

Expressions of Interest - Marie Skłodowska-Curie European Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme

At the University of Essex the **School of Health and Social Care (SHSC)** and **Institute of Public Health and Wellbeing (IPHW)** are internationally recognised for their research with their researchers working collaboratively across the university and with local and international partners to meet health challenges across the health and social landscape.

The **School of Health and Social Care (SHSC)** is at the forefront of preparing people to address real-life issues in health and society, offering courses that both commissioners and employers believe in. The School focuses on applied, interdisciplinary and multi-disciplinary research that addresses local, national and international issues relating to health and social care practice, policy and education. The SHSC staff have a [wide range of research interests](#) alongside their clinical and academic experience. The School advocates a strong focus on service user participation and co-production. The School is committed to delivering high quality transformational research-led education that shapes the future of health and social care.

In 2022 the University of Essex has established the **Institute of Public Health and Wellbeing (IPHW)** to advance the University's mission of excellence in [research](#), for the benefit of individuals and communities. Leading impactful innovation in public health and wellbeing is a strategic priority for the University of Essex. The IPHW is bringing together research strengths across all three faculties at the University of Essex, driving forward research collaborations and developing strategic partnerships with international, national and regional organisations including NHS Trusts. The establishment of the IPHW aligns the University of Essex research capability, expertise and strengths across a broad spectrum of research and innovations in public health and wellbeing, including a wide range of health-related training programmes, clinics, facilities and services, leveraging the assets of our expertise and skills to enable us to scale our impact (the Institute's strategy is available [here](#)).

Full details about the IPHW and SHSC can be found on our website:

IPHW: <https://www.essex.ac.uk/centres-and-institutes/public-health-and-wellbeing>

SHSC: <https://www.essex.ac.uk/departments/health-and-social-care>

Essex ranks in the top 20 UK universities for research excellence. The IPHW and SHSC would like to invite Expressions of Interest from postdoctoral researchers of any nationality (at any career stage) to apply for a Marie Skłodowska-Curie European Postdoctoral Fellowship. We are looking to support a small number of high-quality applications under the new round and would welcome expressions of interest from interested researchers, particularly, but not exclusively, in the following areas:

- Mental health and wellbeing
- Cognitive health and dementia
- Digital health and health informatics
- Non-communicable diseases
- Health-environment connection
- Health inequalities and health systems
- The impact of traumatic experiences on mental and physical health across the lifespan
- Global health & intersectional research

Description of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie European Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme

The purpose of the European Postdoctoral Fellowship is to support the career development and training of researchers through international, interdisciplinary and intersectoral mobility. The scheme also encourages researchers to work on research and innovation projects in the non-academic sector.

The European postdoctoral fellowship provides researchers with up to two years' generous salary, a mobility allowance, family allowance (if required) as well as funding for research, training and networking. Furthermore, researchers have the option to include a secondment phase, enhancing the breadth and depth of their research experience.

Full details of the scheme are available at <http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/>; full proposal details for submission via the EU funding and tender portal, [please click here](#).

Eligibility Requirements

Candidates should hold a doctoral degree at the date of the call deadline (11 September 2024) and must not have resided or carried out their main activity (e.g. work, studies etc.) in the UK for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the call deadline. Exceptions apply for researchers who are refugees according to the Geneva Convention

Candidates need to have a maximum 8 years (full-time equivalent) research experience from the date of award of the (first) doctoral degree. Time spent on maternity leave, parental leave, compulsory national service and not working in research can be deducted from the calculation of the full-time research experience.

Submitting an Expression of Interest

Interested applicants should submit a one-page CV, an outline of the proposed research (maximum 1,000 words) and a cover letter highlighting why you believe this area of work will be suited to the Institute of Public Health and Wellbeing and/or the School of Health and Social Care, as the host institution(s) (maximum 500 words).

Please submit these in Word format, by email, to by **23rd April** to Victoria Nolan, IPHW Executive Officer, Institute of Public Health and Wellbeing, University of Essex, Colchester, CO4 3ZL.

E-mail: institutepublichealthwellbeing@essex.ac.uk

If you would like to discuss your application prior to submission, please contact: **Professor Mariachiara di Cesare (m.dicesare@essex.ac.uk)** or **Dr Antonella Trotta (atrotta@essex.ac.uk)**.

An expression of interest is not a promise of funding or position. It is an expression of interest in making a future application with the University of Essex as your host.

Review of expressions of interest will start after the April deadline. Proposals will be evaluated based on research quality, the applicant's future career prospects and the availability of appropriate supervision.

The best proposals will be chosen for submission to the MSCA-PD competition and selected candidates will be notified by 10th May.

The successful applicant[s] will be supported in completing their application by the scheme deadline of 3rd September 2024.

Best regards,

Professor Mariachiara di Cesare (Institute of Public Health and Wellbeing) and Dr Antonella Trotta (School of Health and Social Care).