International promotion of young researchers - “Montalcini Programme”

The Italian Ministry for Education, Universities and Research has initiated a 6 million euro funding programme to promote the internationalisation of Italian Universities by enabling early stage researchers working abroad to carry out a research project at an Italian University of their choice. The programme is named after the Nobel Laureate Rita Levi Montalcini, in recognition of her exceptional contribution to the progress of scientific knowledge and her long-standing commitment to international cooperation.

Purpose of the programme

To recruit outstanding post-docs working abroad and give them the opportunity to submit a proposal for a temporary position in conjunction with a proposal for a research grant.

Eligibility Requirements

Researchers from all disciplines and nationalities:

- who completed their scientific training (doctorate) within six years prior to 27 December 2009;
- who have at least three years of substantial experience in teaching and/or research in an Higher Education Institution abroad.

Proposal Submission

Proposals must be submitted electronically no later than 29 January 2010 (midnight) via the electronic form available at the page programma Montalcini

Please note that the proposal form is only available in Italian, but the submission can be made in either Italian or English.

The application must contain:

- a curriculum vitae;
- a list of scientific publications;
- the candidate’s declaration that s/he has been residing abroad for at least the past three years and has been engaged in teaching or research at University level;
- a detailed description of the proposed research project with an indication of the research area and field of work, research methods, project stages, anticipated results, costs directly related to the research activity;
- two reference letters from international experts;
- the name of three Italian Universities, listed in order of preference, where s/he would carry out the project.

Proposal examination

All the proposals submitted will be examined by a Committee including the President of the Conference of Italian University Rectors (CRUI), the President of the National University Council (CUN) and five international experts appointed by the Minister for Education, Universities and Research.
The committee is expected to finalize its decisions within four months from the submission deadline.

**Terms of appointment**

Successful candidates will be offered a 3-year, full-time, fixed-term contract by one of the three Universities listed in the proposal. Contracts can be renewed to up to a maximum of six years. A maximum of 350 hours per academic year can be devoted, at the university's request, to tutorial and other academic activities.

Salary is approximately € 40.000 per annum. Full employee benefits are included.

Successful candidates who have not previously paid income tax in Italy can be liable to pay income tax (IRE) on 10% of the salary only.