SELECTION NOTICE N. 20019

Selection procedure for the recruitment of 15 (fifteen) fellows -  
co–funding by Horizon 2020  
Marie Sklodowska – Curie Actions COFUND

THE INFN PRESIDENT

In accordance with
the Grant Agreement n. 754496, Fellowship for Innovation at INFN, between the Research Executive Agency (REA) and the National Institute of Nuclear Physics (INFN), entered into force on October 16th 2017;

In accordance with
Italian Legislative Decree n. 127 of June 4th, 2003, article 20;

Having seen
the Statute of INFN, adopted by the INFN Board on September 27th, 2017, and entered into force on January 1st, 2018;

Having seen
article 7, co. 3, lett. b) of the INFN Staff Regulations approved by the INFN Board on October 27th, 2017 with Resolution n. 14562;

DECREES

Art. 1
Research fellowships

A selection procedure is open to recruit 15 (fifteen) fellows through the co-funding Horizon 2020 Marie Sklodowska – Curie Actions COFUND, under the project “Fellowship for Innovation at INFN” (hereinafter referred to as “FELLINI”), Grant Agreement n. 754496. Recruited researchers shall be considered as Marie Sklodowska–Curie Fellows.

The duration of the fellowship is 36 months and includes a mandatory twelve-months period (which could be split into two periods of 6 months) to be spent in a different research institution or in a high-tech private company, chosen by fellowship holders in agreement with their supervisors, according to the interest of their research.

Art. 2
Requirements

At the date of the call deadline, applicants:

a) must be in possession of a doctoral degree or have at least four years of full-time equivalent research experience. Full-Time Equivalent Research Experience is measured from the date when a researcher obtained a degree entitling him/her to embark on a doctorate, either in the country in which the degree was obtained or in the country in which the researcher is recruited, even if a doctorate was never started or envisaged. Parental leave periods do not count towards the time of research experience;

b) must be researchers who have not resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Italy for more than 12 months in the 3 years before the call deadline, unless this time was as part of a procedure for obtaining refugee status under the Geneva Convention. Compulsory national service and/or short stays such as holidays are not taken into account (Marie Skłodowska Curie Action mobility rule).
Art. 3
Application procedure

The application must include the following documents:

- Curriculum vitae, including at most 6 publications chosen by the applicant to better illustrate his/her research activities for each publication with co-authors, a brief (max 600 characters) description of the applicant’s personal contribution is required.

- List of publications.

- Description of the research project (research plan with goals, milestones, required instrumentation, methodology, risk evaluation). The research project shall be related with one or more of the following INFN lines of research:
  1. Experimental Particle Physics
  2. Experimental Astroparticle Physics
  3. Experimental Nuclear Physics
  4. Theoretical Physics
  5. Technological Research

- Filled ethical questionnaire.

- Contact details of two experts who will be asked to provide a reference letter: surname, name, affiliation and e-mail address. The experts will receive a confidential link for the web upload of their reference letter.

- List of 3 Hosting Structures, chosen among the INFN Sites, where the fellow would like to undertake his/her research, in order of preference.

- A copy of a valid identity document (ID card or Passport).

In the application, candidates shall self-certify the possession of a doctoral degree, or the required experience, as well as the compliance with the mobility rule.

The application must be submitted and the letter of reference be received no later than September, 18th 2018, at 12:00 pm (noon) CEST through the website: https://reclutamento.infn.it/ReclutamentoOnline/.

Incomplete (lack of information or missing files) and late applications will not be considered.

All the relevant information for drawing up or submitting the application is provided in the Guide for Applicants, available at the above-mentioned website.

INFN takes no responsibility for unsuccessfully uploaded files or incorrectly entered details.

Art. 4
Hosting Structures

Fellows shall carry out their activity in one of the following INFN Sites:

INFN National Laboratories:
- Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati - LNF (Roma)
- Laboratori Nazionali di Legnaro - LNL (Padova)
- Laboratori Nazionali del Sud - LNS (Catania)
- Laboratori Nazionali del Gran Sasso – LNGS (L’Aquila)
Art. 5
Selection Committee

The evaluation procedure will be carried out by a Selection Committee, appointed by the INFN President. The Committee will be composed by internationally reputed evaluators: approximately half of them will be chosen from Italian institutions, whilst the others will be from foreign institutions.

In appointing evaluators gender balance will be properly taken into account.

One Chair and 6 Vice-chairs will be appointed. They will supervise the operations of the Committee and they will be responsible for managing the evaluation phase and ensuring an impartial and equitable selection procedure.

Art. 6
Evaluation and selection procedure

The entire process of selection and evaluation is expected to last about 3 months after the call deadline.

Only complete applications, with all the required documents uploaded, including a valid identity document will be evaluated. The evaluation procedure will be carried out according to the 3 following criteria:

1) **Scientific excellence of the candidate** *(weighting 40%):*
   a) Track record of achievements promising for future research and appropriate for their research field and career stage.
b) Quality of the submitted publications and significance of the individual contribution of the candidate. Publications in international peer-reviewed journals, peer-reviewed conference proceedings and/or monographs, preprints submitted to ArXiV will be considered. When applicable, the inclusion of at least a publication without the Ph.D. supervisor as co-author will be positively evaluated as a signal of scientific independence.

c) Record of invited presentations in well-established international conferences or international schools

d) Awards, prizes, academic memberships.

e) Experience in managing research projects.

Periods of break in the career, due to parental leave, maternity or paternity leave (1 year/child), illness, mandatory civil or military service, will be taken into account in the career evaluation.

2) **Quality of the research project** (weighting 40%):

   a) Originality of the scientific project, contribution to advancement of the current state-of-the-art in the concerned field.

   b) Innovative aspects of the proposed research.

   c) Validity and feasibility of the project: research methodology and approach, planning of activities.

   d) Interdisciplinary and intersectoral aspects.

3) **Matching and feasibility** of the research project within the framework of INFN research activities and infrastructures (weighting 20%).

Each of the evaluators (at least three) assigned to each application shall independently evaluate the CV, the research project and the reference letters of that application. After a subsequent Consensus Meeting of those evaluators, coordinated by one of them chosen as Rapporteur, the final total score shall be attributed to the examined application. An overall threshold of 70% will be applied to the total weighted score. Candidates who fail to meet the overall threshold cannot enter in the ranking list. In case of equal score among candidates, priority shall be given to candidates who have obtained the highest scores according to the three above-mentioned criteria in the following order: **Scientific excellence of the candidate**, **Quality of the research project** and **Matching and feasibility**.

On the basis of the ranking list transmitted by the Selection Committee, the INFN will appoint the first 15 (fifteen) candidates in the list who accept the fellowship. The list of appointed candidates will be published on the INFN website. In case of refusal or lack of acceptance by any of the first fifteen candidates, the fellowship will be assigned to candidates included in a reserve list, drawn up on the basis of the ranking list. Candidates included in the reserve list shall be informed by e-mail.

All candidates will receive the outcome of the peer-review evaluation of their applications via email no later than January 15th 2019.

**Art. 7**

**Redress procedure**

Applicants may submit a request for redress:
- after the communication on his/her application ineligibility;
or
- after reception of the feedback on the outcome of the evaluation.
Any such request must be submitted within 15 calendar days after notification of ineligibility or outcome of the evaluation.

The redress procedure can only address formal aspects of the evaluation and not the individual merits of proposals. A reply will be sent within one month of the deadline for redress requests indicated in the initial information letter.

Art. 8
Appointment of the fellows and starting date

Successful candidates will be notified by e-mail.

Within 10 days from receipt of the communication, candidates shall communicate whether they accept or decline the fellowship. Failure to communicate acceptance will be considered as declining.

The contract will be signed by appointed candidates at the beginning of their activity in the INFN Hosting Structure.

Art. 9
Starting date

The appointed candidates should start their activity no later than 6 months from the receipt of the e-mail referred to in the previous article 8. Special requests to defer the starting date can be considered only if they do not compromise the full accomplishment of the fellowship period.

If the candidate does not start his/her activity within the scheduled period, the contract shall be automatically terminated.

Art. 10
Employment conditions

A fixed-term contract as Researcher – according to Italian Collective Agreements of Public Research Institutions will be offered to the fifteen appointed candidates who shall meet all the requirements established by this call.

The annual gross salary will be €50,520 (€4,210 per month), which includes mobility allowance to cover fellows’ expenses related to their mobility.

Social security coverage and social benefits will be guaranteed to fellows.

At the time of their appointment or, in any case, within the term established by INFN administration, successful candidates shall provide all the necessary documents, better defined in the Guide for Applicants (par. 2.1).

The INFN administration may request the appointed fellows to provide documents in order to verify the accuracy of the self-declarations made in the application. In the case of false declarations, the declarant will loose all the benefits derived from the measures adopted on the basis of false declarations, notwithstanding the penal sanctions foreseen by art. 76 of Italian Presidential Decree n. 445 of December 28th 2000.

Candidates who have obtained their master’s or doctoral degree abroad shall provide the equivalence certificate, according to art. 38, co. 3 of Italian Legislative Decree n. 165 of March 30th 2001.

Art. 11
Privacy policy
Controller: National Institute for Nuclear Physics – email: presidenza@presid.infn.it
Responsible for data protection: email: dpo@infn.it

Under Article 13 of UE Regulation (EU) 2016/79 of the European Parliament and of the Council, required personal data will be exclusively collected and treated for purposes strictly connected to the selection procedure also with the use of computerized procedures, according to current law and regulations concerning the implementation of this kind of activity.

Providing such data to INFN is necessary for the evaluation of participation requirements and of the holding of titles: failure to provide these data may compromise such evaluation.

Data will be kept only for the period required by the selection, evaluation and audit procedures.

INFN guarantees each person the right of access to personal data, as well as the rectification, or erasure or restriction of them, as well as the right to object to their processing; furthermore INFN guarantees the right to make a complaint to Italian Data Protection Authority on the processing carried out.

ISTITUTO NAZIONALE DI FISICA NUCLEARE
IL PRESIDENTE
(Prof. Fernando Ferroni)\(^1\)

\(^1\) Documento informatico firmato digitalmente ai sensi della legge 241/90 art. 15 c. 2, del testo unico D.P.R. 28 dicembre 2000, n. 445, del D.Lgs. 7 marzo 2005, n. 82, e norme collegate, il quale sostituisce il testo cartaceo e la firma autografa.