Foras na Mara
Marine Institute

Post-Doctoral Fellowships Call 2025

Clarifications

Q. *Does the Lead Applicant need specific qualifications and experience?*

A. The Lead Applicant/Research Supervisor must be an employee of the Higher Education Institute (HEI) or Public Research Body (PRB), ideally with a permanent contract or, if not, a contract that covers the fellowship duration at a minimum. Please refer to section 4 *Who May Apply* for further details on the required qualifications for the Research Supervisor, and we would also refer applicants to the evaluation criteria (particularly criteria 4) in the *Guidelines for Applicants*.

Q. *Can the Lead Applicant and the Fellow be the same person?*

A. No. Fellows cannot submit applications directly. The Research Supervisor applies, and if successful, the Fellow is appointed in accordance with the normal recruitment and selection policies of the host organisation (HEI or PRB).

Q. *Can there be a Co-Applicant from the same organisation?*

A. Yes, however we will only correspond with the Lead Applicant/Research Supervisor who signs the Declaration Form at application stage and the Grant-Aid Agreement on award.

Q. *If the Research Supervisor moves during the period of the fellowship, does the award move also?*

A. No. If the Research Supervisor leaves the organisation, then the host organisation can propose a replacement to supervise the Fellow. Awards cannot be transferred to another organisation.

Q. *What happens if it is an internal move for the Research Supervisor to another Department or Division?*

A. If the Research Supervisor moves within their own organisation, then this should not impact the award, as the Grant-Aid Agreement is with the organisation.

Q. *Why are partnerships between organisations not permitted?*

A. This relates to the employment and supervision of the Fellow. The application is made by one organisation, and if successful this organisation as Grantee is party to the Grant-Aid Agreement with the Marine Institute. The Fellow is recruited and appointed as a full-time Post-Doctoral Researcher by the Grantee for the duration awarded (up to four years). Other participants may be funded under the Subcontracting/External Assistance cost category (20% max) subject to normal public procurement regulations.

Q. *Can other partners collaborate unfunded, providing their own in-kind contribution?*

A. Yes, these partners can be mentioned in the application form. However, they will not show on RIMS the Marine Institute's online grant management system as a Grantee.

Q. *Can the Marine Institute apply?*

A. No, as the Marine Institute is involved in a number of the proposed fellowships as a named collaborator.

Q. *Can any equipment purchases be eligible?*

A. A laptop/PC for the Fellow's use as part of the project may be included up to a max cost of €2,000. In addition, small apparatus or kit that is regarded as a consumable item may be included. Capital equipment is not eligible – please refer to Appendix 2 Cost Categories (Consumables) in the *Guidelines for Applicants*.

Q. *If successful, when is the Fellow expected to commence?*

A. The Fellow must commence within six months of the date the Grant-Aid Agreement is signed. We expect all Grant-Aid Agreements to be signed in December 2025 with Fellows commencing by June 2026.

Q. *If the Fellow leaves during the term of the award, can a replacement be appointed?*

A. Yes, once the Research Supervisor advises the Marine Institute (Research Funding Office), then we can approve the replacement for the remaining term of the fellowship.

Q. *What assistance and help is available?*

A. The Marine Institute's Research Funding Office can provide clarifications on the rules and help with any other queries. Please send your requests by email to funding@marine.ie. Please title the email subject as "Post-Doc Call".

Applications must be submitted via the Marine Institute's online grant management system (RIMS):

https://marine.smartsimple.ie/

Email rims.support@marine.ie to register on RIMS.

The closing date for applications is 18th September 2025 (16:00).

Version 1 23-Jun-25