



EMBO Global Investigator Network

Application guidelines

Application deadline: 1 June annually.

Please note that in 2020 the deadline will exceptionally be extended to 3 June.

EMBC Associate Member States: India, Singapore

Countries / territories covered by a co-operation agreement: Chile, Taiwan

EMBO subject areas: Cell Cycle, Cell & Tissue Architecture, Cellular Metabolism, Chromatin & Transcription, Development, Differentiation & Death, Evolution & Ecology, Genome Stability & Dynamics, Genomic & Computational Biology, Immunology, Membranes & Transport, Microbiology, Virology & Pathogens, Molecular Medicine, Neuroscience, Plant Biology, Proteins & Biochemistry, RNA, Signal Transduction, Structural Biology & Biophysics, Systems Biology

Contact: global@embo.org

EMBO Global Investigator Network Committee 2020:

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Global Investigator Network application guidelines

Applications to the Global Investigator Network Programme are accepted via an online application system as described below.

Please check the eligibility criteria before applying.

Should you have questions regarding your application, please contact global@embo.org.

Eligibility

Applications are accepted from candidates who meet the following criteria:

- Applicants should have been an independent group leader for at least one year and for less than six years on 1 January in the year of application.
- Applicants should have an excellent track record.
- Candidates must perform research in the life sciences (see EMBO subject areas) in an EMBC Associate Member State or in countries or territories covered by a co-operation agreement (see page 2).
- Applicants are expected to have obtained sufficient funding to run their laboratory.
- Applicants must have published at least one last author research paper in an international peer reviewed journal from independent work carried out in their own laboratory. Last author reviews will not be considered.
- Applicants must be able to attend an interview in Heidelberg, Germany, on 18 November 2020.

Please note:

- If you have not published a last author research paper yet, we accept the ones that are in submission by the deadline (3 June). At least one must have "accepted" status by the day of the interview (18 November).
- For female candidates with children, the limit of six-years since independence is automatically extended by one year per child.
- For male applicants with children, the limit can be extended by the actual time taken off as paternity leave or – if their partner is working at least 80% FTE (full-time equivalent) – 3 months per child, whichever is longer, if the child is born while setting up the lab.
- Illness and extended military service are considered as exceptional circumstances and will be analysed on a case-by-case basis. Special provision may also be made for clinical scientists. If you feel your circumstances warrant an extension of the eligibility period, please contact the EMBO Global Activities office (global@embo.org) for advice before applying.
- Independence is defined by:
 - Being able to apply for grants in one's own name and reporting directly to funding agencies.
 - Being able to submit manuscripts as last author ('corresponding author' is not considered equivalent to 'last author').
 - Being responsible for supervising graduate students and/or postdocs in one's own lab.

Please contact the EMBO Global Activities office for eligibility advice before applying if:

- you require an extension of the eligibility period due to illness, extended military service or other exceptional circumstances;
- your transition to an independent group leader did not involve a formal change in position;
- you are unsure whether you meet the criteria for an independent group leader.

Application process

Application to the EMBO Global Investigator Network is via the EMBO online system. The application includes an online and an offline application forms, both of which must be completed. Please refer to the application guidelines below before starting your application.

Timeline 2020

Deadline for applications	3 June, 14:00 CEST
Invitation for interviews	By 31 July
Panel interviews	18 November
Results announced to applicants	By 30 November

Application procedure

- Applicants are asked to submit a full application via the online application system.
- After the application deadline, the EMBO Global Activities office checks all the applications for eligibility and completeness. Within the next 2-3 working days, candidates receive a confirmation that their application has been received and is complete.
- Eligible applications are sent to the EMBO Global Investigator Network Committee for pre-screening.
- Following pre-screening, all candidates are informed of the outcome of their application by email. Approximately 20 applicants are invited to a panel interview conducted by the EMBO Global Investigator Network Committee in Heidelberg.
- Applications of invited candidates are sent to an EMBO Member with expertise in the candidate's area of research for a confidential external review.
- Applicants are interviewed by the EMBO Global Investigator Network Committee on 18 November 2020.
- A final decision is made at the EMBO Global Investigator Network Committee meeting. Candidates are notified of the outcome of their application by email.

You may inform us via email of any EMBO Members you would like to exclude from reviewing your application.

APPLICATION

The deadline for completing the application is 1 June 14:00 CEST annually. **Please note that in 2020 the deadline will exceptionally be extended to 3 June.**

The application consists of:

- an online form
- an offline form (protected Word document) to be filled out and uploaded as PDF via the EMBO online application system.

ONLINE FORM

In the online form, you will be asked to provide:

- basic CV data
- your ORCID ID (if you do not have one, please register at <https://orcid.org/register>)
- details of three referees
- a short description of your institute
- a short summary of your ongoing research (2000 characters, including spaces)
- a list of your lab members
- a list of your grants (please specify the funds available to your lab only and the total amount of the grant in Euro, separated by “ / ”. E.g.: 60,000 / 180,000)
- a PDF version of the completed offline form.

IMPORTANT:

References from three scientists (preferably former supervisors) are part of the application documents and **must also be completed by the deadline (3 June 2020, 14:00 CEST)**. They can be listed and activated before the rest of the application is completed. Once referees are “activated”, the system will automatically send them an email with a link to submit their letter of reference online. The application form will remain open for the candidate to continue editing.

Letters of reference must be submitted via the online system. References sent to EMBO by email will not be accepted. **We strongly recommend that you complete your referee contact details and activate them at least four weeks before the deadline.** If you have recently applied to one of the EMBO programmes and wish to re-use a previous letter of reference, please fill out the name and postal address of the referee but enter global@embo.org into the email field. The Global Activities office will copy the reference letter from your most recent application.

It is your responsibility to check that the referees have received the request and completed the form. Reference status is listed under the link to the application form on the “home” page of the EMBO application system. If a referee does not receive the reference request, please contact the Global Activities office (global@embo.org) so that the request can be sent again.

Further instructions for completing the online form can be found on the EMBO application system.

OFFLINE FORM

Please download the offline form (protected Word file) from our website and fill it out following the instructions below:

- The form should be completed in Helvetica or Arial font, size 10.
- Margins should not be altered.
- The form should be saved in PDF format for upload via the online system.

Curriculum vitae

- Provide your professional experience and education in reverse chronological order i.e. with the most recent information first.
- Please include the month and year for the start/end dates. These should correspond to the dates entered in 'Scientific CV & Current Position' section on the online form.
- In general, the committee values mobility but recognises that there may be specific reasons why a candidate has remained at / returned to a former supervisor's institute. If applicable, please explain in brief.
- The 'Other relevant information' section should include only relevant CV information and cannot exceed five lines.

Publications list

- Publications should be listed in a compact format, such as the one used in *The EMBO Journal*.
- Please emphasise your name in bold and (where appropriate) italicise members of your own independent laboratory.
E.g.: *Thiru A, Nietlispach D, Mott HR, Okuwaki M, Lyon D, Nielsen PR, Hirshberg M, Verreault A, Murzina NV, Laue ED*. Structural basis of HP1/PXVXL motif peptide interactions and HP1 localisation to heterochromatin. *EMBO J.* (2004) 23: 489-499
- Please sort your publications into the categories shown by the headings, listing: **a)** published or in-press primary research articles from different career stages in the relevant 'Publications arising from...' sections; **b)** manuscripts submitted to peer-reviewed journals in the 'In submission' section; **c)** reviews, comments, book chapters, etc. in 'Other publications'.
- If a publication from your independent group is co-authored by your former supervisor, please briefly explain his/her contribution.
- EMBO is a signatory of DORA and does not use journal-based metrics such as impact factor during the assessment process. Please do NOT include these in your publications list.
- Please underline your three best publications (see below).

Your three best publications

- Provide details of your three best publications, including a summary and a short explanation of why you chose each one (max. 1000 characters including spaces).

Research vision (no longer than two pages, excluding bibliography)

- Describe the research themes and future directions of your lab, considering that the scientific expertise of the committee is diverse. Include an introduction to your research topic, past achievements and future plans. Explain why your scientific question is relevant, where your independent research is progressing and what is its potential impact.
- Be specific, clear and concise.
- Do not copy/paste the research summary you provided on the online application form or an abstract of one of your publications.
- Figures are very welcome by the committee, but they are included in the page count. They can be added by using copy/paste or by dragging a jpg/png file into the text if the "insert" menu is not available.

Selection

EMBO is looking for the best and most promising independent researchers that have recently established their laboratories in Chile, India, Singapore and Taiwan. Although a geographically balanced set of selected network members is desirable, the primary selection criterion applied by all EMBO committees is scientific excellence.

Other aspects that the EMBO Global Investigator Network Committee will pay special attention to when discussing applications and making their decisions are:

TRACK RECORD

- Are the publications to date an indication that this is an outstanding scientist? Please note that EMBO is a signatory of DORA and does not use journal-based metrics such as impact factor for evaluation.
- Has the applicant shown a willingness to change research area, which is an indication of an ability to tackle new and important problems?

RESEARCH

- Is the proposed research ambitious and likely to lead to novel contributions in the field?
- Does the applicant have the potential to become a future leader in their field?

GROUP AND RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT

- Is the research environment conducive to competitive research?
- Is the number of laboratory members and the available funding sufficient to undertake the described research?

INDEPENDENCE

- Is the candidate intellectually and financially independent?
- What is the influence of former supervisors and institute heads on the candidate's current research?

Due to the high number of applications, it is not possible to give any individual feedback. Reasons for the rejection will not be communicated.