Frequently Asked Questions

1.1   Programme

1.1.1 What research areas does the MedTrain+ programme include?

The programme broadly focuses on medical device research and development. The projects will encompass research themes Such as

- Biomaterials and Drug Delivery
- MedTech AI, Machine Learning, Medical Imaging and Soft Robotics
- Immuno-Engineering
- Education and Public Engagement (EPE)
- Science Advocacy Programmes
- Regulatory

A more detailed description of the research interests of each PI can be found in the MedTrain+ PI list for each call [Apply - CÚRAM (curamdevices.ie)](url)

1.2   Fellowships

1.2.1 What is the duration of a Fellowship?

MedTrain+ fellowships are of three years duration. MedTrain+ PFs must undertake a non-academic industry secondment for up to one year for their multi-sectoral training. The total fellowship duration will be divided into three main phases: an initial phase at the host organisation, a secondment phase in a non-academic sector, and a return phase at the host organisation.

1.2.2 I am looking for a PhD position- can I apply to MedTrain+?

No, MedTrain+ Fellowships are for Experienced Researchers: Two fellowship levels will be offered to 50 candidates over two calls, ensuring varying depths of experience:

Level 1: The appointed candidate will have a doctoral degree and 0-4 years of postdoctoral research experience in the relevant CÚRAM research areas or will have > 4 years of full-time equivalent research experience in the relevant CÚRAM research areas.

Level 2: The appointed candidate will have a doctoral degree and > 4 years of postdoctoral research experience in the relevant CÚRAM research areas or will have > 8 years of full-time equivalent research experience in the relevant CÚRAM research areas.

1.2.3 Where are the Fellowships based?

Fellows will be based at one of CÚRAM's academic organisations / Implementing partners: [University of Galway (GALWAY),](url) [University College Dublin (UCD),](url) [The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI),](url) [Trinity College Dublin (TCD),](url) [University of Limerick (UL),](url) [Dublin City University (DCU),](url) Technological

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[University of the Shannon (TUS),](#) [University College Cork (UCC),](#) [National Institute for Bioprocessing Research and Training (NIBRT)](#) and [Technological University Dublin (TU Dublin).](#) The Fellowship also includes a secondment period (of up to 12 months maximum) to a non-academic research organisation. Additional interdisciplinary short visits (up to 3 weeks) to patient, charity or policy groups are also required.

1.2.4 What is the salary for Fellows?

Amounts provided for the researcher's benefit will consist of living allowance, mobility allowance and family allowance, where eligible. The total gross allowances for the Fellowship are detailed as follows:

Cost categories	Amount (€/month)	
Researcher Level	Level 1 Fellows	Level 2 Fellows
Living Allowance	3,186	3,834
Mobility Allowance*	517	517
Family Allowance**	569	569

The total **gross** remuneration costs for a Level 1 researcher without family per month is € 3,703 and for researcher with family per month is €4,271. The total **gross** remuneration costs for a Level 2 researcher without family per month is €4,351 and for researcher with family per month is €4,920. Please note that all or part of these allowances will be liable for taxes and other deductions. e.g. deduction of PRSI (employer social security (11.05%)), and if applicable, pension (20%) contributions.

Level 1: €44,432 gross salary* per annum (excluding family allowance) or €51,256 gross salary* per annum (if conditions for family allowance are met)

Level 2: €52,213 gross salary* per annum (excluding family allowance) or €59,037 gross salary* per annum (if conditions for family allowance are met)

* Gross salary is inclusive of a mobility allowance of €7,200 annually payable as part of their gross salary which shall be fixed for 36 months during the fellowship period.

Please note that annual gross salary is **subject to taxes and other deductions**. e.g. deduction of PRSI (employee social security), and income taxes. For more information about tax entitlements please go to www.revenue.ie.

* mobility allowance is provided to cover expenses linked to the personal household and relocation of the Fellow.

** paid when the Fellow has family obligations. Family is defined as persons linked to the Fellow (i) by marriage; (ii) a relationship with equivalent status to a marriage recognised by the legislation of the country where this relationship was formalised; (iii) dependent children who are actually being maintained by the Fellow.

In addition, the MedTrain+ Fellowship provides a contribution to research cost €1,375/month per Fellow- to cover consumable costs, costs of communication, dissemination and exploitation, and travel to international conferences, workshops and secondments.

1.2.5 What is the start date of the Fellowships?

A fellow recruited in Call 2 should start in August 2024 onwards.

1.3 Call

1.3.1 How many Fellowships are available in Call 2?

There are at least 25 positions available, of a total of 50 available across the MedTrain+ Programme.

1.3.2 When does Call 2 close?

Call 2 was closed to applications on 26th February 2024 (the online application system closes to submissions at midnight Irish time).

1.3.3 Will there be Call 3?

We shall update you on the possibility of next call as soon as we receive confirmation from the European Commission.

1.4 Applying

1.4.1 Who is eligible to apply?

Two fellowship levels will be offered to 50 candidates over two calls, ensuring varying depths of experience: Level 1 & Level 2, as stated above Researchers of any nationality are eligible to apply, provided they fulfil the Level criteria described in Section 1.2.2 & below criteria.

Mobility Rule: Have not resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Ireland for more than 12 months in the three years immediately prior to the time of recruitment (It is determined based on the Call deadline). Compulsory national service and/or short stays such as holidays are not considered.

1.4.2 What should I do if I am not sure whether my subject is eligible for funding in the programme?

Please send the Programme Manager a short project summary by email to medtrainplus@curamdevices.ie

The Programme Manager will reply within a few days to let you know whether you can apply.

1.4.3 How do I apply?

In order to apply, you should first develop your research proposal with a PI of your choosing from those featured on the [online application system](#). You will then need to register and submit your application via the online application system. The Guide for Applicants, which can be downloaded from the website, contains further information on the steps involved, as well as application templates.

1.4.4 What is included in the application process?

The application process should include an Online application + Administrative Proposal: Max 1000 words: Part A plus <u>Ethics Self-assessment form (</u>including Max 2 Pages<u>)</u> + Part B (Research Proposal) + Academic CV (Max 5 pages with 3 references)

Part A: Administrative Proposal: Max 1000 words: Part A plus <u>Ethics Self-assessment form (</u>including Max 2 Pages<u>)</u>

Part B: The applicant needs to adjust the number of pages, i.e., Max. 10 pages.

Academic CV: Max 5 pages (With 3 references).

Note that non-conformity of these requirements will deem the application ineligible.

1.4.5 Can I submit my application in a language other than English?

No, only applications written in English can be accepted.