



ADMIRE Fellowships in Advanced Materials Research

Guide for Applicants

Call 2 - 2022

Call Launch	01 February 2022
Candidate Information Webinar	28 February 2022
Application deadline	01 May 2022
Remote review	May - June 2022
Interviews*	June - July 2022
Awards*	August 2022
Anticipated employment start*	From October 2022

** These dates are tentative and may be subject to change or review*

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About this Document

This **Guide for Applicants** should be read in conjunction with the **Terms and Conditions** for the second all of the ADMIRE Fellowship Programme. Note that the guidance provided in the **Terms and Conditions** shall prevail in case of discrepancies.

Disclaimer

The views expressed in this document do not represent those of the European Research Executive Agency (REA). REA is not responsible for any use made of the information contained herein.

Version History

Version 2 - Published January 2022

Changes from Version 1 (for Call 1):

- The Established Researcher Eligibility determination deadline has been aligned with the call closing date.
- The window for redress is now 14 days (in line with the *Grant Agreement Description of Action*).
- The term “host institution” is now used throughout this document, to ensure consistency with the *Terms and Conditions* documentation.
- Previous reference to “Athlone Institute of Technology” (AIT) has been updated to reflect its incorporation into the “Technological University of the Shannon” (TUS).
- The list of supervisors has been updated for Call 2 to reflect the eligible AMBER researchers at the time of call publication.
- The order of some materials has changed in this document.

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1. Purpose of this Guide for Applicants

This guide provides instructions and practical information to potential applicants to assist in preparing and submitting an application for an ADMIRE Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme. In addition, it provides a general overview of the scheme and the assessment process.

Information is also available on the ADMIRE website (www.admire-msca.eu), and in the ***Terms and Conditions*** document. Applicants will submit their application through the **Good Grant** portal (see **Section 5** and **Appendix I**).

2. The ADMIRE Programme

2.1. About ADMIRE

ADMIRE is a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action (MSCA) COFUND, hosted by AMBER, the Science Foundation Ireland Centre for Advanced Materials and BioEngineering Research.

ADMIRE will fund at least 12 Postdoctoral Fellowships of 24 months, awarded over two calls for proposals. Seven Fellowships were awarded in Call 1 in 2021.

The programme aims to support the next generation of research leaders in Europe in **Advanced Materials Science**, by facilitating high quality research while providing opportunities for Fellows to develop skills and flexibility for an independent career in their field of research, in academia or industry.

As an MSCA-COFUND, ADMIRE Fellowships are part-funded by the European Commission, and part by the AMBER Centre. The prestige and long-term benefit of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship is upheld, and the disciplinary field of the programme is focused on the AMBER thematic areas (see **Section 3**), for which the host institutions have excellent infrastructure and capability to support research projects.

In contrast to the MSCA Individual Fellowship schemes, where the candidate is required to propose and execute their own training and development programme alongside their technical project, in ADMIRE this support will be designed, facilitated and monitored by the ADMIRE Management Team. Fellows will benefit from training as a cohort, forming a network of peers across Ireland.

2.2. The AMBER Centre

AMBER is a multi-institute centre, bringing together expert investigators based in universities and technical institutes across Ireland. AMBER's core mission is to generate world-class materials innovations and translate these into impact across Europe and the world.

AMBER brings together Ireland's leading researchers working across the disciplines of Bioengineering, Chemistry, Immunology, Medicine, Pharmacy, and Physics. AMBER supports partnerships between leading researchers and industry, driven by advanced materials. It is led by Trinity College Dublin, on behalf of its partner institutions.

2.3. The Host Institutions

Depending on the choice of supervisor, the Fellowship will be awarded such that the Fellow will be an employee of one of the following institutions, affiliated with the AMBER Centre:



As Ireland's university on the world stage, **Trinity College Dublin (TCD)** is recognised for academic excellence and a transformative student experience. The historic campus is located in the heart of Dublin city centre at the meeting place of the retail and cultural districts. With a tradition of scholarship spanning more than four centuries, Trinity is home to talented inquiring minds, a liberal education, and research conducted at the frontiers of disciplines.



University College Dublin (UCD) has its origins in the mid-nineteenth century under the leadership of the renowned educationalist John Henry Cardinal Newman. Since its foundation in 1854, the University has flourished and made a unique and substantial contribution to the creation of modern Ireland, based on successful engagement with Irish society on every level and across every sphere of activity. UCD is one of Europe's leading research-intensive universities; an environment where undergraduate education, masters and PhD training, research, innovation and community engagement form a dynamic spectrum of activity.



Dublin City University (DCU) is a young, dynamic, and ambitious university with a distinctive mission to transform lives and societies through education, research and innovation. Since admitting its first students in 1980, DCU has grown in both student numbers and size and is now a multi campus environment in Glasnevin, located just north of Dublin city. DCU is recognised nationally and internationally as a centre of academic excellence with over 16,000 students and it is regularly featured among the top young universities globally as measured by the Times Higher Education Top 100 under 50 and the QS Top 50 under 50.



For over 200 years the **Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI)** has played a major role in medical education and training in Ireland. Founded in 1784 to train surgeons, today the College provides extensive education and training in the healthcare professions at undergraduate and postgraduate level. The RCSI Research Institute is one of Ireland's foremost research centres. RCSI is committed to performing high levels of research activity, to commercialising intellectual property arising from its research, and to developing collaborative links with industry, educational and research institutions both nationally and internationally.



Founded in 1845, and inspiring students for 170 years, the **National University of Ireland, Galway (NUIG)** has earned international recognition as a research-led university with a commitment to top quality teaching. There is a vibrant research ecosystem at the university. This dynamic community attracts researchers, academics, entrepreneurs and students of the highest calibre.



The **University of Limerick (UL)** is located on the west coast of Ireland along the picturesque River Shannon and enjoys an unspoiled natural environment blended with state-of-the-art teaching and research facilities. With close to 12,000 students, including more than 2,000 international students each year, UL is a young and enterprising university with a proud record of innovation in education and scholarship. With strong links to business and industry, UL excels at translational research which aims to accelerate the practical application of academic research to benefit society. UL houses some of the most innovative and successful research centres in Ireland.



University College Cork (UCC) was established in 1845 as one of three Queen's Colleges, established in the reign of Queen Victoria, and named after her. Nowadays UCC is an internationally competitive, research-led University that plays a key role in the development of Ireland's knowledge-based economy. UCC's mission is to advance excellence in teaching, research, and the quality of the student experience. UCC's institutional research strategy focuses on creating and supporting world-leading clusters of researchers, building on the research strengths of the University.



Established with a mission to support industry and academia in driving research to market, **Tyndall National Institute (TNI)** is one of Europe's leading research centres in Information and Communications Technology (ICT) research and development and the largest research facility of its type in Ireland. Established in 2004 as a successor to the National Microelectronics Research Centre (NMRC founded in 1982) at University College Cork, the Institute hosts over 460 researchers, engineers, and support staff, including a full-time postgraduate cohort of 135 students, generating over 200 peer-reviewed publications each year.



With over 14,000 students on six campuses (including the former Athlone Institute of Technology (AIT) campus) in Ireland's Midwest and Midlands, the **Technological University of the Shannon (TUS)** is Ireland's newest and most unique Technological University. Through applied learning and fresh thinking, our focus is on meeting the evolving needs of society and industry, within our region and beyond. AIT, now a constituent part of TUS, is an award-winning, contemporary Higher Education Institute located in Ireland which is distinguished by outstanding academic achievement and applied research and innovation. AIT prides itself on being a HEI with a truly international focus and holds the award from the EU Commission for HR Excellence in Research.

2.4. About Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Internationally respected in industry and academia, a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship is a recognised mark of research excellence. The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA), named after the double Nobel Prize winning Polish-French scientist famed for her work on radioactivity, aim to support researchers at all stages of their careers, irrespective of nationality. Researchers working across all disciplines, from life-saving healthcare to 'blue-sky' science, are eligible for funding, typically through fixed-term Fellowships.

Mobility, training, and personal development are key factors in any MSCA scheme. Therefore, the actions also support industry doctorates, combining academic research study with work in companies, and often include innovative training that enhances employability and career development.

There are a number of long-term benefits associated with being an MSCA Fellow:

- MSCA Fellows' publications are more-often cited than equivalent peers and are more frequently published in influential scientific journals.
- MSCA Fellows are more successful in applying for European Research Council (ERC) competitive grants for high quality research.
- MSCA Fellows achieve professorship titles more frequently than others and are more likely to hold principal investigator position.

Links to more information on MSCA are given in **Section 7**.

2.5. Working in Ireland

Why choose Ireland?

The Irish Government invests over €782 million annually in research in Ireland's higher education institutions. The result is that despite being a small country in population terms, Ireland's higher education institutions are in the top 1% of research institutions globally for research impact in 19 fields, spanning natural sciences, social sciences and the humanities.

Many of the world's biggest and best companies have located strategic research facilities here in Ireland, and multinationals often choose Irish locations to base their European, Middle Eastern and African (EMEA) operations. The driving factors are typically economic, but companies frequently cite access to world class innovation, alongside the flexibility and adaptability of the population, as reasons to stay and expand. In Irish research and innovation, you will find a friendly ecosystem that sees academic researchers working hand-in-hand with small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) as well as large companies, and funding agencies extremely willing to support them.

Please visit <http://www.iaa.ie/international> for more information on relocating to Ireland as a researcher.

Visas and Work Permits

You must personally review all information on visas and work permits to ensure you can work in Ireland before applying. The visa requirement depends on your nationality, or the country that issued your main travel document. You can check requirements at <https://www.irishimmigration.ie/>

To enter employment in Ireland, if you are a citizen of an EU/EEA (European Economic Area) nation, except for Bulgaria and Romania, or a Swiss national, you do not require a permit.

Otherwise, the eligibility requirements and contractual terms of the ADMIRE programme are designed to fulfil the conditions of the 'Hosting Agreement Scheme'. This special scheme for non-EU researchers offers a free and fast track service for permission to work. With a Hosting Agreement, researcher's families can accompany them, have access to public services including schools, and are entitled to seek work themselves.

For full information on the Hosting Agreement Scheme, visit <https://www.euraxess.ie/ireland/fast-track-work-permit-non-eu-rd-hosting-agreement-scheme>

Living in Ireland

Ireland is renowned for its friendly citizens and warm welcomes and has previously been voted the 'World's friendliest country' by Lonely Planet. As an English-speaking European nation, it is often seen as a gateway to Europe by the rest of the world. Today, Ireland is a dynamic, lively, modern country with a young population and a successful, technologically orientated economy. Ireland also remains a country with deep heritage, where tradition, culture, music, and conversation are valued.

For more information about Ireland as a place to live and work including travel, food, shopping, accommodation, climate and practicalities see www.livinginireland.ie.

3. About the Fellowships

ADMIRE Fellowships are for Experienced Researchers (ER; please see **Section 4**) of any nationality, seeking a prestigious career developing position in one of Ireland's third-level institutes. ADMIRE aims to develop research, technical and other skills, including the ability to actively interact, collaborate and engage with industry. ADMIRE Fellows will be researchers who are technically strong in their own discipline, and capable of performing high-value, interdisciplinary research.

ADMIRE welcomes applications from candidates who have had career breaks and are looking to return to a research-based career and from candidates who have had a non-traditional career path, including those who have built up research experience but who may not have gained a doctoral qualification (see **Section 4**).

The Fellowships are aimed at researchers relocating to Ireland, and therefore mobility is required under the eligibility rules (see **Section 4**).

As part of the application process, candidates should identify a suitable **Research Theme** and **Supervisor**.

3.1. Research Themes

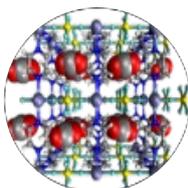
ADMIRE Fellowships will be aligned to one of five themes:

Materials for ICT (ICT)



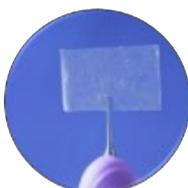
An established strength of the AMBER Centre, ICT continues to be of strategic performance and a mainstay of the Irish economy. Supervisors in this theme work on magnetic logic devices, plasmonic and quantum-enabling materials, self-assembly and thermal management for process minimization and device miniaturization using novel materials including 2D and high band-gap oxides.

Materials for Energy (ENE)



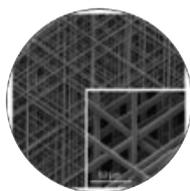
Providing abundant, affordable and renewable energy is a global challenge, in which AMBER's role is to develop timely and novel materials for energy harvesting, delivery and management. Our supervisors work on energy storage devices and applications, including lithium replacement and recycling, materials for carbon capture and conversion (synthetic photosynthesis), and energy transfer, recovery and cooling technologies.

Materials for Health (HEA)



AMBER has international reputation in regenerative medicine and therapeutic materials. We work on bioinks and 3D bioprinting, with integration of 2D materials for enhanced functionality, immune-modulating scaffolds and multifunctional layered biomaterials, creating all types of synthetic tissue. Ireland has significant biosciences and medical device industries, with which AMBER partners to translate technologies for the benefit of patients and society.

Engineered Functional Materials (EFM)



In this theme we aim to make functional nanostructures and patterned films and coatings. The AMBER Additive Manufacturing Facility provides infrastructure for 2D and 3D production of polymers, metals, and ceramic devices. Our supervisors address the innovative synthesis of printable nanoparticles and soft-matter, printing of electronic devices and sensors from 2D materials, and production of functionalised surfaces, membranes, and biofilms.

Sustainable Materials and Technologies (SMT)



An emerging theme driven by societal, and industry demands, here our researchers extend our materials and battery development expertise towards low-energy solutions, from small processors to data centres and vehicles. We also work on innovation in polymer replacement, reuse and recycling, and 'green' construction – use of wood and CLT, VOC-free materials, insulation, and recycling for buildings.

3.2. Supervision and Mentoring

A full list of supervisors and their themes is found at the end of this guide (**Appendix V**). Applicants can freely select the supervisor and linked theme for their proposal and develop their research concept within this theme.

3.3. Training and Development

The ADMIRE programme is designed as a **full research training and career development programme**, with a series of training and career development activities and opportunities. Fellows will be helped to build their network towards their individual career goals and given guidance on making the most of training opportunities at their host institution and externally.

Each Fellow will discuss and define a Personal Career Development Plan (PCDP) in their first month. Along with the research and technical objectives of their fellowship, the PCDP will also indicate a clear set of training and development goals, career targets, industry engagement and publication strategy. Fellows will be assigned a secondary supervisor during their Fellowship, from another institute or industry partner, to provide mentorship and aid them in pursuing their PCDP goals.

3.4. Industry Engagement and Secondments

Engaging with industry to inform, steer and create impact from research is an important feature of AMBER and the ADMIRE programme. AMBER has well-established links with major multinationals, commercial SMEs and pre-commercial start-ups, and many supervisors have active collaborations with exciting companies. Regular formal and informal industry events organised with AMBER and the host institution will provide each Fellow with a further opportunity to interact with our industry network.

As well as this continuous exposure, ADMIRE Fellows have the option to undertake a secondment with an industry partner that suits their research, training and development needs. Applicants may describe potential relevant and realistic secondments in their research proposal, with the guidance of their supervisor, but do not need firm support from an industry partner at this stage. Once a

Fellowship is awarded, the AMBER team will support the Fellow in further defining, negotiating and agreeing their secondment period.

3.5. ADMIRE Annual Plenary

Every year in January, ADMIRE will hold a Plenary session at the AMBER Centre Annual Event, where all Fellows will come together and present their work to each other, their Supervisors, ADMIRE Management and potentially industry representatives and other interested parties. All Fellows will be able to present posters and demos and/or short seminars on their progress.

3.6. Additional Training

Fellows are encouraged to supplement the ADMIRE activities with training relevant to their individual goals. All host institutions have staff development programmes, with technical and non-technical courses available in specific and transferrable skills. Trinity Centre for Gender Equality and Leadership (TCGEL) provides options for personal and professional development in support of equal opportunity in research careers.

4. Eligibility Criteria

All of the relevant eligibility criteria, as they apply to both the **applicant** and the **application**, must be met in order to progress in the Fellowship competition.

4.1. Applicant Eligibility

- Applicants may be of any nationality.
- Applicants must be fluent in English (written and spoken).
- Applicants must comply with the **Transnational Mobility Rule**: researchers must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Ireland for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the call deadline;
 - Compulsory national service and/or short stays such as holidays can be ignored
 - For refugees covered by the 1951 Refugee Convention (Geneva Convention), the refugee procedure (i.e., before refugee status is conferred) will not be counted as ‘period of residence/activity in the country of the beneficiary’. This is regardless of whether he/she was active in research at that time.
- Applicants must be **Experienced Researchers** at the call deadline.

Definitions:

- “Experienced Researcher” is an individual in possession of a doctoral degree (i.e., have successfully completed all the formal requirements to obtain a doctorate) or, if the applicant has does not have a doctoral degree, they should have at least 4 years of full-time equivalent research experience.
- “Full-Time Equivalent Research Experience” is measured from the date when a researcher obtained a degree that would allow them to pursue a PhD and is defined as being in a role where the primary driver is research rather than commercial gain. For example, a position in a group that conducts research for the purpose of publication or generation of intellectual property. Purely teaching positions are not considered research experience.

4.2. Proposal Eligibility

- The proposal must be complete and in English.
- The proposal must be received on or before the call deadline through the online application system.
- Only one application per applicant may be submitted per call (resubmissions for the second call from unsuccessful applicants are encouraged).
- The proposals must adhere to the ethical standards applicable to the MSCA and ADMIRE programmes.
- The proposal must be within an ADMIRE theme and identify an ADMIRE Supervisor.
- The supervisor named for the project must agree to act as supervisor, hosting the Fellow, for the duration of the Fellowship
- The proposal must be able to be conducted while hosted at the institution of the ADMIRE supervisor.

5. How to Apply

Applicants for the ADMIRE Fellowships will submit a research proposal (using the appropriate template), supporting documents and evidence of eligibility through the dedicated online portal. Once eligibility is confirmed, an international, independent panel of experts will review the proposal. Top ranked submissions will pass to the next stage, where candidates will be invited for interview. Those successful at the interview stage will be informed of intent to offer a Fellowship position at one of the AMBER Centre host institutions.

The actual start of the Fellowship will occur after an employment contract is issued by the host institution, and right to work in Ireland has been obtained. Fellows should expect to start within three months of contract issue; delayed starts may be considered with justification.

5.1. Publication of the Fellowship Call

The application process starts with the launch of the ADMIRE Call, along with this document and associated templates. An online application system (<https://admire-msca.grantplatform.com/>) is open for the duration of call.

The system will close at 18:00 UTC On Sunday, 01 May 2022.

At any stage, applicants may contact the ADMIRE management team (admire@tcd.ie) for support.

5.2. Preparation for Applying

Applicants are encouraged to start preparation as early as possible. Please review all relevant documentation, including this *Guide for Applicants*, the *Terms and Conditions* document any *FAQs* and the *Application Templates* published on the ADMIRE webpage and application portal.

Applicants **must** first contact the ADMIRE Supervisor (Principal Investigator) with whom they would like to work on their research project, should they be successful. Supervisors and their contact details can be found in **Appendix V** at the end of this *Guide*. The Supervisor will confirm whether they are happy to work with the applicant on their chosen topic and may offer advice on developing the research plan.

5.3. Developing and submitting your proposal

To be considered for an ADMIRE Fellowship, applicants are required to propose a research project that can be executed over the duration of a two-year Fellowship, with the support of the chosen Supervisor. The plan should also describe how the Fellowship will develop the applicant's career.

The submission will comprise a written research proposal, your CV and supporting information).

Please review the detailed requirements in **Appendix I** and **Appendix II**, along with the criteria that will be used to evaluate your proposal in **Appendix III**. Document templates are provided.

5.4. Eligibility Checking

After the Call closes, all applications will first be checked for completeness and eligibility. Applicants will be informed of the result by email. If an application is found ineligible, the reason will be stated,

and the submission rejected. Note that detailed documentary evidence of eligibility will only be requested should the application be reviewed successfully and selected for award.

5.5. International Expert Review and Ranking

All eligible applications will undergo independent, international remote review. Each proposal will be evaluated by three experts. Applications will be scored and ranked according to the ADMIRE Assessment Criteria (**Appendix III**). At the end of the stage, applicants will receive a summary of their score and feedback, and the decision on their progression to interview.

5.6. Interviews of Top Ranked Applicants

The set of top ranked applicants will be invited for an interview lasting 30 minutes. Prior to the interview, the applicant will be required to provide a letter of motivation for the Fellowship, and to confirm the details of two references. This information will be provided to the interview panel.

At the interview, the applicant will be invited to give a brief 10-minute presentation on their research proposal. The presentation should include an overview of the research plan, the motivation of the applicant to take up the Fellowship, and details of specific career and training objectives. The presentation will be followed by questions from the interview panel.

The interview is a time for the candidates to discuss the research proposal and demonstrate that they have the desire and competency required for its execution. It will also give the candidates an opportunity to further develop their research concept and plan, and to learn more about AMBER and ADMIRE. The interview may be attended via teleconferencing facility or in person. There is no advantage to attending in person, as we expect applications from all over the world. In the case of COVID-19 restrictions continuing, videoconference may be the only option offered. Travel costs will not be reimbursed.

Candidates will then be informed of their evaluation, panel feedback and the award decision.

5.7. The Award and Offers of Employment

The final score for each application will be comprised of the score for the written proposal and the interview, with equal weighting applied. The ADMIRE Steering Committee will select a number of awardees from the top ranked applicants above the threshold, considering the maximum number of Fellowships available over the two calls. Those who score above the threshold but not in the top ranked set may be placed in a reserve list at the discretion of the Steering Committee.

Upon selection, successful applicants will be informed of the award decision, and to anticipate an employment offer from their host institution. Prior to the institution giving a firm offer (an employment contract to execute the Fellowship), the ADMIRE management and/or the host institution may contact the applicant's referees, and request further documentary evidence to verify applicant eligibility. Should these checks fail, the award may be withdrawn.

It is expected that awardees will start their Fellowship at the earliest convenience, and within three months of contract offer from their host institution. Given that mobility is a key feature of the programme, ADMIRE recognises that additional time may be required to allow a Fellow to complete their previous activities before the move to Ireland, and obtain visas if required. Requests for delayed start will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

5.8. Ethics Review

An additional, parallel review will take place if the applicant answers 'yes' to any of the questions in the ethics self-assessment (see **Appendix IV**), and subsequently provides an additional information in an Ethics Statement.

The intent of the ethics review is to help applicants to understand and manage ethical issues. The review may accept that the applicant has necessary controls and measures in their plan or may request additional measures. In extreme cases the proposal may be declared ineligible. The Programme Ethical Review Committee (PERC) may ask for additional information before coming to a decision.

Applicants will be informed of the outcome of the review, including requirements, recommendations, and advice. If stipulated, formal ethical approval for the project must be obtained by the applicant from the relevant ethics committee at the host institution prior to the start of the project.

5.9. Redress Procedure

Applicants who believe that their proposal has been unjustly evaluated may submit a request for redress. Requests can be made with regards to evaluation procedures that were followed and/or to the application of the evaluation criteria. Requests with regards to the scientific judgement of reviewers will not be taken into consideration. Applicants must submit their request within 14 days of being notified of their evaluation outcomes (eligibility review, remote review, interview / selection).

A Redress Template will be available on the ADMIRE website for this purpose, to be emailed directly to the ADMIRE Programme Manager (admire@tcd.ie). A Redress Committee will review the submission, and applicants will be informed by e-mail within 15 days if their redress request is accepted, and actions that will be implemented, which may include repeat of part or all the review process. Redress Committee decisions are final.

6. Employment as an ADMIRE Fellow

6.1. Contracts

ADMIRE Fellows will be offered fixed-term or specific purpose Research Fellow employment contracts from the host institution of their Supervisor for the duration of the Fellowship. The terms of the employment contract will be in line with the Terms of Employment (Information) Acts 1994–2012, Ireland, which ensures provision of pensions, vacation / maternity / parental and carers leave, accident insurance cover and access to health insurance. Further details are given in the ADMIRE Terms and Conditions document.

In addition to the general terms and conditions the employment contract will specify the following:

- The nature of the appointment of the researcher / status (i.e., Research Fellow).
- The maximum duration of the Fellowship.
- Details of the name(s) of the Supervisor(s) with overall responsibility for the project
- The gross salary provided for the Fellow, including the mobility and family allowances if applicable.
- Working hours, vacation, and other leave entitlements, such as sickness and maternity leave.
- Arrangements between the institute and the researcher relating to IP rights, confidentiality, and any other policies of the institution.

This employment contract will remain in place during any industry secondments conducted during the Fellowship. The Fellow may be required to sign additional agreements (non-disclosure, safety documentation, etc.) due to their interaction with an industry or other academic partner, in a secondment or otherwise.

6.2. Financial Aspects

The indicative allowances that a Fellow will receive as **gross salary** for the Fellowships are listed in the table below. These may vary from institution to institution, depending on their treatment of employee and employer deductions, so the details are for **guidance only**. Please see the **Terms and Conditions** for information on the total award amount including employer costs, which is fixed.

	Living allowance	Mobility allowance*	Family allowance**
ADMIRE Fellowship Estimated Gross Annual Salary	€43,100	€6,500	€5,400

* All fellows who are eligible to apply for the programme are eligible for the mobility allowance

** Fellows with dependent family at the call deadline are eligible for the family allowance. Family is defined as persons linked to the Fellow by (i) marriage, or (ii) a relationship with equivalent status to a marriage recognised by the legislation of the country where this relationship was formalised; or (iii) dependent children who are actually being maintained by the Fellow.

The mobility and family allowances are constituent parts of the Fellow's salary, in addition to the living allowance, and are provided to compensate for the cost of the required personal and household relocation of the Fellow and their dependents.

Please note that all or part of these allowance received by the Fellow will be liable for normal taxes and other deductions (see www.revenue.ie), which will be applied by the host institution and detailed on the Fellow's monthly payslip.

In addition, the ADMIRE Fellowship provides generous contributions towards the cost of conducting the research proposal (i.e., consumables, publications, travel, specific workshop, or training activities). This equates to €875 per month of the Fellowship completed, up to a maximum of €21,000 over the two years. These funds will be placed in a research account at the host institution and may be used according to the host institution's procurement policies, under the authorisation of the Fellow's supervisor.

Programme-wide management, training and development activities are all provided by ADMIRE.

6.3. Other benefits

Fellows will receive all the necessary management and technical support to ensure access to the facilities required to carry out their research. Each host institution has administrative and welfare structures in place for the Fellows, such as an accommodation office, IT support and advice and health services.

ADMIRE Fellows will be able to avail of flexible working hours and flexible working conditions. While each Fellow will have workspace in their host institution, they may also work from other locations including home as it suits their research, with the consent of their Supervisor. All mandatory meetings will take place between 10 am and 4 pm to avoid the exclusion of Fellows with family responsibilities.

Fellows will be given induction and health and safety training in their host institutions, including an induction pack. This will give Fellows information on their rights as employees, employee services and a practical guide to living in Ireland, including tax-incentive travel schemes such as the Annual Travel Pass and Bike to Work.

7. Relevant Links

Helpful guidance for writing MSCA “Individual Fellowship” Proposals:

<https://www.net4mobilityplus.eu/scientific-community/>

<https://www.iaa.ie/for-researchers/marie-sklodowska-curie-actions/resources-events-training/>

European Charter for Researchers

<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/charter/european-charter>

Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers

<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/charter/code>

H2020: How to complete your ethics self-assessment

https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/ethics/h2020_hi_ethics-self-assess_en.pdf

European Textbook on Ethics in Research

https://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/document_library/pdf_06/textbook-on-ethics-report_en.pdf

Toolkit “Gender in EU-funded research”

<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/c17a4eba-49ab-40f1-bb7b-bb6faaf8dec8>

Marie Curie researchers and their long-term career development: A comparative study (2014)

http://ec.europa.eu/research/fp7/pdf/mca/marie_curie_researchers_and_their_long-term_career_development.pdf

8. Contact Details

Email admire@tcd.ie

Address AMBER, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin 2, Ireland

Website www.admire-msca.eu

Twitter [@AdmireMSCA](https://twitter.com/AdmireMSCA)

Appendix I: Proposal Submission

Applications must be submitted via the ADMIRE online application system:

<https://admire-msca.grantplatform.com/>

To submit an application, you will be asked to register in the system, creating an individual login. Following registration, you can begin your application, save and submit it. You may return to edit it at any time before the call deadline.

The elements of the application process are:

Tab	Element(s)	Details	Limits
Applicant Information	Personal Details	Your details as the applicant, including your nationality and gender. These are used for statistical purposes only.	
Project Description	Title & Short Name	The title of the research proposal and a short name identifier.	Short name: 1 word
	Abstract	An overview of your research proposal. This abstract is not assessed, but it will be viewed by experts before they evaluate your proposal so they can confirm they are capable of providing a review. It will also be published if your proposal is successful. Therefore, it should contain only non-confidential information, and include an unambiguous description of your research proposal's concept.	300 words
	Theme / Topic Selection	Select the research topic from the list given	1 topic
	Supervisor Selection	Select the nominated ADMIRE Supervisor	1 selection
	Keywords	Enter keywords that may assist expert reviewer assignment	10 words max
	Declarations	Assert research integrity by checking the boxes	
Upload Proposal Documents	Document uploads	Upload: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The research proposal. Use the Research Proposal template provided, which contains instructions for structure, and content. 8 pages max. See notes in Annex II. - Your CV; template provided, 5 pages max - Your ethics statement (if required) 2 pages max 	Min. 11pt font, 2cm border; tables and footnotes at least 10pt and 8pt respectively 5MB document size

Tab	Element(s)	Details	Limits
Ethics Self-Assessment	Questionnaire	Answer all questions. If you respond 'yes' to any question, you are required to add an ethics statement to the document uploads.	
Eligibility Self-Assessment	Questionnaire	Answer all questions. Documentary evidence will be requested should you reach the last stage of the evaluation process, prior to contract offer.	

Appendix II: The Research Proposal Document

The research proposal is the most important part of the application, and will be submitted as a written document of no more than 8 pages (page count does not include the title page or Gantt chart).

A template is provided on the ADMIRE website.

Potential sources of bias may be removed from the proposal after submission, in the best effort to present only the research concept and your capacity to perform it to the review panel. To limit editing made on your behalf, it is recommended you avoid using terms that disclose gender, age or nationality.

The research proposal must contain three sections: EXCELLENCE, IMPACT and IMPLEMENTATION. Notes on the expected content of each section are given the template application form. As you develop your proposal, you should also refer to the evaluation criteria in Appendix III.

Please abide by the following formatting rules:

- All text must be readable (no less than 11pt in normal text; 10pt may be used in tables)
- References should be in footnotes, in 8 or 9pt font. All references count towards the page limit.
- A minimum border of 2 cm on all sides applies to the whole document

Diagrams, plots, and tables may be used; however, use of colour to indicate differences should be avoided in case the document is viewed in black and white.

Appendix III: Evaluation Criteria

Remote Review

All eligible applications will be evaluated by three independent reviewers and will be given a score from 1 (very poor; superficial addressing of evaluation criteria) to 5 (outstanding in all criteria) for each category heading (Excellence, Impact and Implementation), considering the sub-criteria outlined in the table below.

For each category, a mean average will be determined of the reviewer's scores. Category weightings will be applied to generate an overall score, given to one decimal place. Proposals will then be ranked for selection. In cases where proposals have equal scores ("*ex aequo*"), they will be ordered on the priority listed at the end of the table. An overall threshold of 70% will be applicable to each score (i.e., a score of 3.5/5.0 must be obtained in each criterion and overall) to have the possibility to proceed to the next stage of evaluation.

All applicants will be informed of their score and summary reviewer comments on their proposal.

Excellence	Impact	Implementation
Sub-criteria		
Quality and credibility of the research/innovation project; level of novelty, appropriate consideration of inter/multidisciplinary and gender aspects.	Potential of Fellowship to enhance the future career prospects of the Fellow	Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan.
Appropriateness of individual training objectives, industry engagement and secondment	Quality of the proposed measures to exploit and disseminate the project results	Appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources
Appropriateness of the supervision and of the integration in the team/institution, integration with AMBER mission and research themes	Quality of the proposed measures to communicate the project activities to different target audiences	Appropriateness of the management structure and procedures, including risk/data management
Capacity of the researcher to reach or re-enforce a position of professional maturity/independence		
Criterion Weighting		
50%	30%	20%
Priority in case of <i>ex aequo</i>		
1	2	3

Interview

The interview panel will include as a minimum the AMBER director (or their nominee), a senior expert in the submission theme from the AMBER Centre, and an independent, international member.

The interview panel shall agree (consensus) on a score between 1 (very poor; superficial addressing of criteria) and 5 (excellent in all criteria) and with one decimal point, under three category headings, considering the sub-criteria detailed below. A weighted overall score will be determined.

A threshold of 70% will be applied, meaning that the result of the interview must be 3.5/5.0, at least, in order for the candidate to be considered for final selection.

Motivation	Research experience and potential for growth	Convincing implementation and long-term career plan
Sub-criteria		
Researcher's motivation for the project; consideration of novelty, inter/multidisciplinary and gender aspects.	Capacity of the researcher to reach or re-enforce a position of professional maturity/independence	Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan and capacity of the researcher to execute the plan at the host institute
Appropriate inclusion of industry engagement and secondment	Capacity of the researcher to exploit and disseminate project results	Appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources
Motivation and capacity to integrate in the host and engage with the AMBER mission	Capacity of the researcher to communicate the project activities to different target audiences	Appropriateness of the management structure and procedures, including risk/data management
		Coherence of long-term career plan
Criterion Weighting		
50%	30%	20%
Priority in case of <i>ex aequo</i>		
1	2	3

Overall score calculation

The two scoring evaluation phases have equal weighting. Therefore, the score for the final ranking will be determined by adding the peer review and interview scoring.

Appendix IV: Ethics

The ADMIRE Programme is committed to ensuring that all research is conducted according to best ethical practice and, thus, maintain the good name of research in Ireland and Europe.

Applicants must always consider and address any of the following ethics issues, if they arise, in their proposals:

- Humans
- Human cells/tissues
- Personal data
- Animals
- Third countries
- Environment & Health and Safety
- Dual use
- Misuse
- Other ethics issues

Research areas excluded from funding include:

- Research activities aiming at human cloning for reproductive purposes
- Research activities intended to modify the genetic heritages or human beings which could make such changes heritable
- Research activities intended to create human embryos solely for the purposes of research or for the purpose of stem cell procurement, including by means of somatic cell nuclear transfer

Research activities involving human embryonic stem cells (hESCs) require an additional level of approval from the Research Executive Agency funding this programme. If your concept involves use of hESCs we strongly recommend contacting the programme manager in advance of submitting a proposal.

All applicants to the ADMIRE Fellowship Programme are required to complete an Ethics Self-Assessment, which is part of the online application form. Should the self-assessment indicate potential ethical issues, a statement describing how they will be addressed should be provided, using the template provided.

For more information on ethical issues please refer to the links given in **Section 7** of this **Guide**.

Appendix V: List of Supervisors and Themes

The table below provides details of the eligible ADMIRE supervisors. Supervisors are arranged alphabetically by last name. Their affiliation (to a host institution), contact details, and affiliated themes are also indicated. A key to the host institution and themes is given at the end of the table. An interactive version of this listing is also available on the ADMIRE website: <https://www.admire-msca.eu/peoples/supervisors>

First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Email address	Bio link	Theme
Ramesh	Babu	TCD	BABUP@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/Physics/research/groups/pmnc/	EFM
John J	Boland	TCD	jboland@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/research/profiles/?profile=jboland	ICT
Louise	Bradley	TCD	bradl@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/Physics/research/groups/bradley-photonics/	ICT
Margaret	Brennan Fournet	TUS	margaret.brennanfournet@tus.ie	http://mri.ait.ie/people/dr-margaret-brennan-fournet/	SMT
Conor	Buckley	TCD	conor.buckley@tcd.ie	http://www.buckleylab.eu	HEA
Mike	Coey	TCD	jcoey@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/Physics/research/groups/magnetism/	ICT, SMT
Paula	Colavita	TCD	colavitp@tcd.ie	http://ambercentre.ie/people/prof-paula-colavita	EFM
Jonathan	Coleman	TCD	colemaj@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/Physics/research/groups/1d-nanostructures/group/	EFM, ENE
Maurice	Collins	UL	maurice.collins@ul.ie	https://www.ul.ie/hri/person/hri-member/dr-maurice-collins	SMT
Graham	Cross	TCD	graham.cross@tcd.ie	https://glwcross.wixsite.com/mysite	ICT
Sally-Ann	Cryan	RCSI	scryan@rcsi.ie	https://www.rcsi.com/people/profile/scryan	HEA
Annie	Curtis	RCSI	anniecurtis@rcsi.ie	https://www.rcsi.com/people/profile/anniecurtis	HEA
Stephen	Daniels	DCU	stephen.daniels@dcu.ie	http://daniels.eeng.dcu.ie/home	ICT
Declan	Devine	TUS	Ddevine@AIT.ie	http://mri.ait.ie/people/declan-devine/	SMT
John	Donegan	TCD	john.donegan@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/Physics/people/jdonegan	ICT, ENE
Stephen	Dooley	TCD	stephen.dooley@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/Physics/people/stdooley/?profile=stdooley	ENE
Sylvia	Draper	TCD	smdraper@tcd.ie	https://chemistry.tcd.ie/staff/people/sd/Home.php	EFM

First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Email address	Bio link	Theme
Garry	Duffy	NUIG	garry.duffy@nuigalway.ie	http://ambercentre.ie/people/dr-garry-duffy	HEA
Aisling	Dunne	TCD	aidunne@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/research/profiles/?profile=aidunne	HEA
Nicholas	Dunne	DCU	Nicholas.Dunne@dcu.ie	https://aptcentre.ie/people/nicholas-dunne/	HEA
Fengzhou	Fang	UCD	fengzhou.fang@ucd.ie	https://www.i-form.ie/whoweare/ourpeople/fengzhoufang/	EFM
Mauro	Ferreira	TCD	ferreirm@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/Physics/research/groups/tmg/	ICT, EFM
Larisa	Florea	TCD	floreal@tcd.ie	https://www.florealab.com/	HEA, EFM
Max	Garcia Melchor	TCD	garciamm@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/Physics/research/groups/tmg/	EFM, ICT
Luke	Geever	TUS	lgeever@ait.ie	http://mri.ait.ie/people/dr-luke-geever-phd/	EFM, SMT
John	Goold	TCD	gooldj@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/Physics/research/groups/qusys/people/goold/	ICT
Yurii	Gun'ko	TCD	igounko@tcd.ie	https://chemistry.tcd.ie/staff/people/yg/index.html	EFM
Thorri	Gunnlaugsson	TCD	gunnlaut@tcd.ie	https://thorrigunnlaugsson.wordpress.com/	EFM
Anne-Marie	Healy	TCD	healyam@tcd.ie	https://pharmacy.tcd.ie/staff/healy-cv.php	HEA
Andreas	Heise	RCSI	andreasheise@rcsi.ie	https://www.rcsi.com/people/profile/andreasheise	HEA, EFM
Richard	Hobbs	TCD	hobbsr@tcd.ie	https://hobbslab.weebly.com/people.html	ICT
David	Hoey	TCD	dahoey@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/mecheng/staff/dahoey/	HEA
Justin	Holmes	UCC	j.holmes@ucc.ie	http://publish.ucc.ie/researchprofiles/D004/jholmes	EFM, ICT
Greg	Hughes	DCU	greg.hughes@dcu.ie	https://www.dcu.ie/research/people/greg-hughes	ICT
Paul	Hurley	UCC	paul.hurley@tyndall.ie	http://research.ucc.ie/profiles/E024/paul.hurley@tyndall.ie	ICT
Lewys	Jones	TCD	lewys.jones@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/Physics/people/jonesl1	SMT
Cathal	Kearney	RCSI	cathalkearney@rcsi.ie	https://www.rcsi.com/people/profile/cathalkearney	HEA
Danny	Kelly	TCD	kellyd9@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/research/profiles/?profile=kellyd9	HEA
Joe	Kerry	UCC	joe.kerry@ucc.ie	http://publish.ucc.ie/researchprofiles/D018/joekerry	SMT
Catriona	Lally	TCD	lallyca@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/mecheng/staff/lallyca/	HEA

First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Email address	Bio link	Theme
Ed	Lavelle	TCD	lavellee@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/research/profiles/?profile=lavellee	HEA
Alessandro	Lunghi	TCD	lunghia@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/Physics/people/lunghia	ICT, ENE
Rocco	Lupoi	TCD	lupoir@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/mecheng/staff/lupoir/	EFM
Mike	Lyons	TCD	melyons@tcd.ie	http://ambercentre.ie/people/prof-mike-lyons	EFM
Ian	Major	TUS	imajor@ait.ie	http://mri.ait.ie/people/dr-ian-major-phd/	HEA, ENE
David	McCloskey	TCD	mccloskd@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/research/profiles/?profile=dmcclosk	ENE, ICT
Paul	McCloskey	TNI	paul.mccloskey@tyndall.ie	http://research.ucc.ie/profiles/E026/paul.mccloskey@tyndall.ie	ICT
Aidan	McDonald	TCD	aimcdona@tcd.ie	https://chemistry.tcd.ie/staff/people/mcdonald/aidan.php	EFM
Niall	McEvoy	TCD	MCEVOYNI@tcd.ie	https://chemistry.tcd.ie/staff/people/duesberg/ASIN/niall/	ICT
Matthias	Moebius	TCD	mobiusm@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/Physics/research/groups/mobius/group/matthias-mobius/	EFM
Parvaneh	Mokarian	TCD	Parvaneh.Mokarian@tcd.ie	http://ambercentre.ie/people/dr-parvaneh-mokarian-tabari	EFM
Michael	Monaghan	TCD	monaghmi@tcd.ie	https://www.monaghanlab.com/	HEA
Michael	Morris	TCD	morrism2@tcd.ie	http://ambercentre.ie/people/prof-mick-morris	ICT, EFM, SMT
Bruce	Murphy	TCD	bruce.murphy@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/research/profiles/?profile=murphb17	HEA
Ciara	Murphy	RCSI	ciaramurphy@rcsi.com	https://www.rcsi.com/people/profile/ciaramurphy	HEA
Valeria	Nicolosi	TCD	nicolov@tcd.ie	https://chemistry.tcd.ie/cpam/staff/valeria/	ENE, EFM
Fergal	O'Brien	RCSI	fjobrien@rcsi.ie	https://www.rcsi.com/people/profile/fjobrien	HEA
Eoin	O'Cearbhaill	UCD	eoin.ocearbhaill@ucd.ie	https://people.ucd.ie/eoin.ocearbhaill	HEA
Robert	O'Connor	DCU	robert.p.oconnor@dcu.ie	https://www.dcu.ie/physics/people/rob-oconnor	ICT
Garret	O'Donnell	TCD	garret.odonnell@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/mecheng/research/stam/team/garret-odonnell.php	EFM
Caitriona	O'Driscoll	UCC	caitriona.odriscoll@ucc.ie	http://publish.ucc.ie/researchprofiles/C019/caitrionaodriscoll	HEA
Colm	O'Dwyer	UCC	c.odwyer@ucc.ie	http://research.ucc.ie/profiles/D004/codwyer	ENE
David	O'Regan	TCD	oregand2@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/Physics/research/groups/cmtg/	ICT

First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Email address	Bio link	Theme
Seamus	O'Shaughnessy	TCD	oshaugse@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/research/profiles/?profile=oshaugse	EFM
Donal	O'Shea	RCSI	donalfoshea@rcsi.ie	https://www.rcsi.com/people/profile/donalfoshea	HEA
Peter	Parbrook	UCC	peter.parbrook@tyndall.ie	http://research.ucc.ie/profiles/D013/pparbrook	EFM, ICT
Emmanuele	Pelucchi	UCC	emanuele.pelucchi@tyndall.ie	http://research.ucc.ie/profiles/E025/e.pelucchi@ucc.ie	ICT
Adriale	Prina-Mello	TCD	PRINAMEA@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/medicine/research/researchers/Adriale-Prina-Mello.php	HEA, EFM
Anthony	Robinson	TCD	arobins@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/research/profiles/?profile=arobins	ENE
Eduardo	Ruiz Hernandez	RCSI	ruizhere@tcd.ie	https://pharmacy.tcd.ie/staff/ruiz-hernandez-cv.php	HEA
Kevin	Ryan	UL	kevin.m.ryan@ul.ie	https://www.ul.ie/scieng/prof-kevin-m-ryan	ENE
Stefano	Sanvito	TCD	sanvitos@tcd.ie	http://www.spincomp.com/group/stefano-sanvito/	ICT, ENE
Micheal	Scanlon	UL	micheal.scanlon@ul.ie	https://www.ul.ie/scieng/dr-micheal-scanlon	ENE
Wolfgang	Schmitt	TCD	schmittw@tcd.ie	https://chemistry.tcd.ie/staff/people/Schmitt/index.html	EFM, ENE
Igor	Shvets	TCD	igor.chvets@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/Physics/research/groups/aprg/group/shvets/	ICT
Plamen	Stamenov	TCD	stamenov.plamen@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/Physics/research/groups/magnetism/	ICT
Kenneth	Stanton	UCD	kenneth.stanton@ucd.ie	https://people.ucd.ie/kenneth.stanton	EFM
Daniel	Trimble	TCD	dtrimble@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/mecheng/research/stam/team/daniel-trimble.php	EFM
Miles	Turner	DCU	miles.turner@dcu.ie	https://www.dcu.ie/physics/people/miles-turner	ICT
Munuswamy	Venkatesan	TCD	venkatem@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/Physics/research/groups/magnetism/group/venkatesan/	ICT
Paul	Weaver	UL	paul.weaver@ul.ie	https://www.ul.ie/scieng/prof-paul-m-weaver	EFM
Mike	Zaworotko	UL	xtal@ul.ie	https://www.ul.ie/bernal-crystal-engineering/members/prof-mike-zaworotko	EFM, ENE
Hongzhou	Zhang	TCD	hongzhou.zhang@tcd.ie	https://www.tcd.ie/Physics/research/groups/pan/group/hongzhou/	ICT

Affiliations (Host Institutions)

Thematic Areas

RCSI	Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland
DCU	Dublin City University
TCD	Trinity College Dublin
NUIG	National University of Ireland, Galway
TNI	Tyndall National Institute
TUS	Technological University of the Shannon
UCC	University College Cork
UCD	University College Dublin
UL	University of Limerick

EFM	Engineered Functional Materials
ENE	Materials for Energy
HEA	Materials for Health
ICT	Materials for ICT
SMT	Sustainable Materials and Technology
