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Planul Național
de Redresare și Reziliență

Romanian Recovery and Resilience Plan

Component 9, Investment 9

Support for the holders of certificates of excellence received in the Marie Skłodowska Curie Individual Fellowship Award

[Ministerul Cercetării, Inovării și Digitalizării :: www.research.gov.ro](http://www.research.gov.ro)

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Context

The Romanian funding scheme for the MSCA Seal of Excellence holders is established under the Romanian Recovery and Resilience Plan, Component 9: Business Support, research, development and innovation. The funding instrument is called **Investment 9: Support for the holders of seals of excellence received in Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions**.

The call was launched on 27 July 2022 and will be accepting applications on a first come / first served basis until the end of 2023.

Target: 50 Marie Skłodowska Curie recipients of Seal of Excellence for excellent individual fellowships or postdoctoral fellowships shall receive a grant to carry out Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe research projects.

Budget: 8 million EUR

The funding instrument is part of a larger set of investments from the National Recovery and Resilience Plan, which includes establishment of Competence Centres (Investment 5), Regional Orientation Centres (Investment 10), highly specialised human resources from abroad in RDI (Investment 8), with two more funding instruments underway for supporting Romania's participation in European partnerships (Investment 7) and awarding vouchers within the Horizon Europe mentoring program (Investment 6).



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de Redresare și Reziliență

Beneficiaries

Investment 9 is aimed at **holders of Seal of Excellence certificates received under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)** as from 2020, provided that their research project is carried out at a Romanian host institution.

The researcher /holder of MSCA Seal of Excellence can fully carry out the research project under this funding scheme as long as the host institution fulfills the following condition:

- It is a **Romanian based** higher education institution, research organization or enterprise with RDI as their main activity mentioned in their statute or in their legal act of establishment, or its main object of activity is the dissemination of results of RDI activities on a large scale, through teaching, publishing or knowledge transfer.



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Eligible expenses

For both Individual Fellowship and Postdoctoral Fellowship projects, the eligible expenses under the call are the following: **Salary costs** (living allowance), **mobility allowance**, **family allowance** and **institutional expenses**.

The maximum amounts are based on the Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe work programme specifications, having been adjusted with the Romanian country correction coefficient (68,8% for IF projects and 65,4% for PD projects). The amounts vary depending on the type of project (Individual Fellowship or Postdoctoral Fellowship) and are gross lump sums, being subjected to national taxation legislation.

Mobility and Family Allowance costs can be eligible only in the specific cases where the researcher fulfills the required conditions:

- Family Allowance: specific cases where the researcher, holder of a certificate of excellence, has family obligations. In this context family is defined as persons linked to the researcher by: a) marriage or b) a relationship with equivalent status to a marriage recognized by European, national or regional legislation in the country where this relationship has been recognized or c) children who are in researcher's care.
- Mobility Allowance: specific cases where the researcher, holder of a certificate of excellence has not been a resident or had an individual employment contract in Romania for a cumulative period of 12 months in the last 3 years.





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Evaluation of proposals

Projects are submitted in a single step using the online platform <https://proiecte.pnrr.gov.ro>. **The Romanian research institution** submits the project proposal on behalf of the holder of the Seal of Excellence. All required documents are uploaded on the platform by the host institution, once they are digitally signed by the institution's legal representative.

Since the projects have already been evaluated under the Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, the proposals are accepted on a first come / first served basis, while only being verified for eligibility.



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de Redresare și Reziliență

Current progress

Currently, since the launch of the call in July, there have been 5 project proposals submitted through the call. The funding instrument has been promoted on the [European Commission website](#), as well as the Romanian [Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digitalisation](#).

Eligibility check of the projects is currently in progress, with the five projects soon receiving the financing decision.

Documents asked from applicants are the following:

- **Grant application** accompanied by an updated working plan, identification of specific and previously unfunded work activities, description of objectives and milestones, an executive summary in Romanian, Gantt chart
- Copy of the **Certificate of Excellence (Seal of Excellence)**, awarded by the European Commission as of 2020
- Copy of the MSCA project submitted to the European Commission within the MSCA call (Part A and B)
- Evaluation Summary Report certifying the score obtained
- Letter of acceptance from the host institution
- Letter of intent and CV of the holder of SoE
- Copy of identity card/passport
- Copy of PhD degree

All documents will be uploaded by the host institution, on behalf of the holder of Seal of Excellence.
The Applicant's Guide is available on the [Ministry's website](#).



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Current progress

The progress for the call has been rather slow, with only the following five applications currently submitted, meaning that only 10% of the target of 50 projects has been reached.

The funding instrument has been advertised on the EC website, under *Funding Opportunities*, as well as having been sent to MSCA National Contact Points from several EU countries, with only a few having confirmed.

We appreciate that further promotion of the instrument is required in order to reach the target for the call.

	Application Date	Applicant
1	02/08/2022 17:46:49	INSTITUTUL NAȚIONAL DE CERCETARE-DEZVOLTARE PENTRU FIZICA TEHNICĂ-IFT IAȘI
2	03/08/2022 11:34:35	UNIVERSITATEA DE MEDICINA SI FARMACIE CRAIOVA
3	12/08/2022 13:18:59	INSTITUTUL ROMAN DE STIINTA SI TEHNOLOGIE
4	31/08/2022 15:18:42	UNIVERSITATEA BABES BOLYAI
5	01/09/2022 22:49:07	UNIVERSITATEA TEHNICA DIN CLUJ - NAPOCA



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Planul Național
de Redresare și Reziliență

Contact

Full details for this call are available on the Romanian [Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digitalisation website](#), under *Lansări competiții - 19 Sprijin pentru posesorii de certificate de excelență primite la competiția pentru burse individuale Marie Skłodowska-Curie*.

For more information regarding the funding scheme, please refer to the contact details below.

Contact:

Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digitalisation,
PSF Reform Implementation Unit (UIRPSF) secretariat.psf@research.gov.ro

- Adrian Popescu, counselor, UIRPSF: adrian.popescu@research.gov.ro
- Ana-Maria Buzu, counselor, UIRPSF: anamaria.buzu@research.gov.ro



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