



IRISH RESEARCH COUNCIL
An Chomhairle um Thaighde in Éirinn

2017 Enterprise Partnership Scheme: Postdoctoral Fellowship

Frequent Asked Questions (FAQs)

The deadline for receipt of FAQs is **16.00 (Irish Time), 9th May**. FAQs must be submitted no later than this date.

Similar questions have been grouped below in the following themes:

1. Eligibility
2. Applying to the Scheme
3. Application Forms

1. ELIGIBILITY

In *The Guide for Applicants* for GOI postdoc scheme there is this paragraph:

“unsuccessful applicants may only re-apply to each Council Scheme on one subsequent occasion (with effect from 21st October 2009). Ineligible applications do not count towards this limit. If you have previously submitted more than one application to a scheme and were unsuccessful, you are not eligible to apply again under that scheme.”

Does this apply to Enterprise Postdoc fellowship? I couldn't see this in T&C and I couldn't find the Guide for Applicants for Enterprise Postdoc Scheme.

An applicant may apply twice to the same scheme. Applications to the Government of Ireland Postdoctoral Fellowship are not counted as an application to the Enterprise Partnership Scheme.

If you applied for the Government of Ireland Postdoctoral Fellowship call earlier this year, are you allowed to apply for the Enterprise Partnership Scheme Postdoctoral Fellowship?

Yes this is permissible. Applicants to the GOIPG or the EBP may apply to the EPS once the latter scheme is open. However, if they are subsequently successful under the GOIPG or EBP schemes and accept same, they will be required to withdraw their application to the EPS.

An applicant may apply twice to the same scheme. Applications to the Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship are not counted as an application to the Enterprise Partnership Scheme.

Can an applicant who has recently applied to the Government of Ireland Postdoctoral Fellowship 2017 apply to the Enterprise Partnership Scheme Postdoctoral Fellowship 2017?

Yes this is permissible. Applicants to the GOIPG or the EBP may apply to the EPS once the latter scheme is open. However, if they are subsequently successful under the GOIPG or EBP schemes and accept same, they will be required to withdraw their application to the EPS.

An applicant to the Enterprise Partnership Postdoctoral Fellowship scheme who wishes to remain in the HEI and mentor with whom she completed her Phd would like some clarity re: Section 6.12 Research mobility. This section states that Fellows with no postdoctoral experience will normally be supported only at a different HEI/RPO and with a different Academic Mentor, and research team, where relevant, than those with which they completed their PhD preparation. Requests for exceptions to this guideline will require detailed academic justification as to why this is the preferred option.

The application form (Section 5) states Applicants may make the case that interaction with the proposed Enterprise Partner can form an aspect of mobility. Does the history and specific details of the relationship between the proposed Enterprise Partner and the Academic mentor/host HEI fulfil the requirements for a 'detailed academic justification' to seek an exception to the research mobility guideline?

It is the responsibility of the applicant to provide the necessary justification and this case will be considered as part of processing of applications. The Council cannot deem an application or part thereof to fulfil particular requirements in advance of receipt of a fully completed application.

The Irish Research Council strongly advocates a variety of experience within the postdoctoral phase of career development. To encourage this, applicants with no postdoctoral experience will normally be supported only at a different Host Organisation and with a different Academic Mentor and research team than those with which they completed their Doctoral preparation.

Is it possible to have two Enterprise partners sharing the cost on one application? Providing they have similar research interest for the project.

It is not permissible to have two enterprise partners.

2. APPLYING TO THE SCHEME

Can an Academic Mentor or Enterprise Mentor support more than one postdoctoral application?

As per Clause 6.2 and 10.7 of the Terms and Conditions, an Academic Mentor at an Irish HEI/RPO and an Enterprise Mentor at the Enterprise Partner, is permitted to support more than one Fellow under the Enterprise Partnership Scheme in the 2017 call, respectively.

Can the applicant's Academic Mentor or Enterprise Mentor also act as one of his/her referees?

No. Two references are required and the applicant's Academic Mentor or Enterprise Mentor may not act as one of these referees.

3. APPLICATION FORMS

I would like to apply for the Enterprise Partnership Scheme to carry out my research in the same institution as the one which awarded me a PhD, but in a different department. Do I need to fill in the research mobility paragraph?

The Irish Research Council strongly advocates a variety of experience within the postdoctoral phase of career development. To encourage this, applicants with no postdoctoral experience will normally be supported only at a different Host Organisation and with a different Academic Mentor and research team than those with which they completed their Doctoral preparation. Some circumstances can be foreseen that would allow a researcher to remain in the same host institution or with the same research team but these will require complete justification. Please note that the 'Research Mobility' field is mandatory: i.e. it cannot be left blank.