MSCA Doctoral Networks 2025 (as of 10.07.2025)

Indicative timeline

- 25 November 2025, 17:00 CEST: Deadline for submitting proposals
- April 2026: Notification of call results to applicants (TBC)
- July 2026: Grant agreement signature for successful projects (TBC)
- August 2026: First EU-funded projects start (TBC)

MSCA Doctoral Networks:

- implement doctoral programmes **through partnerships of organisations from different sectors across Europe** and beyond
- train creative, entrepreneurial, innovative and resilient doctoral candidates, able to face current and future challenges and **follow academic and non-academic career path**s
- improve partners' **internationalisation and knowledge transfer between institutions, sectors and disciplines**.
- open to the participation of organisations from third countries, in view of **fostering strategic international partnerships for the training and exchange of researchers**.
- The network's **research programme responds to well-identified needs** in various R&I areas,
- **expose** Doctoral candidates **to the academic and non-academic sectors:** Secondments of doctoral candidates within a consortium to other institutions are expressly encouraged, but these may not take up more than 1/3 of the fellowship duration
- Doctoral candidates must be enrolled in a doctoral program at the home institution.
- **offer training in research-related, as well as transferable skills and competences relevant for innovation and long-term employability** (e.g. entrepreneurship, commercialisation of results, Intellectual Property Rights, communication).
- MSCA Doctoral Networks are encouraged to lead to Industrial or Joint Doctorates.

Eligibility: Doctoral Networks are open to international consortia of universities, research institutions, businesses, SMEs and other non-academic organisations. **At least three independent legal entities from three different MS or AC** have to participate in the consortium, and at least one of them has to be based in an Member State (MS). On top, other institutions from any country in the world can join. Every beneficiary of the MSCA-DN has to recruit at least one doctoral researcher.
For resubmissions, restrictions apply for those proposals that received a score below 80% the previous year.

Duration: Up to 4 years (Funding for PhD 36 months only, the rest for advertisement, hiring, and reporting; if 48 month required PhD, then the institution needs to cover/secure the additional 12 months).

Funding conditions:

- Max 540 PM for the consortium, i.e. 15 Doctoral Researchers for 36 months each
- The duration of each doctoral fellowship is between 3 and 36 months.
- For each doctoral researcher a living allowance, a mobility allowance and, if applicable, family, long-term leave and special needs allowances are provided. In addition, the EU provides **funding for research, training and networking activities as well as management and indirect costs**.

	Contributions for the recruited researcher (per Person-month)					Institutional unit contributions (per person-month)	
	Living allowance	Mobility allowance	Family allowance (if applicable)	Long-term leave allowance (if applicable)	Special needs allowance (if applicable)	Research, training and networking contribution	Management and indirect contribution
MSCA DN	EUR 4,010 * country coefficient	EUR 710	EUR 660	EUR 4,720 x % covered by the beneficiary	requested unit x (1/number of months)	EUR 1,600	EUR 1,200
MSCA PF	EUR 5,990 * country coefficient	EUR 710	EUR 660	EUR 6.700 x % covered by the beneficiary	requested unit x (1/number of months)	EUR 1,000	EUR 650

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Mobility rules: The doctoral researchers funded by a MSCA Doctoral Network must not have resided or carried out their main activity in the country of the recruiting institution for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before their recruitment date.

Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions Supervision guidelines

☐ IGLO in Action Report on Knowledge Valorisation [en]

☐ KoWi Factsheet: AI in the EU funding context [en]

☐ KoWi Factsheet: MSCA Doctoral Networks [en]

☐ KoWi Factsheet: Staff Exchanges [en]

☐ KoWi Factsheet: MSCA & Citizens [en]

☐ COFUND Doctoral Programmes 2023 [en]

☐ KoWi Factsheet: MSCA & Citizens [en]

☐ KoWi Factsheet: MSCA Secondments, placements & short visits [en]