



**EDCTP**

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## **Frequently asked questions (FAQs)**

**Capacity development for disease outbreak and epidemic response in sub-Saharan Africa, in collaboration with Africa CDC (CSA2020E)**





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### **Purpose of the FAQs**

Purpose of the FAQs These FAQs provide guidance for applicants to the EDCTP2 Call for Proposals 'Career Development Fellowships 2020' to supplement the information provided in the [call text](#) and [call documents](#). The FAQs could be updated in response to questions received from applicants to the call. Please also refer to the [EDCTP2 general FAQs](#).

### **FINANCIAL**

#### **Q: How can the costs of the Master's training course and the studentships be supported under this grant scheme?**

**A:** Please refer to Article 6 of the grant agreement (see the relevant notes about Article 6 in this [annotated model grant agreement from Horizon 2020](#) on page 50\*) and summarised below.

Be aware that if your proposal is successful, EDCTP will check the requested costs during the grant preparation phase to ensure that the applicants have correctly applied the eligibility rules for these essential costs associated with the Master's training.

\* [https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants\\_manual/amga/h2020-amga\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/amga/h2020-amga_en.pdf)

#### **Costs for students**

- Costs for students, PhDs and other researchers under scholarship, internship or similar agreements (not employees): Costs of students that work for the beneficiary can be accepted, if the agreement is work-oriented

#### **Fellowships/scholarships/stipends**

Fellowships/scholarships/stipends — Can be charged to the action (**as personnel costs**), if they fulfil the conditions set out grant agreement Article 6.1 and 6.2.A.2, and in particular:

- the remuneration complies with the application national law on taxes, labour and social security
- the assignment of tasks respects the laws in force in the country of the beneficiary
- the students have the necessary qualifications to carry out the tasks allocated to them under the action.

#### **Q: The call text provides guidance that the budget should not exceed €50,000 per student, does this include all costs e.g. stipend, workshop/conference attendance, audit fees and the 25% indirect costs?**

**A:** If you propose to train 10 masters students, your maximum total budget (including overhead costs) should not exceed €500 000. If you propose to train 15 masters students, your maximum total budget should not exceed €750 000 (including overhead costs). The budget template in EDCTPgrants automatically calculates the 25% overhead costs.

#### **Q: Can overhead costs be used to cover tuition fees and other university expenses?**

**A:** Yes, these funds may be used at the discretion of the institution awarded.

#### **Q: Can the grant funding exceed 36 months?**

**A:** No, the grant duration may not exceed 36 months. The Masters degree offered may not exceed 30 months.





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## **ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION**

### **Q: How many countries from sub-Saharan Africa or Europe are required for this call?**

**A:** To satisfy the eligibility requirements, a minimum of **one country** from sub-Saharan Africa **OR** a minimum of **one country** from an EDCTP European Participating State (Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom) must be an applicant on the proposal. Applicants should include the appropriate number of partners to be able to carry out the action.

### **Q: Can a US legal entity be part of a proposal together with an African partner?**

**A:** Yes, a US legal entity may participate on a grant if the entity accepts the EDCTP2 grant agreement conditions, however, US legal entities are not eligible to receive funding. The entity should therefore participate as a beneficiary not receiving funding.

### **Q: Is it possible for different project proposals submitted to this call, coming from different institutions, to have the same co-applicants?**

**A:** There is no rule to prevent a group of applicants submitting multiple proposals; however, please bear in mind that each proposal must be a stand-alone proposal (inter-dependent projects cannot be divided into separate proposals). If the proposals look very similar, for example, it is the same project but divided into country-specific proposals, then you may be asked to withdraw one or more proposals. Please consider submitting your best, single application as this is likely to offer the greatest chance of success rather than submitting multiple proposals to the same call. The external experts will evaluate all proposals and may recommend the withdrawal or merging of similar proposals. The external experts will also evaluate the roles, responsibilities and time commitment of individuals on each proposal, in the context of their other commitments. EDCTP advises that an individual from a given institution can only be the Coordinator (lead applicant) in one application submitted to this call.

### **Q: Is it a requirement for a National Public Health Institute (NPHI), Ministry of Health or similar agency to be included as part of the proposal.**

**A:** Proposals should include institutions with a proven track record in the provision of high-quality master's training with clear local and regional collaborations with NPHIs (or similar agencies), Ministries of Health and other academic institutions.

- Proposals are expected to demonstrate clearly the involvement and collaboration of *National Public Health Institute(s) (NPHI), Ministry(ies) of Health or similar agency(ies) in the action.*
- Proposals should include institutions with a proven track record in the provision of high-quality master's training with clear local and regional collaborations with NPHIs (or similar agencies), Ministries of Health and other academic institutions.
- The master's programme must include a research component, which must be conducted in a country in sub-Saharan Africa, in collaboration with local or regional NPHIs (and/or affiliated agencies) or Ministries of Health.
- The NPHIs, Ministries or affiliated agencies are not required to be formal applicants on proposals, however, their collaboration must be demonstrated. For example, this could be in the form of letters of support that give full details of their involvement and collaboration.





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#### **ABOUT THE PROPOSAL**

**Q: Can this grant be utilized for the training of PhD or post-doctoral students?**

**A:** No, this grant is specific for the training of Masters students in Epidemiology and Biostatistics as specified in the call text.

**Q: We are applying as a consortium. Should our Consortium offer training in Epidemiology and Biostatistics courses to the MSc students, and supervise or co-supervise their research works, and provide the MSc degree as a University?**

**A:** Yes, the students who are trained should qualify with a Master's degree in Epidemiology and Biostatistics issued by an accredited institution. It is expected that the consortium will have the capacity to manage the training of the Master's students and the supervision of their research works. The precise details and mechanisms of how the consortium manages these activities should be presented in the proposal.

**Question: Can the Master's degree be purely by research?**

**A:** No. Proposals should include a taught Master's degree with a research component. Please check the application form on EDCTPgrants of the word template provided for this call (CSA2020E) on our website for details required.

