



# **MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowship 2025**

LEVEL:	Postdoctoral Fellowship
LOCATION:	Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology (MCAST)
DURATION:	2 Years
GROSS ANNUAL SALARY:	~€66,417 (plus additional allowances as applicable)
CLOSING DATE:	May 10, 2025

<u>Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology</u> (MCAST) is pleased to invite expressions of interest for the competitive and career enhancing 2-year European Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF) under the <u>Marie Sklodowska-Curie Actions Postdoctoral Fellowships</u> (MSCA PF) 2025 (HORIZON-MSCA-2025-PF-01) call.

MCAST was established in 2001. It is the leading further- and higher-education institution in Malta for the provision of vocational qualifications with over 10,000 students and 640 academics and corporate personnel, six Institutes (Institute of Applied Sciences; Institute for the Creative Arts; Institute of Engineering and Transport; Institute of Business Management & Commerce; Institute of Community Services; Institute of Information & Communication Technology), and a Gozo campus. MCAST offers over 190 full-time courses and over 300 part-time vocational courses ranging from Certificates to Doctorates. Over the past five years, MCAST has been involved in numerous projects, both at a National and European level, comprising Horizon 2020, EIT Climate-KIC, Interreg Europe, Erasmus+, and Horizon Europe.

We invite applications from experienced researchers of any nationality from around the world to participate in our research programmes and activities in the areas of:

Young people in vocational education, Identity formation of young people, Music subcultures, Leisure and young people, Electronic literature, Al-powered textuality, Poetry and/or literature, The contemporary English novel, The nexus between experimental literature and avant-garde art, Early Childhood Education and Care, Curriculum and educational change, Teacher training programmes, Social policy, Health and social care, Migrant-friendly services, Adaptation pedagogy in service designs, Models of support, Nature-based education, Adaptive protected areas management, Regenerative tourism, Socio-ecological resilience, Cultural ecosystem services, Abiotic stress in crops, Analytical Chemistry, Supramolecular Chemistry, Auxetics, Calixarenes, Biological Applications of Chemical Systems, Medication wastage, Medication adherence, Behavioural determinants to medication wastage, Neuroscience, Brain networks, Epilepsy, Alzheimer's Disease, Dementia, Dopamine, Serotonin, Lateral Habenula, Frontal Cortex, Drug Addiction, Depression, Schizophrenia, Electrophysiology, Behaviour, Neuropharmacology, Operant Conditioning, Process Engineering for Die Packaging in Semiconductor Manufacturing, Optimisation of Plasma Cleaning Processes for Enhanced Leadframe and Substrate Preparation in Semiconductor Manufacturing, Design and Development of Micromachined Ultrasonic Transducers (MUTs) for particular applications through Finite Element Modelling, Prototyping, and Characterisation.

MCAST academics seeking to supervise fellows can be found <u>HERE</u> (further details <u>HERE</u>).

To submit an Expression of Interest (EoI), please scan the QR code or complete the form using the following link HERE.

#### APPLICATION PROCESS AND SUPPORT OFFERED

Candidates interested in applying for a PF with MCAST must fill out and submit the "Expression of Interest" form available HERE.

Candidates will be selected based on eligibility, experience, alignment with MCAST's priorities and the proposed supervisor's research interest. The final decision on whether or not to support a candidate will ultimately be taken by the supervisor and a contract will only be issued if, and only if, the submitted proposal is selected for funding by the European Commission.

The selected candidates will receive dedicated support from the MCAST's Applied Research and Innovation Centre (ARIC) Research Team in preparing their applications. They will also participate in a series of working sessions aimed at developing a strong and competitive proposal.

In addition, to ensure that candidates are fully prepared to apply under this call, a <u>Postdoctoral Fellowship Training Scheme for Incoming Postdocs to Malta (PF2MT)</u>, supporting travel and accommodation expenses for all candidates, is being organised and funded by Xjenza Malta. The training will enhance the proposal-writing skills of researchers and increase their chances of success. Interested applicants are to submit their application form by not later than noon (CET) of the **8**<sup>th</sup> **June 2025**.

## Stages of the EoI process and indicative timeline

Submission of EoIs to MCAST	10 May 2025
Review of Eols	Once an EoI is received, a review will be conducted immediately. Should there be an alignment with MCAST and Supervisor, then a call will be organised with the Supervisor.
Communication of results of internal selection	1 week after meeting with supervisor
Working sessions and support from ARIC in proposal development	June – July 2025
Submission of full draft (with final budget) to ARIC	18 August 2025
MSCA PF submission deadline	10 September 2025 17:00 Brussels time.

## **Funding:**

Each candidate will apply to the scheme with an MCAST supervisor. If the proposal is selected for funding, the successful candidate will be offered a full-time contract to work on a research project and receive training for a period of 2 years fully funded by the European Commission, with MCAST serving as the host institution.

The EU provides financial support that includes the following, if awarded:

- ✓ a living allowance;
- √ a mobility allowance;
- √ budget for research, training and networking activities;
- ✓ if applicable: family, long-term leave and special needs allowances.

### **Eligibility:**

#### Candidates must:

- Have successfully defended their thesis or have been formally awarded a PhD degree at the time of the deadline.
- Have a maximum of 8 years' full-time equivalent experience in research, measured from the date of the award of their doctoral degree. Note that years of experience outside research and career breaks (e.g. due to parental leave) will not count towards the amount of research experience. For nationals or long-term residents of EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries who wish to reintegrate to pursue their research career in EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries, years of experience in research in third countries will not be considered in the above maximum.
- Should comply with mobility rules: European Postdoctoral Fellowships applicants must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the beneficiary (Malta) for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the call deadline.