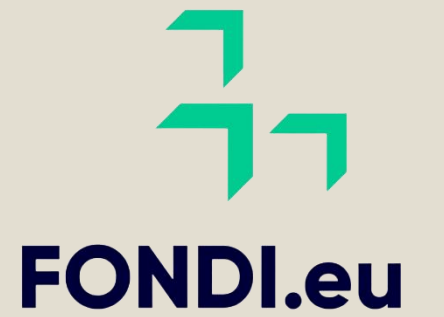




**GOVERNMENT
OF MALTA**



Information Session

Application Stage
18th August 2025



**Co-funded by
the European Union**



REACH HIGH II Scholars Programme



Post-Doctoral Programmes can help to contribute towards Malta's economic, social, environmental, and cultural development, and therefore contribute towards research in identified areas of national and EU priorities



Through this post graduate research, there will be more investment in human capital with a focus on emerging labour markets



The aim is to producing well-rounded, professional researchers who contribute to the advancement of their fields of knowledge internationally, using a variety of relevant skills, and promote research development and competence.



PRIORITY AREAS

Green, Digital and
Innovation

STEM

Smart
Specialization

Any other areas that focus on evolving development needs and challenges characterizing Maltese society, in line with national and EU priorities.



RESEARCH PROJECT



Applicants need to propose a research project that falls under the priority areas and under the mentorship and support of a local/foreign University recognised by the Malta Further and Higher Education Authority (MFHEA).



Applicants must demonstrate the acceptance of the accredited research institution for the duration of the research project or signed agreement between host institutions.



This is a competitive scheme, not all applicants will receive the research grant .

ELIGIBILITY

Be a Maltese Citizen, EU Citizen, or Third Country National (with long term residence status) and been residing in Malta for the past 5 years (review Clause 4.1)

QUALIFICATIONS

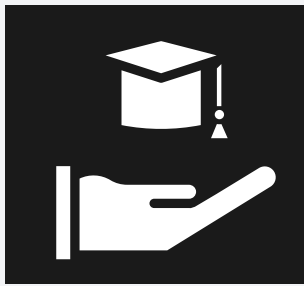
Applicants must be in possession of a PhD, or have an attestation letter that they will be awarded their PhD before the commencement of the Project

The Post Doctoral Research must start between **2nd June 2025** and **31st December 2025**

START DATE OF RESEARCH PROJECT

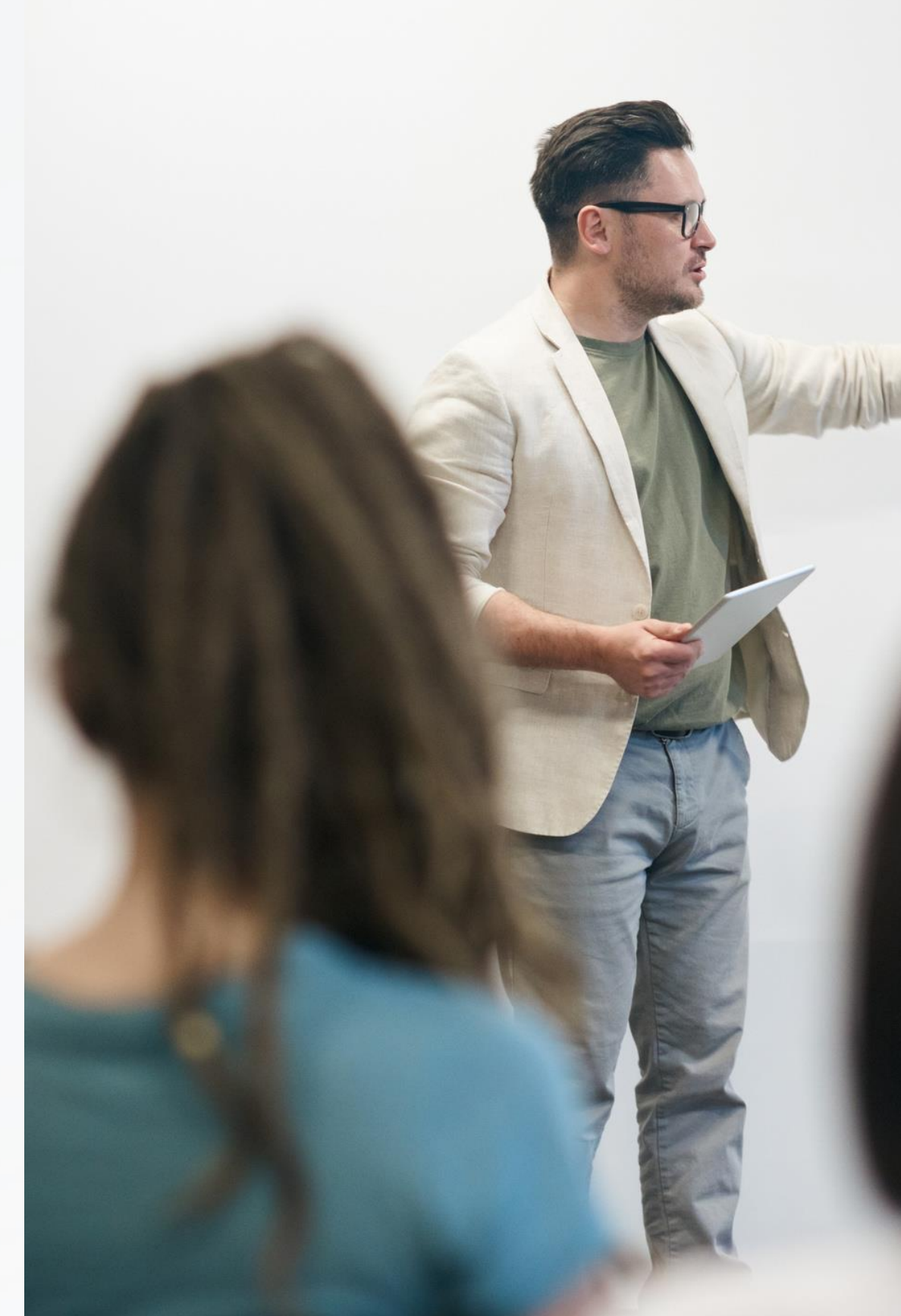
As a rule the duration is up to three (3) years with the possibility of extending to four years but **cannot go beyond 30th June 2029.**

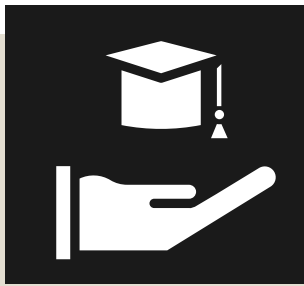
END DATE OF RESEARCH PROJECT



IMPORTANT APPLICATION INFORMATION

- Applicants who have already undertaken/or are currently undergoing a Post-Doctoral research/project **are not eligible** to apply under this scheme.
- Applicants in possession of other national/EU (or a combination of both) public grants or national/EU/ Commonwealth (or a combination) scholarships for the same research project shall be deemed ineligible under the Reach High II Post-doctoral scheme if not notified and approved by the Board/Office
- In line with the ESF+ Programme obligations, **awardees are expected to remain/return to Malta for a minimum period of 3 years** post completion of the Research Project





IMPORTANT APPLICATION INFORMATION

Section 12

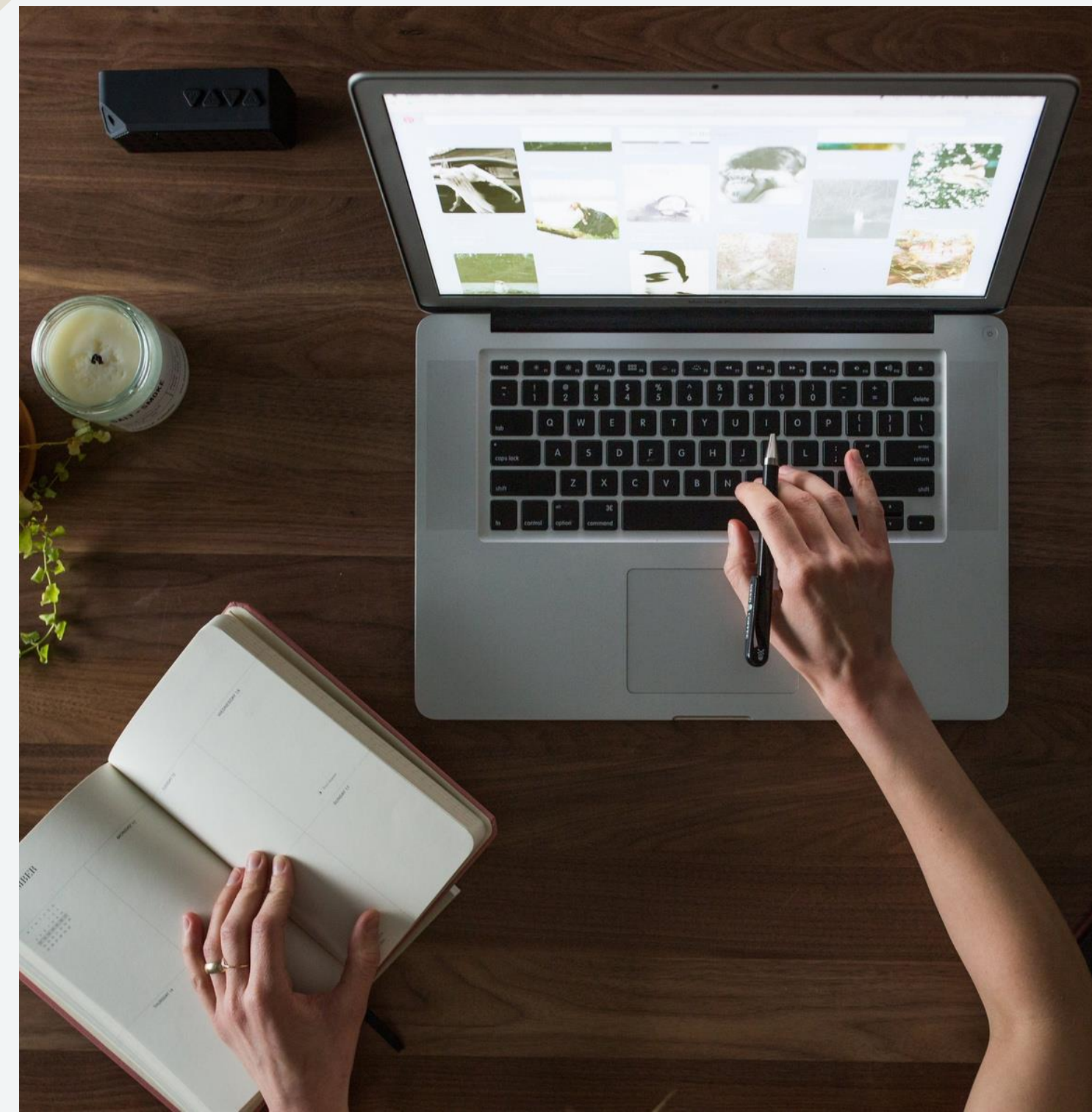
- Awardees shall need to notify beforehand the Reach High II Board/Project Leader of any commitment of employment during the duration of their studies. Any additional paid work besides the full-time research work needs to be approved by the Reach High II Board/Project Leader. Any additional paid work undertaken alongside the full-time research must be part-time and must not exceed 20 hours per week. The Reach High II board may decide to halt the PDRA if found in breach of this clause
- Payments may also be suspended should there not be a positive assessment from the academic mentor, or by the person responsible for the follow-up of the researcher's activity or by the host institution. Failure to receive this information could lead to the non- continuation of the grant.
- The Post-Doctoral Research grant includes any Social Security and Social Protection Obligations.



DEADLINES

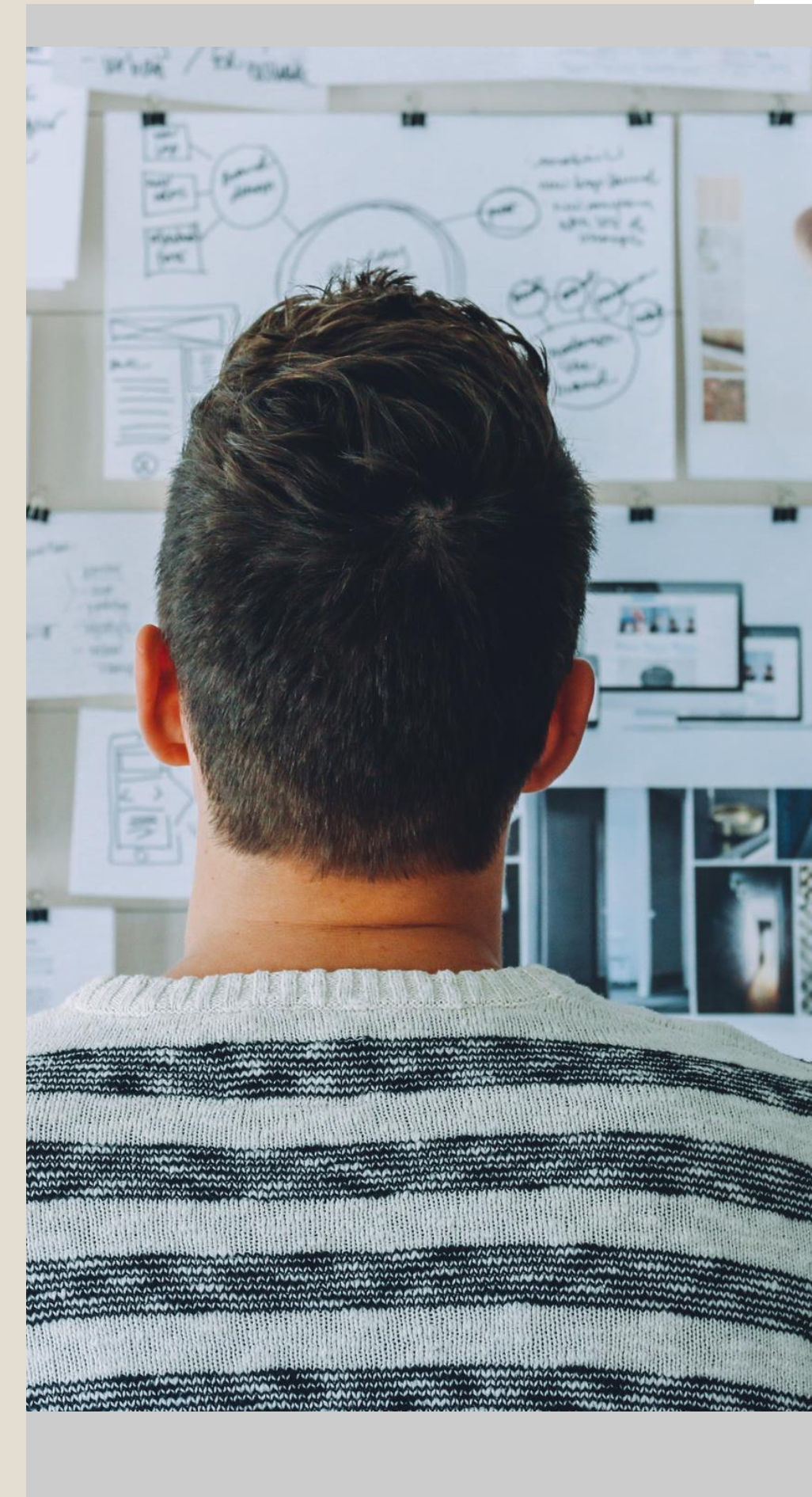
The complete Application Form and mandatory documents shall be submitted by Friday 29th August 2025 at noon (Local Time).

Other documents issued by the Host Institution and MQRIC shall be submitted by 31st October 2025 by 4PM (Local Time). (Refer to clause 9.2)



29th August 2025, noon local time

- Residence permit or permanent residence certificate or long-term resident status (mandatory where applicable).
- Applicant's curriculum vitae; (Mandatory)
- Declaration (Mandatory)
- Certificates of PhD degree, or attestation issued by the competent department (Mandatory).
- Justification for the Research Proposal including links with national and EU priorities and the relevance and impact on Malta; (approx 1,000 words) (Mandatory)
- A Technical Statement of Proposed Work and Research Plan (approx 1,000 words) (Mandatory)
- Programme of Work (Gantt chart for work programme); (Mandatory)
- Two Reference Letters including contact detail of referees. (Mandatory)
- Supporting documents such as a list of previous publications/papers/papers accepted for publication and URL if applicable, (Mandatory where applicable)
- A copy of the Table of Contents and abstract / summary from their Doctoral Thesis (Mandatory)



31st October 2025 (4PM)



- A supporting document attesting the acceptance of the applicant by the host institution sent directly to the Reach High II email confirming where the research work will be carried out, and assuring the required conditions for the suitable development of the research;
- If the research project is laboratory based, applicants will be asked to provide a letter of support from the host institution sent directly to the Reach High II email confirming that laboratory space and access can be provided;
- Copy of MQRIC evaluation report/receipt (where applicable)

INTERVIEW PROCESS



- Applicants shall be invited to provide a short presentation explaining their research proposal as well as answering any queries the board may have with regards to their submission
- The mode and medium by which the interviews will be conducted will be decided by the Board

- Applicants will be notified of their ranking by the Reach High II Board/Office. Obtaining a pass mark does not automatically mean that a grant is being awarded.
- An Applicant is considered to have passed if 70% of the total allocated marks *clause 11 (500 marks) is obtained; nevertheless, this does not automatically mean that a grant is being awarded.



VALUE OF AWARD

Post Doctoral Research Allowance

The Total Grant awarded cannot exceed €200,000.

- *Researchers will benefit from **€43,696** per annum pro rata.*

Direct Research Support Expenses

- *Registration, enrolment fees or tuition fees, training-based fees, etc... which shall not exceed **€3,000** per annum*
- *For Lab Based Research, costs cannot exceed **€20,000** per annum*
- Direct research support expenses, including registration, enrollment, tuition, and training based fees, should be specified. If the research is lab-based, this must be stated, along with a detailed list of bench fees and their costs. Additionally, any other expenses, such as lab access and usage fees, should be included if any





Research abroad allowance including accommodation

- *In the case of research projects carried out outside Malta, the researcher shall also receive **up to €10,000 per annum**. This will be based on a case-by-case basis*

Visits

- *Awardees required to go abroad for research purposes or on their programme of study, will be entitled to **(€200) per visit** (to a maximum of €2,400) over a 12 month period.*
- *For those whose visit is 30 days or longer the allowance will be calculated pro-rata on **€4,000** per annum subject to the provision of boarding passes and confirmation from their respective Institution confirming the purpose of their visit*

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

01 Save for exceptional situations duly substantiated by the stakeholders, any change to the Mentor or Host Institution of the research project is not allowed.

02 The researchers need to write a minimum of three (3) publications in research journals throughout the duration of the research project.

03 The Researcher may not change the objectives indicated in the proposed work programme without consent from the Mentor and/or the Host institution.



INFORMATION FOR FUTURE AWARDEES

Grant Agreement

Awardees will be invited to sign an agreement and fill in several forms (Review clause 13)

Progress Reports

Approximately every six (6) months researchers shall ask their academic mentor to submit to the Project leader a report confirming progress, which may include feedback on agreed schedules, milestones, and deliverables and research outputs of the researcher.

Monitoring

The research project might be subject to monitoring and control actions by national and European bodies according to the applicable legislation

Publicity

All publicity (clause 17) associated with organizing from the research undertaken by the researcher while in receipt of REACH HIGH II Scholars Programme - Post-Doctoral Grants funding must contain acknowledgement of funding received from the grant and ESF+ 2021 – 2027

DELIVERABLES

- Final progress report from Mentor with URL address of publications and scientific creations resulting from the activity.
- Three publications in Research Journals
- Relevant publications in international renowned journals, publications in conference proceedings, papers in international conferences, etc...;
- The dissemination of results to public and private bodies and entities
- Technical reports etc...;
- Patents*, ISO, new experimental devices, product standards derived from research results plans and proposals for the improvement of offered services innovative suggestions - proposals on resolving problems of production operators, instruments or protocols for monitoring or measuring variables in natural or man-made systems, pilot plants, etc (where applicable).
- A write up on the research work carried out

** Patents (where applicable) will be co-owned by the Government of Malta.*



CONTACT INFORMATION



Website

<https://myscholarship.gov.mt/>



Email

reach-high.meyr@gov.mt



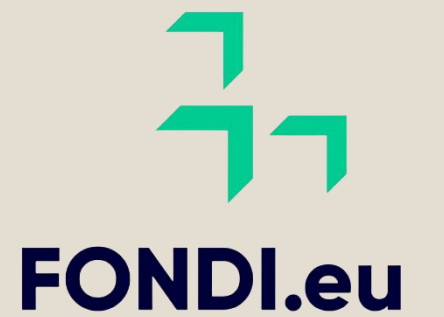
Phone Number

2598 2671/77





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THANK YOU

Any Questions?



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