

1 PhD position for the development of *Yeast-based solutions for sustainable Aviation Fuels* with the MSCA-DN YAF

Additional information

Benefits

YAF DC will be employed according to the rules for DC in MSCA DNs and the general regulations of the host institution. Main features of the open position are:

1. As reported in the [MSCA Work Programme](#), a financial package which includes:
 - a. Living allowance.
 - b. Mobility allowance.
 - c. Family allowance (if applicable).

Employer costs and other deductions will depend on recruiting host and country. Allowances are gross amounts, which means that all compulsory social security contributions (employer and employee), direct taxes, and any other compulsory deductions under national legislation will be deducted from these gross amounts.

2. Enrolment in a PhD program.
3. Shared research and innovative multidisciplinary and multisectoral training by experts and experienced trainers from two sectors (academia and industry).
4. An international, multidisciplinary and intersectoral, custom developed training program (soft skill courses, targeted workshops, social events and networking) that promotes scientific excellence and exploits the expertise and infrastructure present in the consortium.
5. 2 Secondments (1 academic secondment and 1 non-academic secondment) at other institutions within the YAF consortium.
6. Opportunities for participation in national and international meetings.
7. Enlarged professional network and improved future scientific career perspective in academia and industry.

Eligibility criteria

Note that [MSCA-DN specific eligibility conditions](#) apply:

1. **Mobility rule.** Not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the recruiting beneficiary for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the recruitment date.
2. **Doctoral Candidate (DC) definition.** Be — at the date of recruitment — a doctoral candidate (i.e. not already in possession of a doctoral degree).
3. **Be in position of enrolling in a doctoral programme at the country and meet the specific eligibility requirements at the hosting institution**, if applicable.
4. **Other specific criteria of the recruiting host institution listed on the position's description.**

Selection Process

The application process will start on 15th of March 2024 and will end on 31st March 2024 (23:59, Europe/Brussels).

The selection procedure will be open, transparent, merit-based and in line with the [Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers](#). The institution is an equal opportunity employer and seek a workforce

diverse in age, culture, nationality and gender. Candidates will be selected according to the following steps:

1. Eligibility check. Applications will be reviewed for eligibility based on the criteria listed above under the '*Eligibility criteria*' section.
2. Pre-selection of candidates. Eligible candidates will be ranked based on the submitted documents and shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an online interview. Those not shortlisted will be informed of the result of their application.
3. After the online interviews, candidates will be offered a position or will be informed about the rejection decision.

The outcome of this selection process will be communicated in April/May 2024. The selected candidate will have 7 days to accept the position.

Selection criteria

1. Adequacy of the candidate's education to the position.
2. Relevant postgraduate work experience.
3. Motivation of the candidate for the position.
4. Effective communication and interpersonal skills (English proficiency).

How to apply

Candidates interested in the position offered can apply by the 31st of March 2024 (23:59, Europe/Brussels).

The application **must include**:

1. YAF Application form filled out and signed.
2. Curriculum Vitae (CV) (max. 3 pages) including relevant education and research experience (including professional experience).
3. Cover letter (max. 2 pages), explaining motivation to apply and relevance of the position for the candidate.
4. Other specific documentation requested by the host institution.

Submission

For the submission of the documentation please refer to the instructions indicated on the position below.

1. Only complete applications will be accepted.
2. The individual DC project is set to start in June/July 2024 (or earlier if possible for the host institution and the selected candidate).

For any other enquiries, please send an email to info@yaf-project.eu.

Individual Research Project

DC8: Cascade platform conversion of waste-derived-fatty acids into sustainable aviation fuels (SAF) by one-pot catalytic reaction	
Host Institution	IMDEA Energy (Spain) – Supervisor: Dr. Jennifer Cueto Naredo
Duration	36 months
Objectives	Transformation of biowaste into proper FA using engineered NCY. Conversion of FA into SAF by one-pot catalytic reaction, involving decarboxylation, cracking and proper isomerization reaction lead by novel catalysts.
Academic Secondment	4 months at ICL (United Kingdom) Supervisor: Dr. Rodrigo Ledesma Amaro
Non-academic Secondment	4 months at BBEPP (Belgium) Supervisor: Dr. Evelien Uitterhaegen
Specific submission & eligibility criteria of the Host Institution	<p>Specific requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSc degree in Chemical Engineering, Chemistry or closely related field. • MSc degree in Chemical Engineering, Chemistry or closely related field. <p>Merits to value</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge and experimental practice on techniques typically applied in the preparation and characterization of solid catalysts. • Knowledge and experimental practice on the operation and analytical techniques typically applied in catalytic reactors. • Oral and written communication skills in English. • Motivation to pursue the goals of the project. • Motivation to pursue a PhD degree. <p>Submission procedure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documentation: revise ‘How to apply’ section. In addition to that, candidates will be required to send BSc Diploma and proof of being in position of enrolling in a doctoral programme at the date of recruitment (MSc Diploma, proof of enrollment in a MSc Program indicating estimated date of finalisation or equivalent). • Applications should be submitted exclusively via the job portal of IMDEA Energy: https://jobs.energy.imdea.org/en/offer/251.