



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI PADOVA

MSCA MaRaThoN@University of Padua

Master your Research and Training Needs

20-22 May 2026 | Padua, Italy

Promoting Institution: University of Padua (UNIPD), Italy

Application deadline: **9 March 2026, 1 p.m. Italian time zone.**

Contact: International Research Office
mariecurie.marathon@unipd.it

Website: <https://www.unipd.it/en/msca-marathon26>

Course Overview

MSCA MaRaThoN is a **3-day training course** addressed to top candidates who are getting ready to apply for the **upcoming Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions - Postdoctoral Fellowships (MSCA-PF) 2026** call and indicate the University of Padua as their Host Institution.

The European Commission promotes the MSCA-PF under the Horizon Europe (HEU) Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. Such action is a recognised career booster for experienced researchers, who develop innovative ideas through an intense collaboration with their Supervisor at the Host Institution, benefit from periods of mobility and enjoy very fair and favourable working conditions.

If you are a motivated researcher willing to compete for an MSCA-PF with the University of Padua as your working base, do not miss the chance to participate in the **MSCA MaRaThoN@Unipd!**

We offer a detailed presentation of MSCA-PF and support you in writing and implementing a successful proposal. Invited experts and experienced MSC evaluators will provide specific advice and useful tips on how to best draft and communicate your project.



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MSCA MaRaThoN@University of Padua - How to apply

Please note that the course is entirely held in English. The following application conditions apply.

Applicants

The course is open to 50 participants. Two places are reserved for candidates of African nationality. There are no age or nationality restrictions.

In order to be admitted to the MSCA MaRaThoN, candidates must meet the following requirements:

- Possess a PhD at the MSCA-PF closing date: 9 September 2026
- Have up to max. 8 years of research experience measured from the date of award of the doctoral degree (exceptions according to MSCA-PF rules)
- Comply with the MSCA mobility rule¹
- Commit to compete in the forthcoming MSCA-PF 2026 Call for applications, choosing the University of Padua as Host Institution for their project.

Types of Fellowships

Two types of Postdoctoral Fellowships are available, applicants may choose only one:

- **European Fellowships** are spent in European or Associated Countries and are open to researchers of any nationality either coming to Europe or moving within Europe for a period of one to two years.
- **Global Fellowships** are open to European nationals or long-term residents who wish to engage in research projects, which provide an outgoing phase of one to two years in a non-associated Third Country, and a mandatory 12-month return phase to a host organisation based in an EU Member State or a Horizon Europe Associated Country.

Application process

Candidates interested in participating in the MSCA MaRaThoN must fill in the dedicated [Google Form](#) (and upload the following documents:

- CV
- 1 Proposal Summary
- Letter of acceptance duly signed by a Supervisor and their Head of Department at the University of Padua
- Researcher's Declaration of Commitment
- A copy of valid ID or passport.

Templates are available for download on the MaRaThoN web page:

<https://www.unipd.it/en/msca-marathon26>

Applicants will be notified by e-mail on the selection results.

¹ For **European Postdoctoral Fellowships** the researcher must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the beneficiary for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the call deadline. For **Global Postdoctoral Fellowships** the researcher must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the host organisation for the outgoing phase for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the call deadline. Compulsory national service, short stays such as holidays and time spent as part of a procedure for obtaining refugee status under the Geneva Convention are not taken into account.



Submission deadline: 9 March 2026 at 1:00 p.m. (Italian time zone)

Selection procedure and results

Selection of participants will be based on their CV and Proposal Summary.

Please note that the letter of acceptance signed by the Supervisor (and their Head of Department) at the University of Padua is compulsory. **No applicants will be admitted to the MSCA MaRaThoN without a local Supervisor.** Applicants can freely choose and contact their preferred Supervisor. If applicants do not already have contacts at Unipd, they can find a regularly updated list of available supervisors on the course web page. It is possible to consult the full list of Unipd [departments](#) as a further reference and contact the potential supervisor directly.

Selection results will be notified to all applicants by e-mail no later than **27 March 2026**.

Participation costs

Admitted participants will have their **travel and accommodation costs** covered by the University of Padua. Please do not book your travel autonomously. The procedure will be centralised via an appointed travel agency, who will arrange and book for you accommodation and economy class travel tickets. Please be aware that independent bookings cannot be reimbursed.

Travel

Please note that the travel costs are covered for the dates of the event (arrival on 19 May 2026, departure on 22 May 2026), with the exception of difficult flight schedules/lack of flights on the mentioned dates.

If you desire an earlier arrival or later departure, our travel agent will conduct a price comparison. If your request is not within our budget, you will have to cover the travel costs of the earlier arrival/later return flight.

Transfers to and from the airport and local travel tickets (example: local bus) will not be covered.

Accommodation

A maximum of three nights (19, 20, 21 May 2026) will be covered for attendees participating in all three days of the training, except in instances of challenging flight schedules or unavailability of flights on the required dates. Any extra night will be at your own expense.

Should participants not use the services already booked by the travel agency (train, flight, hotel, etc.) for unjustified reasons, they must reimburse the amount spent by the University of Padua.



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If you are not funded but receive the MSCA Seal of Excellence...

In case you choose the University of Padua as your Host Institution within the MSCA-PF 2026 Call and your project is not funded by the European Commission, but receives the “Seal of Excellence – MSC Actions”, Unipd offers you an additional opportunity for alternative funding under the **MSCA Seal of Excellence@University of Padua** programme. Detailed information and constant updates on the Programme can be found at <https://www.unipd.it/msca-seal-excellence>.

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