



Program for the promotion of young researchers

Avenir 2003

- The “Avenir” program aims to support young scientists, PhD or MDs, who have exciting and creative project. Projects can be submitted in the disciplines of biomedical research, basic research, clinical and therapeutical research as well as public health research. The “Avenir” program is not thematic although a special attention will be brought to research in public health focused on the evaluation of the French system, France health policies, impact of medical drugs and the evaluation of professional and environmental risks.

- The “Avenir” program also aims to encourage autonomy and provide the opportunity for mobility of the candidate in the frame of a close interaction with other scientists at the host research site. The Avenir applicant will be provided with a fully equipped laboratory space of approximately 50 m² within an Inserm laboratory or an “Institut Fédératif de Recherche” or French University Hospital and will have access to core facilities (including Clinical Research Centers and Biological Resources Centers). Applications can be submitted in the absence of a host laboratory, however the applicant should contact Inserm to get help identifying an appropriate host site.

Inserm will provide the successful applicants with a financial support of up to 60K euros per year for 3 years and, possibly, financial support to host a foreign post-doctoral fellow (“poste vert” Inserm) and a graduate student.

To encourage interdisciplinary research efforts, Inserm will support collaborative projects “binômes”; two researchers in close collaboration may submit complementary and synergistic projects. Each application will be submitted and evaluated independently. Upon request, Inserm will suggest possible partners.

Eligibility:

1. Researchers with a permanent position at Inserm, or other French research institutes, universities or hospitals.

The applicant must hold a permanent position, “chargé de recherche” or “directeur de recherche de 2^e classe”, “maître de conférence”,

“professeur des universités”, “praticien hospitalier” or “professeur des universités et praticien hospitalier”. For EPST applicants, mobility is strongly recommended. For all, the autonomy of the applicant and the ability to develop his/her own project and establish interactions with other groups are mandatory. The “Avenir” grant can be renewed once and should eventually lead the applicant proposing his/her own Inserm unit.

2. Scientists without permanent position.

In collaboration with: The French Ministry of Health – Hospital Direction and Care Organization (DHOS) and General Direction of Health (DGS) -, Hospitals, Universities, local councils, the AIDS French Agency (ANRS), the French Blood Agency (EFS), the “caisse nationale maladie des professions indépendantes (CANAM)”, the “Fondation de France”, the “Fondation pour la recherche médicale (FRM)”, the “Association française contre les myopathies” (AFM), the “Association pour la recherche sur le cancer” (ARC), the “Ligue nationale contre le cancer” (LNCC), and industrial partners.

The applicant (no nationality restriction), post-doctoral fellow, “chef de clinique assistant”, “assistant hospitalo-universitaire”, MD and/or PhD, will develop independently his/her scientific project. The mobility of the candidate and his/her insertion in a laboratory different from the one of his/her PhD, mandatory for post-doctoral fellows, will be favored. Her/his ability to interact with other groups within the research unit and the research site as a whole will be considered favorably during the assessment process.

Above listed partners will provide the successful post-doctoral applicants with a monthly fellowship of around 2.300 € net for 3 years. When the applicant holds a non permanent position in a French hospital, her/his status and salary will remain unchanged.

Inserm intends to select 20 applications from researchers with a permanent position (EPST, French universities and hospitals) and 20 applications from post-doctoral scientists.

“Avenir” applications will be evaluated by a scientific commission, consisting of experts in the specific fields of the proposals.

Additional informations :

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- From November 5th, 2003, the application file can be downloaded:

<http://www.inserm.fr>
or <http://www.eva.inserm.fr>

- To load on the EVA website:

<http://www.eva.inserm.fr>
before January 28th, 2004