

FAQ

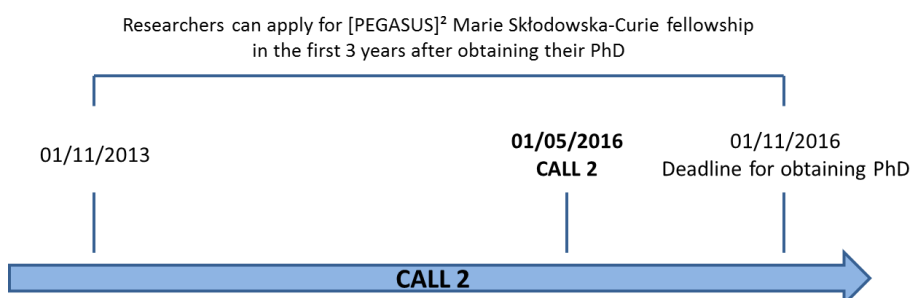
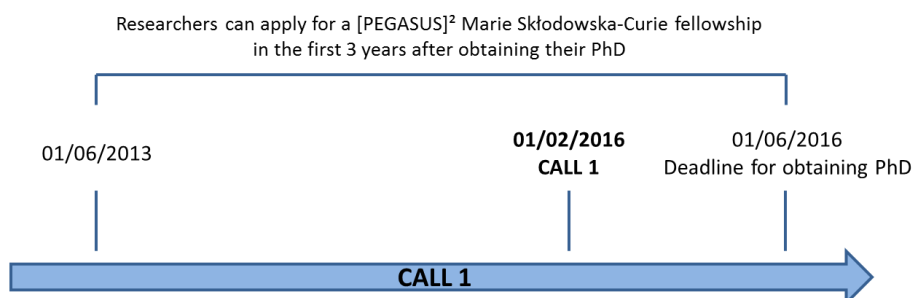
[PEGASUS]² Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowships

General

1. I obtained my PhD in January 2013. Can I still apply for a [PEGASUS]² Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship?

No, researchers can apply for a postdoctoral fellowship in the first 3 years after obtaining their PhD (date of PhD degree), calculated from June 1 (for call with deadline 1 February 2016) or November 1 (for call with deadline 1 May 2016) of the year of applying. However, this time limit is extended by one year per period of at least 3 months of maternity leave or per continuous period of at least 3 months full-time parental leave or military and/or civilian service between the date of the PhD degree and the application.

EXCEPTION: an OUTGOING [PEGASUS]² Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowship can also be regarded as a postdoctoral extension. In this case, the OUTGOING [PEGASUS]² Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowship must follow on the initial regular FWO postdoctoral fellowship and be requested in the last fellowship year of the first regular FWO postdoctoral fellowship. The above mentioned regulation does not apply for a postdoctoral extension.



2. Can I apply for a regular FWO postdoctoral fellowship and a [PEGASUS]² Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship during the same calendar year?

No, it is not possible to apply for a [PEGASUS]² Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowship and a regular FWO postdoctoral fellowship in the same calendar year. Moreover, only one application for a [PEGASUS]² Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowship can be submitted per calendar year.

3. Can I apply for a short or long stay abroad as a [PEGASUS]² Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellow?

Yes, as a [PEGASUS]² Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellow you can apply for short stay abroad (max 31 days) as long as this stay fits into your initially approved scientific project that was submitted to the [PEGASUS]² programme. Under the former condition, a long stay abroad is also possible. However for [PEGASUS]² Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellows the maximum duration is reduced from 1 year to 6 months. Over the 3 year fellowship period in total no more than 6 months for a short and long stay abroad can be granted. Moreover, for the OUTGOING Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowship a long stay abroad is only possible during the first two years.

4. Can I apply for an individual Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowship (Horizon2020) and [PEGASUS]² Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowship at the same time?

Yes, you can apply for both, however, both cannot be granted at the same time. In case you would be awarded an individual Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowship, you need to withdraw your [PEGASUS]² Marie Skłodowska-Curie application. Please note that [PEGASUS]² Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowships are considered regular postdoctoral fellowships and candidates can apply no more than twice for the same type of fellowship.

5. I was the beneficiary of an EU MSCA grant before. Am I still eligible to apply?

Yes, if you were the beneficiary of an EU MSCA grant independent of FWO and meet all the eligibility requirements for a [PEGASUS]² fellowship.

No, if you were the beneficiary of a Pegasus-Long FWO fellowship COFUNDED under FP7. Pegasus-Short FWO fellows are allowed to apply for a [PEGASUS]² fellowship as long as they meet all eligibility requirements.

6. Can the duration of a [PEGASUS]² Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowship be reduced to for example three months?

No, [PEGASUS]² Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowships have a duration of three years.

7. The defense of my PhD consists of a preliminary defense and an official public defense. Which date will be used to check eligibility according to seniority rule?

According to the regulations researchers can apply for a postdoctoral fellowship in the first 3 years after obtaining their PhD (date of PhD degree), calculated from June 1 (for the call with deadline 1 February 2016) or November 1 (for the call with deadline 1 May 2016) of the year of applying. Moreover, for the call with deadline 1 February 2016, the PhD must have been obtained no later than 1 June 2016. For the call with deadline 1 May 2016, the PhD must have been obtained no later than 1 November 2016.

'Date of PhD degree': the date on which you officially defended and fully completed your PhD. This is the date of the official PhD defense that will also appear on your PhD certificate and not the one of the preliminary defense.

8. What is meant in the [PEGASUS]² regulations with “the start of the fellowship”? Is this the actual start date of the fellowship, taking into account the flexible start period?

No, 'start of the fellowship': the formal start date, namely the 1st of October 2016 (for applications submitted within call 1) or the 1st of January 2017 (for applications submitted within call 2).

9. Is it possible to already travel to Belgium (in case of an INCOMING [PEGASUS]² fellowship) or abroad (in case of an OUTGOING [PEGASUS]² fellowship) before the actual start date of the fellowship?

[PEGASUS]² Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellows are allowed to already travel (e.g. book their airfare ticket) to their destination abroad/in Belgium 1 month before the actual start date of their fellowship at the earliest, in order to look for appropriate housing and make practical arrangements. Other financial compensations (such as salary and mobility allowance) will only be paid as from the actual start date of the fellowship onwards.

*For example: if an OUTGOING [PEGASUS]² fellow decides to start his/her fellowship on the 1st of October 2016, he/she can already travel to the foreign destination on the 1st of September 2016 at the earliest. **Please note** that the one-time allowance for travel expenses to and from the place of destination abroad/in Belgium will only be compensated for the fellow himself/herself. Travel expenses for family member can be paid by using the mobility allowance.*

INCOMING [PEGASUS]² Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowships

1. In August 2015 I started a postdoc at a university in the Flemish community. Can I still apply for an INCOMING [PEGASUS]² Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowship?

No, Candidates can only apply for an INCOMING [PEGASUS]² Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowship if they stayed in Belgium or performed their principal activity (work or studies) there for no longer than 12 months during the last three years preceding the start of the fellowship. As the earliest start date for call 1 is 01 October 2016, you will have worked more than one year in Belgium before the start of the fellowship.