

## **MTA POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH PROGRAMME**

**The Hungarian Academy of Sciences invites  
scientists for a Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme with institutions of the  
MTA research network or universities in Hungary for a period from 1  
September 2015 to 31 August 2017**

### **The aim of the programme**

The President of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (hereinafter MTA) extends invitations to Hungarian and foreign scientists to participate in the MTA Postdoctoral Research Programme in research centres and institutes of MTA, subsidized university research groups, and Lendület (Momentum) research groups (i.e. the MTA research network), and in Hungarian universities (hereinafter host institutions) for a 24-month period of employment.

The aim of the programme is to provide research opportunity at the best scientific schools of the MTA research network and those of Hungarian universities for talented young scientists possessing scientific degrees; to enhance the mobility of researchers, to support the participation of foreign scientists in Hungary-based research, and to encourage the repatriation of young scientists.

### **Eligibility**

The postdoctoral fellowship of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences will be provided for Hungarian or foreign candidates possessing a scientific degree (PhD or DLA), younger than 35 years by the beginning of the employment of the programme (until 01.09.2015) applied, claiming previous research experience, while not employed by the host institute.

The date of the diploma of the candidate's scientific degree has to fall within the period of 01.01.2010 and 28.02.2015. If the diploma of the scientific degree is not available by the deadline of application, evidence thereof issued by the authorized body of the respective university can be accepted.

In accordance with the equal opportunity programme of the MTA, candidates are given a chance for the modification of conditions regarding age limits and date compulsions of scientific degree possession. The postdoctoral fellowship candidate may apply for a 2-year age limit and/or scientific qualification date modification due to the number of his/her children. Prior to the application procedure a proof of evidence has to be produced at the host institution.

No applications will be accepted from those who have been employed for an indefinite period by the host institution at the time of the call for this programme, nor from those who will have had their employment terminated later than 31 December 2015.

## **Terms and conditions**

### **Terms and conditions regarding the candidate**

The postdoctoral fellowship is a full time employment upon contract at one of the research institutes or research centres of the MTA, or in the case of university research groups or „Lendület” research groups, at MTA's Office of Subsidised Research Groups (MTA TKI) between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2017 Part time employment or other structures are not encouraged.

During the period of their postdoctoral fellowship researchers may not enter any employment exceeding 20 per cent of the full time work equivalent, whether at the host or at any other independent institution.

Also, they may receive no other postdoctoral or other scholarship or any support exceeding three months. Candidates are obliged to declare at the time of application – on the respective form sheet – that during the period of their postdoctoral fellowship they draw on no other postdoctoral scholarship. In the case of several simultaneous successful applications the candidate is obliged to decide to accept only one of them. Also, the postdoctoral fellowship candidate is obliged to inform the President of MTA about other postdoctoral supports pertaining to him/her. In this case the MTA support will be terminated. The MTA support will be terminated in all those cases when authentic information is obtained about further postdoctoral supports. MTA postdoctoral support may be postponed by a maximum of four months. There will be no possibility for shortening the fellowship period.

The host institution has to be acknowledged when presenting or publishing the results of research obtained during the fellowship (in case of universities, both the MTA Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme and the university have to be mentioned).

Successful candidates are obliged to obtain scientific research results worth publishing in international scientific periodicals up to the end of their postdoctoral fellowship. Also, they are obliged to apply for international scientific projects to be completed in Hungary with the permission of their supervisor, and in accordance with their field of science, they have to initiate cooperation with R&D enterprises and organisations towards the exploitation of their research results.

The researcher and the head of the research group of the host institute together have to produce a research report and a communication summary within two months after the end of the postdoctoral programme. The report should be within the range of 15 000-20 000 characters without footnotes. Reports are to be published in special volumes during the half year after the termination of the project.

### **Terms and conditions regarding the supervisor and the host institution**

The research group of the supervisor researcher is obliged to provide appropriate conditions for the postdoctoral research in cooperation with the host institution, including the direct expenses of research. The supervisor is expected to have external financial resources (e.g. OTKA, ERC or other MTA support) covering these expenses during the postdoctoral period. If there is no need for extra research expenses the candidates have to declare so. Declarations can be made using the CV formsheet of the application available on the application website.

The host institution (research centre or research institute of MTA, or in case of research groups including university research groups, the MTA TKI) provides administrative assistance to foreign candidates concerning their entry into and accomodation in Hungary.

The name of a successful postdoctoral fellowship candidate and the name of the supervisor, the host institution, the title of the postdoctoral research, and the summary of the research report will be made publicly accessible by MTA.

The postdoctoral fellowship full time employment conditions are regulated by the Hungarian law - 156/1997. (IX. 19.) Korm. rendelet.

### **Formal requirements of the application**

Applications made up in co-operation between the postdoctoral fellowship candidate and the supervisor researcher of the host institute shall be submitted by the supervisor researcher via the "EPK" website of MTA (<https://palyazat.mta.hu/postdoc>). The website is available using the username and password of the supervisor through the Academic Data Storage System (AAT, <https://aat.mta.hu>). See the AAT technical description for details. After registration into AAT, further operations are described starting from point 4 of the AAT technical description. An AAT username and password are pieces of private information not to be revealed and passed on to others. The postdoctoral fellowship candidate may receive read-only rights. To be able to get such rights, he/she is obliged to register with AAT.

#### **Parts of the application:**

##### Mandatory parts listed on the website:

1. Personal data of the supervisor, in accordance with his/her AAT data
2. Personal data of the postdoctoral fellowship candidate in accordance with the website form sheet;
3. A short description of the research (appr.1 500 characters).

##### Attachments required:

(Attachments are to be signed, then uploaded in PDF files by the use of form sheets downloaded from the respective menu of the website)

1. A declaration of acceptance of the research theme written by the head of the host institution within the MTA research network (director-general of research centre, director of institute, head of university research group or Lendület research group). In case of non-MTA affiliated university research groups, a declaration by the authorized leader of the respective university.
2. A short professional CV of the supervisor researcher including research results of the past five years, the bibliographic data of five selected publications, a list of research grants indicating the sum of available financial support of the postdoctoral research expenses. Electronic access to the list of publications shall be provided preferably via MTMT database;
3. A professional CV and publication list of the postdoctoral fellowship candidate.
4. A supporting letter of the supervisor (maximum one page) giving information on the planned research and the expected results of the employment of the postdoctoral researcher;



5. A PDF copy of the diploma of the scientific degree (PhD or DLA) uploaded to the website;
6. A detailed description of the research (appr. 8 000 characters including footnotes);
7. Any information that may be related to the application (not mandatory).

Information regarding electronic submission is available on the application website. Applications are to be submitted in Hungarian or English. English is mandatory, whenever the postdoctoral fellowship candidate is not a Hungarian citizen, and his/her first language is not Hungarian.

### **Control of submitted applications**

An application is valid and appropriate if all parts of that are uploaded to the postdoctoral website of MTA (<https://palyazat.mta.hu/postdoc/>), and the simultaneously undersigned hardcopy of that is mailed. Electronic and written versions should be identical. A formal control of eligibility, deadlines, authorization signatures, availability of mandatory parts of application, presence of form sheets, and requirements of text parameters shall be implemented upon submission.

All parts of the form sheet must be filled in. Documents listed in point 9 have to be undersigned by the supervisor and by the postdoctoral fellowship candidate. Applicants of formally appropriate submissions will receive a declaration via e-mail from the Department of Research Institutes of the MTA Secretariat prior to 15 March 2015. Should the application prove deficient, the applicant should eliminate the deficiency revealed within three working days.

The refusal of applications deemed formally invalid can be appealed within 3 workdays of the refusal's receipt with a documented remonstrance attached. Appeals can be lodged with Department of Research Institutes of the MTA Secretariat via e-mail ([postdoc@titkarsag.mta.hu](mailto:postdoc@titkarsag.mta.hu)) identifying the applicant person, and the application tag. Appeals will be considered and decided upon by the MTA Secretariat within 3 workdays of receiving an appeal. If an application is refused on material grounds, no appeal can be lodged. Financial support of the postdoctoral fellowship will be implemented upon contract between the MTA Secretariat and the host institution.

<b>Means and deadline of submission</b>
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Applications are to be submitted prior to **12:00 CET 4<sup>th</sup> March 2015** in electronic form on the online system via the MTA website <https://palyazat.mta.hu/postdoc/>. Information on electronic submission shall be available on the website. Hardcopies of the application are to be sent the same day addressed to the President of MTA via

**Department of Research Institutes**  
**Hungarian Academy of Sciences**  
**7 Nador utca, H-1051, Budapest, Hungary**  
**or**  
**1245 Budapest, PO Box 1000**

### **Terms and conditions of the fellowship**

Successful postdoctoral fellows will be given a monthly salary of 300,000 HUF for a 24-month period beginning with 1 September 2015 upon a contract with the host institution. (The beginning of the fellowship can be postponed with a maximum of 4 months. The head of host institution is to be informed in a written way about such request latest until 30 June 2015).

The successful postdoctoral fellows may get a yearly single travel and accommodation allowance in accordance with their request indicated in the application form sheets not exceeding 600,000 HUF for European and 1,200,000 HUF for overseas researchers. Travel and accommodation allowances may be used for accommodation and inland travel only, except for foreign residents who may use this allowance to cover travel expenses to and from Hungary. No travel to conferences or similar expenses can be covered by the support received. Any request for covering travel and/or living expenses should be justified in the form sheet.

### **Evaluation of the applications**

Screening is conducted by the evaluation committee appointed by the President of MTA. The committee shall evaluate and rank the applications on three ranking levels (to be supported, to be supported if possible or rejected) based on the criteria listed below:

1. Previous scientific results of the supervisor, and evidence of research conditions;
2. A tangible research plan for joint research created by the supervisor and the postdoctoral fellowship candidate;
3. Plausibility of some significant research results arising from the joint research envisaged;
4. Previous scientific results of the postdoctoral fellowship candidate.

The evaluation committee may appoint independent external experts during the evaluation process.

In the case of fully supported applications the sum of funding shall not exceed the amount announced in the call for application. The final decision shall be taken by the President of the MTA in accordance with the ranking of the evaluation committee.

### **Means and deadline of notification of selection results**

The deadline of the decision of the selection process is 15 May 2015. Notification about the acceptance or refusal will be sent to the applicants by MTA within ten days after the decision. Simultaneously results will be announced on the webpage of MTA (<http://www.mta.hu>) indicating the names of successful postdoctoral fellowship candidates, the themes of their applications and the sum of support.

### **Reasons for rejection**

No support can be given to applications which

- can be realised by, or can be implemented by means of, or may result in crime or crime-related actions;

- may counteract basic values of humanity or those of the Hungarian constitution;
- may counteract issues on national, ethnical, language and other minorities, or that of human dignity of other nations, or deteriorate basic principles of society, especially that of public security, public morals, the family and the protection of minors.

No support can be given if

- false or forged data have been used while presenting the application, the supporting contract, the research report, the financial report, or in any declaration;
- the use of any previous support contract was suspended or terminated by the contractor; due to his/her responsibilities
- his/her application has ever been legally excluded due to a misuse of public resources in accordance with the Hungarian law 2007. évi CLXXXI törvény (hereinafter Knyt);
- report on previous support has been rejected by the contractor, or he/she has debt or liability in relation to that;
- necessary declarations are not being done by the present contract, or mandatory documents are not submitted, or declarations are withdrawn during the process.

<b>Further information</b>
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MTA Titkárság Kutatóintézeti Főosztály (Department of Research Institutes of the MTA Secretariat), e-mail: [postdoc@titkarsag.mta.hu](mailto:postdoc@titkarsag.mta.hu), tel: +36 1 4116258

Budapest, November 2014



László LOVÁSZ