



## PRO SPRINT

# Pro sprint report

Premium buyer-facing sample with shortlist, top priorities, sequence, deadline calendar, and strategy-call agenda.

## PREPARED FOR

Confidential researcher - sample profile

## INSTITUTION

University research institute - not disclosed

## CAREER STAGE

Early-career postdoctoral researcher

## CITIZENSHIP / VISA STATUS

Non-EU citizen, European work/residence permit - details not provided

## FIELD

Cancer immunology and tumour microenvironment

## KEYWORDS

Tumour immunology; T cells; single-cell analysis; translational oncology; biomarkers

## TARGET COUNTRY / REGION

Europe, UK, Japan, selected global fellowships

## FUNDING GOAL

Postdoctoral salary support, mobility funding, and transition-to-independence options

## PREPARED ON

24 June 2026

## PLAN TYPE

Pro sprint

## SOURCE STATUS

Clickable official links checked

## OUTPUT TYPE

Premium PDF-ready strategy report

**Human-verified focus:** eligibility, deadlines, official source links, and fit notes.

**Scope:** independent funding intelligence, not legal, immigration, financial, or grant-writing advice.

**Buyer value:** includes grants to skip, not just grants to apply for.

**Privacy:** sample intake details are used only to prepare this demonstration report.

# 1. Executive decision summary

This sample profile should not pursue every plausible opportunity at once. The winning sequence is to concentrate on two high-fit September fellowships, check EMBO quickly, and use mobility/travel grants only when they strengthen the main applications.

**Decision:** Prepare CRI Irvington and MSCA in parallel, run a 48-hour EMBO eligibility check, and hold Wellcome/Humboldt/JSPS as host-dependent alternatives.

# 2. Top 3 application priorities

## Priority 1 - CRI Irvington Postdoctoral Fellowship Program

### FUNDER

Cancer Research Institute

### WHY THIS IS A PRIORITY

The fit is specific to cancer immunology and the September deadline is actionable.

### ELIGIBILITY CONFIDENCE

High

### DEADLINE

1 September 2026

### ESTIMATED WORKLOAD

Medium-high - 3 to 5 weeks

### KEY DOCUMENTS NEEDED

Sponsor statement, project proposal, CV/ biosketch, publications, institutional approval

### FIRST ACTION

Confirm host/sponsor and build a one-page project summary

### WHO TO CONTACT

Host PI, departmental grants office, and funder helpdesk only if eligibility remains unclear

### OFFICIAL SOURCE

[Official source](#)

## Priority 2 - MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2026

### FUNDER

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions / European Commission

### WHY THIS IS A PRIORITY

Open now, profile-stage fit is strong, and the deadline is far enough away to prepare a credible proposal.

### ELIGIBILITY CONFIDENCE

High

### DEADLINE

9 September 2026, 17:00 CEST

### ESTIMATED WORKLOAD

High - 4 to 6 weeks of host-led proposal development

### KEY DOCUMENTS NEEDED

CV, host commitment, B1/B2 proposal, ethics notes, training plan

### FIRST ACTION

Confirm host/sponsor and build a one-page project summary

### WHO TO CONTACT

Host PI, departmental grants office, and funder helpdesk only if eligibility remains unclear

### OFFICIAL SOURCE

[Official source](#)

## Priority 3 - EMBO Postdoctoral Fellowships

### FUNDER

EMBO

### WHY THIS IS A PRIORITY

The next cutoff is soon, so it is a useful urgency test for document readiness.

### ELIGIBILITY CONFIDENCE

Medium

### DEADLINE

Next cutoff: 10 July 2026, 14:00 CEST

### ESTIMATED WORKLOAD

Medium - 2 to 4 weeks

### KEY DOCUMENTS NEEDED

CV, host letter, project plan, publication evidence

### FIRST ACTION

Confirm host/sponsor and build a one-page project summary

### WHO TO CONTACT

Host PI, departmental grants office, and funder helpdesk only if eligibility remains unclear

### OFFICIAL SOURCE

[Official source](#)

## 3. Decision table

OPPORTUNITY	FIT	ELIGIBILITY CONFIDENCE	DEADLINE URGENCY	WORKLOAD	STRATEGIC VALUE	RECOMMENDATION
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2026	Strong fit	High	High	High - 4 to 6 weeks of host-led proposal development	High	Apply first if the host can confirm mobility eligibility and commit to proposal development immediately.

OPPORTUNITY	FIT	ELIGIBILITY CONFIDENCE	DEADLINE URGENCY	WORKLOAD	STRATEGIC VALUE	RECOMMENDATION
CRI Irvington Postdoctoral Fellowship Program	Strong fit	High	High	Medium-high - 3 to 5 weeks	High	Apply first alongside MSCA if a strong sponsor is already in place.
EMBO Postdoctoral Fellowships	Good fit	Medium	High	Medium - 2 to 4 weeks	High	Check further immediately; apply only if the PhD-date and publication rules are clearly met.
Wellcome Early-Career Awards	Good fit	Medium	High	High - 5 to 8 weeks	High	Strong maybe if a UK or Ireland host is realistic; otherwise monitor rather than prioritise.
Humboldt Research Fellowship	Good fit	Medium-high	High	Medium - 3 to 5 weeks	High	Prepare host outreach now; submit only after host and publication package are strong.
JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowships for Research in Japan - Standard	Good fit	Medium	High	Medium - host coordination heavy	Medium	Check further if Japan is a serious target; do not prioritise without a named host.
EFIS-IL Short-Term Fellowships	Good fit	Medium-high	Medium	Low-medium - 1 to 2 weeks	Medium	Apply as a tactical add-on, not as the main salary solution.
FEBS Short-Term Fellowships	Good fit	Medium	Medium	Low-medium - 1 to 2 weeks	Medium	Apply if a short visit would make the larger fellowship proposal stronger.
EACR-Worldwide Cancer Research Collaboration Fellowships	Possible fit	Medium-low	High	Low - 1 to 2 weeks if eligible	Low-medium	Check further only if the EACR 2026 connection exists.
AACR Pancreatic Cancer Scholar-in-Training Award	Possible fit	Medium	High	Low - abstract plus award application	Low-medium	Apply only if the meeting and abstract are already part of the plan.
Cancer Research UK Career Development Fellowship	Possible fit	Medium-low	High	Very high - 8+ weeks and host negotiation	Low-medium	Monitor as a later-stage option; do not prioritise unless independence package is already strong.
ERC Starting Grant	Possible fit	Medium-low	Medium	Very high - multi-month preparation	Low-medium	Monitor for 2027 or later; use current fellowships to build track record first.

## 4. Full verified shortlist

### MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2026

Eligible fit

Strong fit

High confidence

#### SCORE

32/35

#### OPEN STATUS

Open

#### DEADLINE

9 September 2026, 17:00 CEST

#### FUNDER

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions / European Commission

#### COUNTRY / REGION

EU Member States, Horizon Europe associated countries, and global outgoing route

#### FUNDING TYPE

Postdoctoral fellowship

#### FUNDING AMOUNT

Not confirmed from official source for individual budget; 2026 call budget listed as EUR 399.05m

#### CAREER STAGE

PhD-holding researchers of any nationality

#### SOURCE CHECKED DATE

24 June 2026

#### OFFICIAL SOURCE

[Official source](#)

#### WHY THIS FITS

The sample profile is a PhD-holding postdoc seeking international mobility and a European research base. The scheme is explicitly open to excellent researchers of any nationality and fits a cancer immunology project if the host and mobility rule are satisfied.

#### WATCH OUT

Mobility is the main risk. Time spent in the proposed host country before the call deadline must be checked against the MSCA mobility rule, and the application must be submitted jointly with the host organisation.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Apply first if the host can confirm mobility eligibility and commit to proposal development immediately.

### CRI Irvington Postdoctoral Fellowship Program

Eligible fit

Strong fit

High confidence

#### SCORE

33/35

#### OPEN STATUS

Open

#### DEADLINE

1 September 2026

#### FUNDER

Cancer Research Institute

#### COUNTRY / REGION

Global, host at eligible research institution

#### FUNDING TYPE

Postdoctoral fellowship

**FUNDING AMOUNT**

Stipend of USD 74,000, USD 76,000, and USD 78,000 in years 1-3, plus USD 5,000 annual host allowance

**CAREER STAGE**

Postdoctoral researchers in immunology and cancer immunology

**SOURCE CHECKED DATE**

24 June 2026

**OFFICIAL SOURCE**

[Official source](#)

**WHY THIS FITS**

This is the cleanest topic fit in the sample set: tumour immunology, mechanistic cancer research, and postdoctoral training under a sponsor are all directly aligned with the stated sample profile.

**WATCH OUT**

Sponsor strength and training environment matter heavily. The project must be mechanistic and immunology-centred, not only broad oncology or biomarker work.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Apply first alongside MSCA if a strong sponsor is already in place.

## EMBO Postdoctoral Fellowships

Possible fit

Good fit

Medium confidence

**SCORE**

28/35

**OPEN STATUS**

Recurring

**DEADLINE**

Next cutoff: 10 July 2026, 14:00 CEST

**FUNDER**

EMBO

**COUNTRY / REGION**

Europe and worldwide; international mobility required

**FUNDING TYPE**

Postdoctoral fellowship

**FUNDING AMOUNT**

Salary or stipend, relocation allowance, and support for fellows with children

**CAREER STAGE**

Early postdoctoral researchers

**SOURCE CHECKED DATE**

24 June 2026

**OFFICIAL SOURCE**

[Official source](#)

**WHY THIS FITS**

The sample profile has a life-science field, a mobility objective, and a postdoctoral training need. EMBO can be a strong route if the project includes a genuine host move and a clear skill-development angle.

**WATCH OUT**

The PhD-date rule is strict and can be the decisive issue. The sample profile is near the early postdoc boundary, so exact defence date, first-author output, and host-lab capacity must be checked before investing time.

## RECOMMENDATION

Check further immediately; apply only if the PhD-date and publication rules are clearly met.

## Wellcome Early-Career Awards

Possible fit

Good fit

Medium confidence

### SCORE

27/35

### OPEN STATUS

Upcoming round

### DEADLINE

21 July 2026, 15:00 BST; next round 10 November 2026

### FUNDER

Wellcome

### COUNTRY / REGION

Administering organisation in the UK, Republic of Ireland, or eligible LMIC

### FUNDING TYPE

Early-career award

### FUNDING AMOUNT

Salary and up to GBP 400,000 for research expenses; usually 5 years

### CAREER STAGE

Early-career researchers

### SOURCE CHECKED DATE

24 June 2026

### OFFICIAL SOURCE

[Official source](#)

### WHY THIS FITS

The profile is early-career and health-related, and the award can fund a substantial independent research identity if a UK/ROI/LMIC administering organisation is identified.

### WATCH OUT

This is not a general Europe-wide postdoc fellowship. A suitable administering organisation is required, and the sample researcher must stay within the postdoctoral-experience limit or document eligible adjustments.

## RECOMMENDATION

Strong maybe if a UK or Ireland host is realistic; otherwise monitor rather than prioritise.

## Humboldt Research Fellowship

Possible fit

Good fit

Medium-high confidence

### SCORE

26/35

### OPEN STATUS

Future call

### DEADLINE

Next call opens 15 July 2026; selection meeting March 2027

### FUNDER

Alexander von Humboldt Foundation

### COUNTRY / REGION

### FUNDING TYPE

## Germany

## Research fellowship

### FUNDING AMOUNT

EUR 3,000/month for postdocs plus additional benefits

### CAREER STAGE

Postdoctoral researchers within four years of doctorate for postdoc route

### SOURCE CHECKED DATE

24 June 2026

### OFFICIAL SOURCE

[Official source](#)

### WHY THIS FITS

The sample researcher is non-German, early postdoctoral, and open to a Germany-based research stay. The programme is field-open and can support cancer immunology if a German host is secured.

### WATCH OUT

The current call has reached capacity, so timing is a watch item. Host fit and exact doctorate date must be confirmed before the July call opens.

### RECOMMENDATION

Prepare host outreach now; submit only after host and publication package are strong.

## JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowships for Research in Japan - Standard

Possible fit

Good fit

Medium confidence

### SCORE

23/35

### OPEN STATUS

Open / host-submitted schedule

### DEADLINE

28 August 2026 by 5 p.m. JST for FY2027 first recruitment

### FUNDER

Japan Society for the Promotion of Science

### COUNTRY / REGION

Japan

### FUNDING TYPE

Postdoctoral fellowship

### FUNDING AMOUNT

Not confirmed from official source in checked page

### CAREER STAGE

Young overseas postdoctoral researchers

### SOURCE CHECKED DATE

24 June 2026

### OFFICIAL SOURCE

[Official source](#)

### WHY THIS FITS

The sample profile is internationally mobile and has a research field that can fit a Japanese host lab in tumour immunology or single-cell cancer biology.

### WATCH OUT

This is host-institution driven. A Japanese host must be ready to submit through the appropriate channel and timeline; it is not a simple individual self-submit route.

### RECOMMENDATION

Check further if Japan is a serious target; do not prioritise without a named host.

## EFIS-IL Short-Term Fellowships

Possible fit

Good fit

Medium-high confidence

### SCORE

22/35

### OPEN STATUS

Rolling / not confirmed as fixed-deadline call

### DEADLINE

Not confirmed from official source

### FUNDER

European Federation of Immunological Societies and Immunology Letters

### COUNTRY / REGION

European institution in a country other than current residence

### FUNDING TYPE

Short-term mobility fellowship

### FUNDING AMOUNT

EUR 1,925/month up to 3 months plus travel reimbursement up to EUR 500

### CAREER STAGE

Early-career immunology researchers; PhD/MD applicants with no more than 3 years postdoctoral experience welcome

**SOURCE CHECKED DATE**  
24 June 2026

**OFFICIAL SOURCE**  
[Official source](#)

**WHY THIS FITS**

A short methods visit in tumour immunology or single-cell analysis fits the sample profile and can strengthen later MSCA/CRI proposals.

**WATCH OUT**

Membership in an EFIS-affiliated society is a key risk, and the stay must be transnational within Europe rather than conference attendance.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Apply as a tactical add-on, not as the main salary solution.

## FEBS Short-Term Fellowships

Possible fit

Good fit

Medium confidence

**SCORE**  
21/35

**OPEN STATUS**  
Rolling

**DEADLINE**  
Apply any time

**FUNDER**  
Federation of European Biochemical Societies

**COUNTRY / REGION**  
FEBS area; short research visit to a lab in another country

**FUNDING TYPE**  
Short-term research visit fellowship

**FUNDING AMOUNT**  
Not confirmed from official source

**CAREER STAGE**  
Scientists within six years of PhD and eligible PhD students

**SOURCE CHECKED DATE**  
24 June 2026

**OFFICIAL SOURCE**  
[Official source](#)

**WHY THIS FITS**

The molecular life-science field fit is plausible, and a short method-development visit could support the sample researcher before larger fellowship applications.

**WATCH OUT**

This is not a salary or long-term postdoc grant. It should be framed as mobility/training support, with FEBS-area membership and host-country rules checked.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Apply if a short visit would make the larger fellowship proposal stronger.

## EACR-Worldwide Cancer Research Collaboration Fellowships

Needs verification

Possible fit

Medium-low confidence

### SCORE

18/35

### OPEN STATUS

Open

### DEADLINE

3 September 2026

### FUNDER

European Association for Cancer Research and Worldwide Cancer Research

### COUNTRY / REGION

International research visit connected to EACR 2026 Congress collaboration

### FUNDING TYPE

Collaboration / mobility fellowship

### FUNDING AMOUNT

Up to EUR 3,500

### CAREER STAGE

Cancer researchers with eligible EACR Congress connection

### SOURCE CHECKED DATE

24 June 2026

### OFFICIAL SOURCE

[Official source](#)

### WHY THIS FITS

The cancer research topic fits and the funding could support a concrete international collaboration if the sample researcher made a relevant new connection at EACR 2026.

### WATCH OUT

The congress-connection condition is central. If the sample researcher did not attend or did not form a qualifying collaboration, this should move to Skip.

### RECOMMENDATION

Check further only if the EACR 2026 connection exists.

## AACR Pancreatic Cancer Scholar-in-Training Award

Needs verification

Possible fit

Medium confidence

### SCORE

16/35

### OPEN STATUS

Open

### DEADLINE

13 July 2026, 1 p.m. ET

### FUNDER

American Association for Cancer Research

### COUNTRY / REGION

San Diego, United States conference attendance

### FUNDING TYPE

Conference travel award

### FUNDING AMOUNT

Amount varies by available funding

### CAREER STAGE

Graduate students, medical students, residents, clinical or postdoctoral fellows presenting an abstract

### SOURCE CHECKED DATE

### OFFICIAL SOURCE

24 June 2026

[Official source](#)

#### WHY THIS FITS

This can fit if the sample project has pancreatic cancer relevance and an abstract is submitted for the conference.

#### WATCH OUT

It is conference-specific, membership-linked, and not a research fellowship. It should not be presented as major research funding.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Apply only if the meeting and abstract are already part of the plan.

## Cancer Research UK Career Development Fellowship

Needs verification

Possible fit

Medium-low confidence

#### SCORE

17/35

#### OPEN STATUS

Open

#### DEADLINE

10 September 2026 full application; outline route applies

#### FUNDER

Cancer Research UK

#### COUNTRY / REGION

UK host institution

#### FUNDING TYPE

Career development fellowship

#### FUNDING AMOUNT

Typically up to GBP 1.5m over 6 years

#### CAREER STAGE

New group leaders who do not have a salaried independent position

#### SOURCE CHECKED DATE

24 June 2026

#### OFFICIAL SOURCE

[Official source](#)

#### WHY THIS FITS

The cancer immunology topic is relevant, especially if the project addresses tumour immunology or cancers of unmet need.

#### WATCH OUT

This is a transition-to-independent-group award, not a standard postdoc fellowship. A UK host, independent space, and readiness against CRUK competency expectations must be verified.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Monitor as a later-stage option; do not prioritise unless independence package is already strong.

## ERC Starting Grant

Needs verification

Possible fit

Medium-low confidence

### SCORE

15/35

### OPEN STATUS

Future call / annual calls

### DEADLINE

2026 call closed; 2027 call timing should be checked when published

### FUNDER

European Research Council

### COUNTRY / REGION

EU Member States and associated countries

### FUNDING TYPE

Principal investigator grant

### FUNDING AMOUNT

Up to EUR 1.5m over 5 years, with possible additional funding for eligible costs

### CAREER STAGE

Researchers of any nationality with 2-7 years since PhD

### SOURCE CHECKED DATE

24 June 2026

### OFFICIAL SOURCE

[Official source](#)

### WHY THIS FITS

The sample profile may enter the 2-7 year window soon and the field is eligible because ERC is bottom-up.

### WATCH OUT

This is a PI-level frontier-research grant. The current 2026 call is closed, and the applicant needs a mature independence narrative and host commitment.

### RECOMMENDATION

Monitor for 2027 or later; use current fellowships to build track record first.

## 5. Application sequence

### Next 7 days

- Confirm exact PhD defence date, visa/residence status, and host-country residence history.
- Ask the current or target host to confirm whether MSCA mobility is likely viable.
- Check EMBO PhD-date and publication eligibility before writing.

### Next 14 days

- Create one master project summary for CRI, MSCA, and host outreach.
- Secure sponsor/host statements for CRI and MSCA.
- Decide whether the July EMBO cutoff is realistic.

### Next 30 days

- Draft CRI project package and MSCA concept note.
- Prepare Wellcome/Humboldt host outreach if UK or Germany remains realistic.
- Use EFIS/FEBS mobility grants only if they add methodological value.

### Next 60-90 days

- Submit CRI and MSCA by September deadlines.
- Submit or park JSPS/Humboldt depending on host commitment.
- Convert shortlist outcomes into a 2027 ERC/CRUK readiness plan.

## 6. Deadline calendar

OPPORTUNITY	DEADLINE	INTERNAL PREPARATION DEADLINE	DOCUMENTS NEEDED	OWNER	STATUS
CRI Irvington Postdoctoral Fellowship Program	1 September 2026	12 August 2026	Sponsor statement, project proposal, CV/ biosketch, publications, institutional approval	Researcher + host/grants office	Not started
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2026	9 September 2026, 17:00 CEST	19 August 2026	CV, host commitment, B1/ B2 proposal, ethics notes, training plan	Researcher + host/grants office	Not started
EMBO Postdoctoral Fellowships	Next cutoff: 10 July 2026, 14:00 CEST	1 July 2026	CV, host letter, project plan, publication evidence	Researcher + host/grants office	Not started
Wellcome Early-Career Awards	21 July 2026, 15:00 BST; next round 10 November 2026	7 July 2026	Host confirmation, research vision, budget, CV, responsible research notes	Researcher + host/grants office	Not started

OPPORTUNITY	DEADLINE	INTERNAL PREPARATION DEADLINE	DOCUMENTS NEEDED	OWNER	STATUS
Humboldt Research Fellowship	Next call opens 15 July 2026; selection meeting March 2027	15 July 2026	Host statement, research outline, CV, publications, doctorate certificate	Researcher + host/grants office	Not started
JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowships for Research in Japan - Standard	28 August 2026 by 5 p.m. JST for FY2027 first recruitment	7 August 2026	Host nomination, research plan, CV, doctorate proof	Researcher + host/grants office	Not started
EACR-Worldwide Cancer Research Collaboration Fellowships	3 September 2026	17 August 2026	Collaboration evidence, visit plan, budget, host confirmation	Researcher + host/grants office	Not started
AACR Pancreatic Cancer Scholar-in-Training Award	13 July 2026, 1 p.m. ET	3 July 2026	Abstract, CV, personal statement, AACR membership status	Researcher + host/grants office	Not started

## 7. Skip These

### Royal Society Newton International Fellowships

Skip / monitor

#### WHY IT LOOKS RELEVANT

It looks relevant because it supports non-UK early-career researchers moving to the UK.

#### WHY IT MAY BE A POOR FIT

The official page checked on the report date shows the 2026 round as closed, with a close date of 11 March 2026.

#### ELIGIBILITY RISK

Closed deadline; only useful for monitoring future rounds.

#### SOURCE

[Official source](#)

#### RECOMMENDATION

Monitor

## HFSP Postdoctoral Fellowships

Skip / monitor

### WHY IT LOOKS RELEVANT

It looks relevant because it supports international postdoctoral life-science projects and interdisciplinary training.

### WHY IT MAY BE A POOR FIT

The 2027 cycle Letter of Intent initiation and submission deadlines have already passed. Only invited full proposals remain active.

### ELIGIBILITY RISK

Not actionable unless the applicant already submitted an LOI and was invited.

### SOURCE

[Official source](#)

### RECOMMENDATION

Skip for this cycle

## Wellcome Career Development Awards

Skip / monitor

### WHY IT LOOKS RELEVANT

It looks attractive because it is a prestigious health-related career award.

### WHY IT MAY BE A POOR FIT

It is positioned for mid-career researchers, while the sample profile is early postdoctoral.

### ELIGIBILITY RISK

Career-stage mismatch; Wellcome Early-Career Awards are a better first check.

### SOURCE

[Official source](#)

### RECOMMENDATION

Skip for now

## ERC Starting Grant as an immediate 2026 application

Skip / monitor

### WHY IT LOOKS RELEVANT

It looks attractive because the applicant is entering the early independent window and the funding amount is substantial.

### WHY IT MAY BE A POOR FIT

The ERC Starting Grant 2026 call is already closed and the applicant likely needs more independence evidence.

### ELIGIBILITY RISK

Timing and strategic readiness mismatch.

### SOURCE

[Official source](#)

### RECOMMENDATION

Monitor for 2027

## Conference travel grants without abstract fit

Skip / monitor

### WHY IT LOOKS RELEVANT

They are easy to find and often open to postdocs.

### WHY IT MAY BE A POOR FIT

They do not solve salary or project funding and often require a submitted abstract, membership, or conference-specific topic.

### ELIGIBILITY RISK

Low strategic value if treated as a main funding route.

### SOURCE

[Official source](#)

### RECOMMENDATION

Use only as add-ons

## Nationality-restricted fellowships not matching the profile

Skip / monitor

### WHY IT LOOKS RELEVANT

They can appear in databases under broad life-science or postdoc filters.

### WHY IT MAY BE A POOR FIT

The sample profile has citizenship and visa details not fully provided, so nationality-restricted schemes are easy to misclassify.

### ELIGIBILITY RISK

Wasted time on schemes where citizenship or residence is a hard rule.

### SOURCE

Needs opportunity-specific official source

### RECOMMENDATION

Skip unless citizenship match is explicit

## 8. Questions to ask before applying

- What is the exact PhD defence date and degree-award date?
- How many months has the researcher spent in the proposed host country during the MSCA mobility reference period?
- Which host PI will actively sponsor each application?
- Is the project mechanistic immunology, translational oncology, or primarily biomarker discovery?
- Does the researcher need salary, project costs, travel, or a transition-to-independence package?

## 9. Optional outreach drafts

### Host PI outreach

Subject: Potential fellowship application - cancer immunology postdoctoral project

I am preparing a fellowship route for a cancer immunology postdoctoral project focused on tumour immune mechanisms and single-cell approaches. I am checking whether your group would be open to discussing host support for a source-checked fellowship application. The immediate options include MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships and cancer-immunology-specific postdoctoral funding. Could we schedule a short call to test fit, host requirements, and internal deadlines?

### Grants office check

Could you confirm the internal timeline and host documentation required for a postdoctoral fellowship application with an external funder? I am especially trying to verify eligibility, institutional approvals, and any internal deadline before the official funder deadline.

## 10. 20-minute strategy call agenda

- 0-3 min: Confirm goals and constraints.
- 3-8 min: Review top 3 priorities.
- 8-13 min: Discuss eligibility risks.
- 13-17 min: Agree application sequence.
- 17-20 min: Confirm next actions.

## 11. Source validation log

OPPORTUNITY	OFFICIAL SOURCE	WHAT WAS CHECKED	STATUS	CHECKED DATE
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2026	<a href="#">Official page</a>	Official page, deadline/status, field/stage fit, citizenship/host risks where visible	Eligible fit	24 June 2026
CRI Irvington Postdoctoral Fellowship Program	<a href="#">Official page</a>	Official page, deadline/status, field/stage fit, citizenship/host risks where visible	Eligible fit	24 June 2026
EMBO Postdoctoral Fellowships	<a href="#">Official page</a>	Official page, deadline/status, field/stage fit, citizenship/host risks where visible	Possible fit	24 June 2026
Wellcome Early-Career Awards	<a href="#">Official page</a>	Official page, deadline/status, field/stage fit, citizenship/host risks where visible	Possible fit	24 June 2026
Humboldt Research Fellowship	<a href="#">Official page</a>	Official page, deadline/status, field/stage fit, citizenship/host risks where visible	Possible fit	24 June 2026
JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowships for Research in Japan - Standard	<a href="#">Official page</a>	Official page, deadline/status, field/stage fit, citizenship/host risks where visible	Possible fit	24 June 2026
EFIS-IL Short-Term Fellowships	<a href="#">Official page</a>	Official page, deadline/status, field/stage fit, citizenship/host risks where visible	Possible fit	24 June 2026
FEBS Short-Term Fellowships	<a href="#">Official page</a>	Official page, deadline/status, field/stage fit, citizenship/host risks where visible	Possible fit	24 June 2026
EACR-Worldwide Cancer Research Collaboration Fellowships	<a href="#">Official page</a>	Official page, deadline/status, field/stage fit, citizenship/host risks where visible	Needs verification	24 June 2026
AACR Pancreatic Cancer Scholar-in-Training Award	<a href="#">Official page</a>	Official page, deadline/status, field/stage fit, citizenship/host risks where visible	Needs verification	24 June 2026
Cancer Research UK Career Development Fellowship	<a href="#">Official page</a>	Official page, deadline/status, field/stage fit, citizenship/host risks where visible	Needs verification	24 June 2026
ERC Starting Grant	<a href="#">Official page</a>	Official page, deadline/status, field/stage fit, citizenship/host risks where visible	Needs verification	24 June 2026
Royal Society Newton International Fellowships	<a href="#">Official page</a>	Official page or official category checked for skip/monitor reason	Monitor	24 June 2026

OPPORTUNITY	OFFICIAL SOURCE	WHAT WAS CHECKED	STATUS	CHECKED DATE
HFSP Postdoctoral Fellowships	<a href="#">Official page</a>	Official page or official category checked for skip/monitor reason	Skip for this cycle	24 June 2026
Wellcome Career Development Awards	<a href="#">Official page</a>	Official page or official category checked for skip/monitor reason	Skip for now	24 June 2026
ERC Starting Grant as an immediate 2026 application	<a href="#">Official page</a>	Official page or official category checked for skip/monitor reason	Monitor for 2027	24 June 2026
Conference travel grants without abstract fit	<a href="#">Official page</a>	Official page or official category checked for skip/monitor reason	Use only as add-ons	24 June 2026
Nationality-restricted fellowships not matching the profile	Needs opportunity-specific official source	Official page or official category checked for skip/monitor reason	Skip unless citizenship match is explicit	24 June 2026

## 12. Final recommendation

Use Pro Sprint as the conversion example for buyers: it does not just list grants. It shows what to apply for first, what to ignore, which dates matter, and what host/institution decisions must happen before writing begins.

## 13. Email-ready delivery note

Attached is your sample Pro Sprint report. It includes a verified shortlist, top three priorities, an application sequence, deadline calendar, skip list, and source validation log. The recommended action is to prioritise CRI Irvington and MSCA, with EMBO checked immediately before any writing time is invested.

Contact: [contact@grantsprint.org](mailto:contact@grantsprint.org)

## 14. Disclaimer

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