



EASME

Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises



SME SUPPORT



ENERGY



ENVIRONMENT



MARITIME



European
Commission

EASME

Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises

H2020 SME Innovation Associate



Objective of the Call

The action aims at overcoming barriers for EU SMEs and Start-ups to the recruitment of highly qualified specialists (PhD or equivalent) that are not available on the national job market (either because the required skills are not available or because they are not affordable), but whose knowledge would be crucial to open up opportunities for innovation and significant growth for the enterprise.



A bridge of knowledge connecting European SMEs and PhDs holders



EU SMEs: the smart choice!

Because SMEs represents:

- 99% of all businesses in the EU
- In the past five years, they have created around 85% of new jobs and provided two-thirds of the total private sector employment in the EU.



Eligibility Conditions for the SME to participate in this call:



- To be an SME
- Established in the EU Member States or Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT)
- or countries associated to H2020 (Switzerland excluded)



What is an "SME"?

EU recommendation 2003/361

Company category	Staff headcount	Turnover	Or	Balance sheet total
Medium-sized	< 250	≤ € 50 m		≤ € 43 m
Small	< 50	≤ € 10 m		≤ € 10 m
Micro	< 10	≤ € 2 m		≤ € 2 m



Why PhDs' holders:

EU SMEs need Innovation Associates with specialised skills and knowledge

Who are looking for new opportunities:

- Taking part in highly innovative projects selected by the European Commission
- Experience in the private sector
- International mobility scheme
- Tailored Training programme



Eligibility Conditions for the PhDs holders to participate in this call:

- Hold a PhD (or equivalent)
- Have demonstrated expertise in line with the job advertisement;
- Comply with the Transnational mobility criteria

Support provided by the European Union under this call

1. International Visibility
2. Financial Support
3. Training package





1) International Visibility

Organisations registered: **10.193**

Jobs available on-line: **4.845**

Researchers registered: **38.045**

Researcher CV available on-line : **17.253**



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2) Financial Support

- The (reasonable) **salary** of the researcher for a period of one year
- **Relocation cost** for the researcher up to a maximum total of €5000.
- **Travel and subsistence costs** related to the **training**



3) Training package

- Core training programme organised by the European Commission to address the general needs/requirements of Innovation Associates.
- Tailored training programme organised by the enterprise as a personal training and development plan for the Innovation Associate

Participation Phases: timeline



Horizon 2020 SME Innovation Associate

Matching talented researchers and business



SMEs



PHDs



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Participation Phases : Milestones

- Call opened on: 11 February 2016
- Deadline for applications: **30 June 2016.**
- Awarding and Signature of the Grants: 28 February 2017 (at the latest).
- Publication of the Vacancies: between 1 March 2017 (or before) and 30 April 2017.
- Recruitment phase: May-June 2017.
- Start date for the position: 1 September 2017.



Two optional Phases

- Optional phase one: 11/02-30/06/2016
Testing ideas and job vacancies
- Optional Phase two: 01/07/2016-28/02/2017
Parallel recruiting phase

Optional Phase one: 11/02-30/06/2016 - Testing ideas and job vacancies

SMEs can test the attractiveness of both their ideas and vacancy notice in advance by publishing a call for manifestation of interest (e.g. on EURAXESS).

This pre-publication will allow to:

- Test the business idea
- Fine-tune the vacancy notice
- Create contacts with potential candidates

Optional Phase two: 01/07/2016-28/02/2017 Parallel recruiting phase

Companies that participated in the optional phase one can decide whether they want to make the vacancy conditional on the award of an EU grant.

By making the offer non-conditional, companies can keep the opportunity of recruiting experts as soon as they are available/identifies without having to wait for the official starting date of the positions supported by the European Union(1st September 2017).

Optional Phase two: 01/07/2016-28/02/2017 Parallel recruiting phase

Conditional or Nonconditional?

- Advantage: Without conditionality the job will be immediately available.
- Disadvantage: The recruiting of the candidate outside this EU funding schemes will prevent companies from receiving the grant and researchers and their supervisors in the company from participating in the core training programme organised by the European Union.



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION



Horizon 2020 SME Innovation Associate

Matching talented researchers and business

Under 'Horizon 2020', the European Union's Research and Innovation Programme, a new pilot action will support 90 SMEs hire a researcher to bring their brilliant idea to life.



SMEs



PHDs



This could be the chance of your life!



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