ITN: Innovative Training Networks – European Training Networks (ETN)

A funding scheme in the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions under Horizon 2020

A European Training Network (ETN) is a consortium that sets up a joint research and training programme for researchers at doctoral level. The researchers receive research and innovation training and are hired for periods from 3 to 36 months, ideally with the goal of completing their PhD thesis. Exchanges between the partners are usual, especially to the private sector. The ETN is expected to have a structuring effect on research and doctoral training in Europe that endures beyond the life of the project.

Why should I do it?

You are able to expand and strengthen your existing networks and gain new expertise. You can give researchers unique opportunities for research and training.

Who can apply?

A network (consortium) of at least 3 different institutions from 3 different EU Member States or Associated Countries. Partners from the private sector are encouraged but not mandatory.

Eligibility criteria

Researchers participating in an ETN have to be ‘Early-Stage Researchers’ at the time of recruitment. This means that they are in the first four years (full-time equivalent research experience) of their research career and have not yet been awarded a doctoral degree. At the time of recruitment, they should not have lived or worked in the country of their future host organisation for more than 12 months during the 3 years prior to the recruitment date (short stays such as vacation are not taken into account).

How can I apply?

Inform yourself about the application timeline and familiarise yourself with the most important documents (Work Programme, Guide for Applicants). For questions, get in touch with your National Contact Point or Euresearch Regional Office. Start the search for suitable partners early.

When can I apply?


How much funding can be expected?

The EC contribution is calculated using the ‘researcher unit costs’ of €3270/month living allowance + €600/month mobility allowance + €500/month family allowance (if applicable) and the ‘institutional unit costs’ of €1800/month research and
training costs + €1200/month management costs and overheads. The maximum EU contribution is limited to 540 researcher months.

The living allowance is multiplied with a country correction coefficient.

**Frequently asked questions**

**What is the success rate?**

The overall success rate of ETNs in the 2015, 2016 and 2017 call was 6.3%, 6.5%, and 6.8% respectively.

**Can partners from the USA take part in the funding scheme?**

Yes, they can if the minimum consortium criteria are met. But they will not receive funding from the EC, therefore will have to provide their own.

**When will I know the outcome of my proposal?**

Approximately 3 months after the deadline. You can expect to start your project 8 months after the deadline.

**What is the average consortium size?**

The average ITN consortium size is 9 partners with 1 or 2 ESRs per partner. There were also successful smaller and larger consortia, however, more than 12 partners can be difficult to manage.

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**Contact Information**

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More information on this and other funding opportunities is available on the EC's Participant Portal:
www.ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/

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"After all, science is essentially international, and it is only through lack of the historical sense that national qualities have been attributed to it."

Marie Sklodowska-Curie