

 **Saltire Emerging Researcher Scheme**

**ECR Guidelines**

The aim of the ***Saltire Emerging Researcher Scheme*** is to promote mobility between Scotland and European research partners with the aim of strengthening existing, and seeding future, research relationships.

Funding of up to £7,500 is available for Early Career Researchers currently working in a SICSA institution to visit a partner institution for a focused research visit.

SICSA will work in partnership with EiT Digital to promote exchange opportunities with European institutions through their membership.

**Application Process**

Complete the Expression of Interest (EoI) form detailing:

* How the focus of the proposal and your research aligns with Resilient and Sustainable Digital Infrastructures Exchanges (Re-inDex) Theme
* Details of access to training, facilities and network building opportunities
* Details of host (if you have identified one)

After submission, the EoI will be considered by the SICSA team and the outcome will be communicated to you within **10 working days.**

On approval of the EoI, a Full Application Form should be completed, detailing:

* Host institution including a nominated contact champion and contact details
* Proposed title, start and end date of the exchange (these can be amended on the condition that the exchange is completed by end January 2023)
* Details of the Exchange (as stated in the proposal form) including how it aligns with Horizon Europe work programmes
* Budget requested and breakdown of costs (see funding information below)

**Eligibility**

* Applicants must be a ECR within 7 years of completion of their PhD and be employed within Informatics & Computer Science within within a SICSA institute.
* Exchanges must take place between Scotland and an EU Member State, EEA or EFTA country.
* The host must be a University / Higher Education or Industry partner.
* Only one successful application per applicant.
* The exchange may build on, or be extensions to, existing activity or may be new developments
* The visit should be a minimum of 3 months, maximum of 6 months

**Funding Information**

* A maximum of £7,500 will be awarded for economy class travel, accommodation and subsistence.
* Applications should be costed in line with the following guidelines:
	+ Return air travel (economy class only)
	+ Accommodation is limited to £75 per night (for extended trips rented accommodation should be sought).
	+ Subsistence is limited to £25 per diem

**Conditions of Funding**

* The exchange must be completed by 31st January 2023.
* A supporting statement from your supervisor must be attached to the application.
* A supporting statement from the host institution must be attached to the application
* A contingency plan relating to the possibility of returning COVID restrictions must be included in your proposal.
* Any changes to the planned exchange must be approved by the SICSA Directorate.
* A short-structured report/video must be submitted within one month of return from the exchange.
* If you are successful, you will be enrolled in the Saltire Researcher Scheme Alumni and will be encouraged to attend a cohort event once all exchanges have taken place.
* Travel and accommodation arrangements must be arranged by the proposer/institution.

**Application Submission**

Applicants should apply using the downloadable forms (*Expression of Interest* and

*Saltire Application Form*) and submit to Aileen.Orr@glasgow.ac.uk.

Calls are still open due to the scheme being extended due to COVID.

Following submission, the proposal will be considered by members of the SICSA

Directorate and the outcome will be notified to you within **4 weeks.** See below review criteria for what to include in your full application.

**Review Criteria**

Full applications for ECR Saltire applications will be revied by: two SICSA directors and one SICSA theme lead from a relevant subject area. These reviews will use the following criteria:

* Do we consider the researcher to be engaged with SICSA
* Will the exchange provide career benefits to the researcher in the short and long term?
* Are there prospects for sustained European collaboration as a result of the exchange?
* Are there prospects for future Horizon Europe involvement?
* Will the exchange provide benefits to the SICSA community?

If you have any questions about the Saltire Emerging Researcher Scheme please contact

Aileen Orr (Aileen.Orr@glasgow.ac.uk).

