) and Global (2-3 years), support individual researchers at postdoctoral level for researchers holding a PhD (PhD age max. 8 yrs) to work on a research project (all fields of research) of their own while acquiring training to enhance career development. Mobility between countries is required to acquire new skills and experience, as well as to enhance the employability of the supported researcher in the future. Rules and differences to be considered for European and Global Fellowships:

- **Nationality:** For European Fellowships, funding is open to researchers from any nationality. For Global Fellowships, applicants should be either citizens of an MS or AC or long-term residents; the latter must provide evidence of residence of at least five consecutive years in an MS or AC.
- **A strict mobility rule applies:** For European Fellowships, the fellow must not have lived, worked or studied in Denmark for more than 12 months in the 3 years before the deadline. For Global fellowships, applicants may not have lived or worked at the host organisation for the outgoing phase for more than 12 months during the past 3 years.

What does the funding cover?

The grant is awarded to your host organisation (i.e. Aalborg University). You are entitled to a living allowance (5990 €/month*country correction coefficient), a mobility (travel) allowance (710€/month) and a family allowance if you have one (660€/month). The research, training and network costs and indirect costs of the host(s) are also supported.

In practice, you will have an employment contract with AAU and will benefit from the same security benefit as other academics in the Danish public sector.

The role of the supervisor

The supervisor from AAU will support and supervise you throughout the project from the application stage to project implementation and reporting and will act as a contact for the European Commission's Research Executive Agency (REA). The MSCA PF is not only a research project, it is a career development tool.

AAU's profile

AAU is one of Denmark's eight public universities and offers education and research within the fields of social sciences, humanities, natural sciences, technical and health sciences. It is a dynamic university located in northern Denmark with more than 21,000 students and 3,800 staff. The key concept in both research and teaching is interdisciplinary, and the study programmes are organized around problem-oriented group work. AAU emphasizes cooperation with businesses, organizations and institutions within teaching as well as research. Likewise, internationalization has a very high priority at AAU. Thanks to world-class research environments, AAU has gained top ranking in several international lists. According to Times Higher Education impact ranking, 2024, AAU ranks in the world's Top 5 on sustainability. According to the US News World Ranking, AAU ranks as no. 250 in the overall world university rankings and for the sixth time in a row, best in Europe, within the field of Engineering. As an endorser of the European Charter & Code for Researchers, AAU will provide excellent framework conditions for me to accomplish my project. AAU is very experienced with

European funding having received 305 H2020 and HE projects so far (approx.100 currently ongoing), of which 80 are MSC actions.

Application in a nutshell

To apply, the candidate must have a host institution and a supervisor. The call is expected to be published on April 9, 2025, and the deadline for submission will be September 10, 2025.

The application consists of two parts:

- *Part A* is an administrative document that must be filled out online and which contains information about fellow, supervisor, project and host institution as well as budget and ethics assessment.
- *Part B* is the project description, CV, the host institution's capacity description and further ethical aspects. The Horizon Europe guide for applicants (including the application template) for 2025 is not available yet.

Application support from AAU

You will write the application, with active support from the supervisor and the Fundraising and Project Management Office at AAU (F&P). To assist you, F&P is organizing the AAU 2025 MSCA Talent Course. The course starts with an online kick-off meeting, organized by F&P, for supervisors and their fellows. This is followed by an online training (two sessions) run by an external consultant with extensive experience with individual grant applications for Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions. After the sessions with Yellow Research, the applicant will be invited to participate in the Writing Sessions (week 34) organized by F&P, focusing on the impact and the implementation section of the proposal. You will also receive individual support from members of F&P throughout your proposal up to the deadline on September 10, 2025. The course includes two webinars, handouts for all tutorials, an annotated template, a common platform for all participants (TEAMS) and other useful documents needed to write a successful proposal.

Expected timeline

Dec.2024 – April, 2025	Registration for the course is open. AAU supervisors contact potential MSCA fellows.
April 9, 2025	Deadline for supervisors to propose candidates for the course
Week 18, 2025	Supervisors and Fellows will be informed about their participation
Week 21, 2025	MSCA Talent Course "Set Sail" meeting for supervisors and Fellows
May 22, 2025	The first webinar run by an external consultant
May 26, 2025	The second webinar run by an external consultant
Week 34, 2024	Writing sessions ran by F&P
September 10, 2025	Deadline for submission

What do we need from you now?

To attend the AAU 2025 MSCA Course, you must have the support of a potential supervisor at AAU and:

1. Agree with the supervisor on expectations for content, forms of cooperation, results etc.
2. Register online [here](#) to express your interest in participating in the course
(Please notice, that you won't receive a confirmation e-mail)
3. Send the best version of your CV + list of publications to the AAU supervisor using the template provided. These will be sent by the supervisor to us as a confirmation of interest from him/her.
4. You will be informed of your participation in the first week of May 2025. (The course only has a capacity for 24 participants and the final pool of applicants is decided by the Department.)

Deadline for registration and submission of CV: April 9, 2025.

Administrative assistance if your application for MSCA PF is successful

If you are granted an MSCA PF you will receive support from the AAU's International Staff Unit (ISU) prior to arrival, to assist if residence and work permit from the Danish immigration authorities is needed. Before, upon and after arrival, ISU can answer and guide you in all aspects of moving to Denmark.