

# Call for application for Fellows in the ECDC Fellowship Programme

## EPIET and EUPHEM paths, EU-track (ECDC/Cohort 2019(2019-2021)-EPIET/EUPHEM)

Candidates are invited to apply for a post as a fellow in the ECDC Fellowship Programme, the Intervention Epidemiology path (EPIET) and/or Public Health Microbiology path (EUPHEM), EU-track, which is managed by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC).

The Centre is located in Stockholm, Sweden. The legal base for the Centre is Regulation (EC)

No 851/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 establishing a European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control<sup>1</sup>.

See also the Centre home page at <http://ecdc.europa.eu>

## Description of the Training Programme

The ECDC Fellowship Programme is a two-year competency based training with two paths; the field epidemiology path (EPIET) and the public health microbiology path (EUPHEM). Both provide training and practical experience in intervention epidemiology (EPIET) and in public health microbiology (EUPHEM) at national and/or regional centres for surveillance and control of communicable diseases and in laboratories with public health function at collaborative training sites in the European Union and European Economic Area Member States (EU/EEA).

The programme is aimed at EU/EEA medical practitioners, public-health nurses, biologists, epidemiologists, microbiologists, veterinarians and other health professionals with previous experience in public health and a keen interest in intervention epidemiology and public health microbiology. The programme trains EU/EEA fellows in the core competencies required for the investigation and control of communicable disease threats in and beyond Europe. The programme consists of two tracks, the EU-track and the MS-track (Member State-track). In the EU-track, EU/EEA nationals are trained in a Member State (MS) different from their country/countries of citizenship.

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<sup>1</sup> Official Journal No. L 142 of 30 April 2004, page 1

During the two-year training programme, the fellows will work to meet the following programme objectives:

- To strengthen the surveillance and control of infectious diseases and other cross-border health threats or issues of public health concern in the EU/EEA Member States and at EU level, supporting the implementation of Decision 1082/2013/EU;
- To enhance response capacities for effective field investigation and communicable disease control at national and community level to meet public health threats;
- To strengthen the European network of public health professionals through use of shared standards and methods, good practices and common public health objectives;
- To support cascading of training and capacity building within the Member States;
- To facilitate multi-disciplinary cooperation in the above fields.

The fellows are placed in one of the acknowledged EPIET or EUPHEM training sites outside their country/ies of nationality or citizenship. An updated list of training sites available for 2019 will be provided online to the candidates before the face-to-face selection interviews take place.

Under the professional supervision of the training supervisors at a training site, the fellows will carry out activities related to epidemiological and microbiological investigations and interventions, including surveillance, outbreak investigation, applied public health research, teaching/training, public health management and communication, as well as laboratory investigation, biorisk management and quality management for EUPHEM.

The programme's training outcomes are described in detail in the ECDC Fellowship Programme Manual.

Your knowledge about the programme will be assessed during the selection process. Hence before applying to the EPIET/EUPHEM programme, please read the Manual (including annexes) on the "Documents" page at <https://ecdc.europa.eu/en/epiet-euphem/documents>.

## Qualifications and experience required

### Eligibility criteria

In order to be eligible for the ECDC Fellowship Programme, candidates need to fulfil a set of formal requirements, as follows:

#### 2.1. Eligibility criteria

In order to be eligible for the ECDC Fellowship Programme, candidates for both paths need to fulfil the following set of formal requirements:

- Thorough knowledge of at least two official languages of the EU/EEA, one of which shall be English;
- Be a national of a Member State of EU/EEA<sup>2</sup>; and
- Be entitled to her or his full rights as a citizen.

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<sup>2</sup> UK nationals remain eligible to apply for the 2019 cohort. However, due to the uncertainties posed by the UK's notification of its intention to leave the European Union, ECDC cannot guarantee that candidates will be eligible to start or complete their fellowship at host sites, since the start date for Cohort 2019 is after 29 March 2019

In addition, depending on the path they apply for, candidates need to fulfil the following formal requirements:

Specific eligibility requirements for EPIET Path:

1. Post-secondary education attested by a diploma<sup>3</sup> in medicine, public health, epidemiology, veterinary medicine, nursing, biology, microbiology, pharmacology, biomedicine or other health and social sciences, at the level of Graduate diploma or Masters' degree or equivalent; and
2. At least one (1) year working experience in public health or applied epidemiology; on a case-by-case basis, experience obtained during Doctoral (PhD) studies in a relevant discipline may be accepted to count as such professional experience.

Specific eligibility requirements for EUPHEM Path:

1. Post-secondary education attested by a diploma<sup>3</sup> in medicine, biology, microbiology, veterinary medicine, pharmacology, or biomedicine, at the level of Graduate diploma or Masters' degree or equivalent; and
2. At least three (3) years of working experience in microbiology; or a PhD degree in microbiology or equivalent (e.g. clinical microbiology specialisation, veterinary medicine specialisations, or a specialisation in any microbiology field).

## 2.2. Selection criteria

Fellows are selected based on criteria regarding professional and personal characteristics/interpersonal skills. References to EPIET or EUPHEM in brackets below refer to the path that these skills and experience are most relevant for.

Professional skills and experiences

1. Proven experience in public health and/or epidemiology (EPIET)
2. Good scientific background in microbiology, and skilled in microbiological techniques (EUPHEM)
3. Good scientific background in epidemiology, and a basic knowledge of biostatistics (EPIET)
4. Good computer skills used for microbiological and/or epidemiological analysis

Personal characteristics/interpersonal skills

1. Strong commitment to field epidemiology (EPIET)/public health microbiology (EUPHEM) in the EU
2. Good organisational skills
3. Ability to work under pressure, in interdisciplinary teams, and manage responsibilities
4. Good command of scientific writing and oral communication in English

Advantageous criteria

1. Previous experience in public health and/or epidemiology (EUPHEM)
2. Ability to undertake independent working, demonstrating logical, analytical and innovative thinking.
3. Experience of international activities and multicultural awareness.
4. Understanding of the public health regulatory framework and requirements in the Member States.

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<sup>3</sup> Only diplomas and certificates that have been awarded in EU member states or that are the subject of equivalent certificates issued by authorities in the said Member States shall be taken into consideration.

# Appointment of EPIET/EUPHEM EU-track fellows

The Director of the Centre will appoint EU-track fellows on the basis of a shortlist proposed by the EPIET and EUPHEM Selection Committees. This call for application is the basis for the establishment of the Selection Committees' proposal. Candidates should note that the proposal may be made public and that inclusion in the shortlist does not guarantee appointment. The shortlist of candidates will be established following an open selection process. ECDC will financially support the travel of the short-listed candidates to ECDC from the country of citizenship or permanent residence in EU/EEA countries. Further details will be sent to the candidates with the interview invitation.

The fellow will be employed by the training site. The fellow will be reimbursed for removal to the Member State of training within EU/EEA, both for taking up the post and upon completion of the fellowship.

The successful candidates will be required to take up their post on 11 September 2019, the start date of the programme. No later starting date is foreseen, and applications cannot be carried over to subsequent years.

Information about the conditions for EU-track fellows recruited by ECDC can be found in the [Administrative Decision](#).

## Waiting list

A waiting list will be drawn up by ECDC. It will be valid until 31 August 2019 and may be extended if necessary.

## Equal opportunities

ECDC applies equal opportunities and accepts applications without distinction on the grounds of age, race, political, philosophical or religious conviction, sex or sexual orientation and regardless of disabilities, marital status or family situation.

# Application procedure

For applications to be valid, you must proceed in two steps:

1. Apply online for your desired path/s, providing the following elements:
  - a. Online application form;
  - b. Detailed EUROPASS Curriculum Vitae (available on <http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu> - Personal Information should include: address, date of birth, telephones, emails and nationality/country of citizenship<sup>4</sup>) and;
  - c. Letter of motivation.

EPIET: <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/EPIET-EU-Track2019-Application>

EUPHEM: <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/EUPHEM-EU-Track2019-Application>

2. Email the Case id that will be provided through this online submission to [ecdc.epietfellow@ecdc.europa.eu](mailto:ecdc.epietfellow@ecdc.europa.eu) clearly indicating Surname, EPIET or EUPHEM and the Case id, in the Subject line. For example: Smith EPIET cfa0f65d-5213-42f2-b46f-de0a9e68f363

Applications must be in English, the working language of the Centre. You may be requested at a later stage to supply documentary evidence in original in support of the statements that you make for this application.

The application will be rejected if the dossier is incomplete.

Your application will be forwarded to the National Focal Point for Training (NFP-T <https://ecdc.europa.eu/en/about-us/governance/competent-bodies>) of your respective EU/EEA Member State/s of nationality and/or citizenship for their review. NFPTs or their delegates might arrange interviews with candidates of their Member State and may score and rank candidates according to the documentation you provide. These scores and ranks are shared with the selection committees who will take them into account during the selection process.

Closing date for the submission of applications is **07 October 2018, at 24.00 CEST (Central European Summer Time)**.

Due to the large volume of applications, only candidates selected for interviews will be notified.

## Privacy statement

Please note that the personal information ECDC requests from candidates will be processed in line with Regulation (EC) N° 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data. The purpose of processing of your personal data is to support the selection procedures at ECDC. This processing may involve distribution of this data to other Community institutions. For further information or exercise of your rights (such as the right to access or the right to correct my data), contact can be taken with the Human Resources section.

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<sup>4</sup> Please state all nationalities and/or countries of citizenship you have. At a later stage, you will be asked to submit proof of nationality/citizenship