



EUROPEAN RESEARCH EXECUTIVE AGENCY (REA)

REA.A - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions & Support to Experts
A.2 - MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

Brussels
REA.A.2/JBV

NOTE FOR THE FILE

**Subject: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) Postdoctoral Fellowships:
Addition of the Family Allowance after Grant Agreement Signature**

In Horizon Europe the family status of MSCA researchers is not fixed at the Call deadline but can instead change during the lifetime of the MSCA project in question.

As indicated in the MSCA Work Programme C(2021)4200 of 15 June 2021:

“If the postdoctoral researcher has or acquires family obligations during the action duration, i.e. has persons linked to him/her by (i) marriage, or (ii) a relationship with equivalent status to a marriage recognised by the legislation of the country or region where this relationship was formalised; or (iii) dependent children who are actually being maintained by the researcher, the family allowance must be paid to him/her as well.”

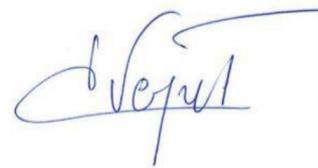
Beneficiaries are therefore required to pay the Family Allowance (currently set at EUR 660 per month) to MSCA researchers with effect from the date on which the researcher acquires family obligations, even when this date is *after* the signature of the grant agreement. Beneficiaries will be required to provide this additional amount to the eligible researcher either from the project’s Institutional Unit Contributions (i.e. from *Management and Indirect Contribution*) or from their own funds. These costs can then subsequently be charged to – and reimbursed from – the project budget.

In all cases, a change to the family status of the researcher should be reflected in a change to the Mobility Declaration (a new Declaration should be encoded for the period starting from the date on which the researcher became eligible for the Family Allowance). Based on the data in the Mobility Declaration, the Family Allowance will be taken into account in the next payment (i.e. interim/final).

Where necessary, the beneficiary can request an amendment to the grant agreement to increase the maximum EU grant amount in order to reflect the additional costs incurred as a result of paying the Family Allowance to the eligible researcher. However, an amendment will not be necessary in all cases (e.g. in cases of early terminations there may be sufficient budget remaining to cover the added Family Allowance costs). In all cases, beneficiaries

should therefore wait until ca. **2 months before the end of the project** before requesting the amendment to increase the maximum EU grant amount so that no additional funds are requested unless they are genuinely required (i.e., because the project will not be terminated early). Requests for amendments to increase the maximum EU contribution too early in the project lifecycle will not be accepted. Equally, amendments cannot be accepted after the end date of the project.

Should a researcher no longer be eligible for the Family Allowance, the Family Allowance should no longer be paid as of the date in question. Again, this should be reflected in the Mobility Declaration on the Portal so that the change can be taken into account for the final cost calculations.



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