

Exceptional Call for Postdoctoral Fellowships Projects in fundamental oncology research

• Purpose of the mandate

The purpose of this exceptional call is to support young researchers in carrying out a fundamental cancer research project, by granting them a **full-time postdoctoral mandate of up to four years maximum**. This mandate (non-renewable) aims to serve as a stepping stone in the researcher's career in order to obtain a permanent academic position (tenureship) within a Belgian university.

• Eligibility criteria

At the time of application submission, the candidate must hold an **academic PhD** issued by a university institution and must be **under 40 years of age** at the moment of the onset of the postdoctoral mandate. He or she must conduct the research in a Belgian university laboratory, under the supervision of a tenured promoter from the given Belgian university.

The application form must be written in English, according to the Foundation against Cancer's application rules and submitted in a timely manner.

• Research project

The fundamental research project developed by the candidate within the frame of this mandate must contribute to a better understanding of cancer, with the prospect of possible long-term improvements in prevention, screening or treatment.

The main criteria for evaluating applications will be:

- The scientific quality of the project, its originality and its feasibility;
- The quality of the candidate's CV.

• Financing & term of office

The postdoctoral mandate awarded by the Foundation against Cancer is intended for a maximum duration of 4 years and is not renewable. It cannot be combined with grants from other funding organizations. Applicants who having applied to several organizations for the same period or overlapping period must, if selected by the Foundation and other funders, make their choice as soon as possible to the Foundation against Cancer. If funding by the Foundation against Cancer is not made exclusively for the period concerned, the Foundation's funding is obsolete and cannot be postponed. An application may be submitted later, however a new file will need to be created and presented again according to the schedule of calls set by the Foundation against Cancer.

The maximum amount for a postdoctoral fellowships in fundamental research cannot exceed **€ 100,000 per year** and is exclusively intended to cover the full-time salary costs normally covered by the employing organization in charge of managing the staff of the laureate's host laboratory.

-The mandates will begin in **October 2019**.

- **Mid-term evaluation**

Postdoctoral mandates in fundamental research are intended to be 4-year projects divided into 2 periods of 2 years. At mid-term, interim scientific report will be requested by the Foundation against Cancer and submitted to the fundamental research Scientific Council to assess the progress of the project. Funding for the second 2-year round will require a favorable evaluation of this scientific report.

- **Submission procedure and selection of candidates are in two rounds**

Round 1: The application form must be completed via the attached form. It is to be transmitted electronically to Mrs. **Patricia Servais** (Scientific Grants Manager): pservais@cancer.be.

The deadline for submitting applications is **March 25, 2019**.

After verification of the application's acceptability, it will be evaluated by the Foundation against Cancer's fundamental research Scientific Council, who will make a first selection.

Round 2: Candidates retained on the shortlist will be invited by the fundamental research Scientific Council to come and personally defend their project at the Foundation against Cancer's headquarters, on **June 6, 2019**. This oral presentation, with or without data-projection, will be in English and will not exceed 15 minutes. It will be followed by a discussion with the members of the Scientific Council.

The final selection of candidates will be proposed by the Scientific Council to the Board of Directors for ratification and final decision for funding.

The results will be communicated to the candidates in **July 2019**.