



## IARC POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS FOR TRAINING IN CANCER RESEARCH

**The call for applications for IARC Postdoctoral Fellowships in 2026-2027 is now open until midnight CET on 9 May 2025.**

**IARC Postdoctoral Fellowships in Cancer Research: Candidates from low-and middle income countries (LMICs)** are invited to prepare their research proposal in line with the priorities of the Agency.

The major areas of activity are focused on understanding cancer etiology and underlying mechanisms (including infections, nutrition, lifestyle, environment, radiation, genetics), as well as developing strategies for cancer prevention (primary prevention, screening, implementation research). The Agency also has strong programmes dedicated to describing the global cancer burden and to the evaluation of carcinogenicity or preventive interventions through its Monographs and Handbooks of Cancer Prevention respectively.

**Fellowships are tenable at the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) in Lyon, France.** The fellowship is for a period of **two years**. A final report at the end will be required.

### **Eligibility criteria are the following:**

- Nationalities from [LMICs](#) only
- PhD degree (\*<sup>1</sup>) to be obtained within five years of the application deadline or by the time of starting the fellowship
- Candidates with a MD (\*<sup>2</sup>) obtained within five years of the application deadline or by the time of starting the fellowship can also apply, but should have obtained a MPH degree or similar additional training and already have some research experience and publications
- Proficiency in English at a level sufficient for scientific communication required
- 2 reference letters to be submitted by the deadline of application
- The research proposal must demonstrate project feasibility and alignment with the scientific host branch activities (\*<sup>3</sup>)
- Candidates currently/having been at IARC as postdoctoral scientist or doctoral student for a period greater than six months, are not eligible

The chosen IARC supervisor and host Branch can be contacted via the generic e-mail address displayed under “Personnel” – “contact information” in each Research Branch: <https://www.iarc.who.int/branches/>.

### **Fellowships have to be taken up between November 2025 and 28 February 2026.**

The current IARC postdoctoral stipend is € 2,950 net per month. The cost of travel for the awardee, and in certain circumstances for dependants, will be met. Dependence and health insurance allowances will be paid, if applicable. IARC Postdoctoral Fellows have access to a wide spectrum of scientific disciplines and to a unique network of collaborators across the world. IARC

welcomes more than 70 postdoctoral scientists and fellows, at any time, distributed across the Agency. For more information please consult our [FAQs](#) and our [Postdoctoral charter](#).

Depending on certain conditions, Fellows will be able to apply for an IARC return grant of max. 10,000 Euros during the second year of their Fellowship in order to start up an independent research programme linked to IARC's activities upon return to their LMI country of origin.

**Applications are to be submitted online by midnight CET on 9 May 2025.** More application details can be found at the beginning of our [online application form](#) under “**preparing your application**” and more information in our [FAQs](#).

Queries about the fellowship and application should be sent to [fel@iarc.who.int](mailto:fel@iarc.who.int).

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**\*1** If your application is retained for an interview, you will be required to provide, in advance, a scanned copy of the degree(s) for this position. IARC/WHO only considers higher educational qualifications obtained from an institution accredited/recognized in the World Higher Education Database (WHED), a list updated by the International Association of Universities (IAU/United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The list can be accessed through the link: <http://www.whed.net>. Some professional certificates may not appear in the WHED and will require individual review.

**\*2** MD stands for Doctor of Medicine. It is a designation that indicates someone who has completed medical school. To be an MD, you must finish medical school and receive another three years of training through residency OR training in a specialized field of medicine.

**\*3 WARNING**

Your application must be your own. It is not allowed to use Artificial Intelligence noting that a tool will be used to scrutinize your answers. Clearly indicate the references of any material you use from any source. Plagiarism is a serious offence, and, as IARC expects the highest standards of integrity from its personnel, is entirely unacceptable conduct. Therefore, if it is found that you have failed to reference material from any source, including the internet, intranet, IARC publications and academic material (including that to which you contributed), it will lead to the disqualification of your application.