

## **Annual Work Plan 2022**

### **2022-2024 EUROfusion Engineering Grants**

#### **Annex 1 – Call for Participation**

##### **1. Specific objectives of the action**

The 2021-2025 Work Plan for the implementation of the Fusion Roadmap in *Horizon Europe* foresees support for Education and Training of a new generation of scientists and engineers. The EUROfusion Engineering Grants programme (EEG) aims to encourage excellence and career development of young engineers who are already in the programme or attract high quality potential candidates from outside the programme.

The Project Leaders/Task Force Leaders in collaboration with the Programme Management Unit (PMU) have identified areas inside the Work Packages where there is an expected shortage of skills and, hence, a need to recruit and train a new generation of properly skilled engineers.

A new element of the EEG programme is that PMU facilitates a Joint Training Programme in order to develop common competences, increase visibility and networking. This training programme includes workshops, group trainings and this will be a mandatory element for every grantee.

The list of areas, topics and related advert postings for the open positions are indicated in Annex 4. A total of 5 proposals have been reserved for the DEMO Central Team, 5 proposals are in close collaboration with ITER Organization and 10 proposals in related areas in other work packages.

The EUROfusion Engineering Grants will be awarded at post-master and/or post-doctoral level for a maximum duration of 3 years in the period 01.01.2022-31.12.2024.

## 2. Eligibility

The action is focussed to engineers of all nationalities, aspiring to strengthen the European fusion community, during the first years of their careers, namely:

- a) Engineers in possession of a Master Degree in Engineering (or any equivalent university degree in Engineering) and not having a PhD degree, with a professional experience in engineering of less than 6 years after the master degree w.r.t. the deadline for proposal submission of the present call;
- b) Engineers in possession of a doctoral degree (PhD) who have completed a PhD and defended their thesis within the three years preceding the deadline for proposal submission of the present call.

The above mentioned limits of six and three years, respectively, can be extended by no more than two years of relevant professional experience (e.g. in industry) outside academia or research centres.

The candidate shall be recruited and employed by a EUROfusion member or its Affiliated Entity. The Consortium member will have to provide a declaration of intent to recruit the engineer under an employment contract or equivalent contract compatible with the national legislation. She/he shall be recruited at the latest by 1 July 2022.

Candidates who have been already employed by a Consortium member or its Affiliated Entity for less than 2 years are also eligible for this programme, provided they meet the requirements specified in points a) and b) above.

A joint proposal shall be submitted by the candidate and her/his mentor in the respective Beneficiary/Affiliated Entity. **For information or any advice on the formulation of the proposal the candidate and her/his mentor are strongly recommended to contact the Project Leaders/Task Force Leaders/contact persons (contact details are provided with the Job Description in Annex 4).**

Details on the procedure for submission of proposals, evaluation criteria and evaluation process are indicated in the "Guide for Applicants" (Annex 2).

## 3. Timetable of Implementation

**Deadline for proposals: 13 September 2021 (23:59 CEST)**

Panel review, selection: October 2021

Interviews with shortlisted candidates (remote): Between 1-12 November 2021

Awarding of the grants: General Assembly meeting 13-14 December 2021

Earliest starting date of the Task Agreement: 1 January 2022

Latest starting date of the Task Agreement: 1 July 2022 (*note: the Joint Training Programme is foreseen to start by March 2022, so the candidate shall be available to participate, independent of the start of the employment contract, which may be until 1 July 2022*).

#### **4. Financial support**

***The financial support for this action is subject to the signature of the Grant Agreement between the European Commission and the EUROfusion Consortium for the years 2021-2025.***

The financial support for the EEG takes the form of a grant covering the directly related costs only. The contribution will support the following costs:

1. Salary cost (including fees, superannuation and social charges);
2. Training and specific costs related to the activities carried out by the engineer and to her/his career development (e.g. participation in conferences and training courses, purchase of hardware and/or consumables necessary for a successful implementation of the project) ;
3. Missions costs of the engineer;
4. Indirect costs 25% flat rate (not applied to Unit Costs for Secondments)

The level of financial support for the costs for Training and Missions (points 2 and 3 above) will be agreed following evaluation of the proposal by the selection panel. The support could be up to a maximum of 15 k€ Consortium Contribution for training and other costs and up to a maximum of 22 k€ Consortium Contribution for mobility for the full period of the grant.

**The duration of the grant supported by this action will be up to 3 years.**

The eligible costs are those incurred during the period covered by the Task Agreement to be drafted after a successful selection process.

***Costs claimed for reimbursement must comply with the applicable conditions of the Grant Agreement and need to be in line with the Internal Funding Rules of the EUROfusion Consortium.***