



Italian Zardi-Gori
Foundation for Addiction Research

POSTDOCTORAL PROGRAMME OF THE ZARDI GORI FOUNDATION FOR ADDICTION RESEARCH

2023 CALL

1. PREAMBLE

The Zardi-Gori Foundation (FZG) for addiction research is launching a competitive call for **3 postdoctoral positions** directed at highly motivated individuals interested in carrying out postgraduate training in the field of **addiction and comorbid diseases**. The mission of the Foundation is to promote experimental research in the field of drug addiction (new and old drugs, legal and illegal, natural and synthetic) by subsidizing innovative projects presented by expert scientists working in laboratories affiliated to universities or research institutions and by providing bursaries to young researchers for carrying out experimental research.

Successful applicants will work in hosting laboratories located in Italy upon agreement with the respective PI and the hosting institution. A short period (no more than 9 months) in a foreign collaborating laboratory can be granted upon permission from the FZG Scientific Committee.

2. ELIGIBILITY

- 1) Applicants must, at the time of the deadline for the application, **either**:
 - a) Be in possession of a PhD or MD degree
 - b) Have at least three years of research experience (full-time equivalent) since the obtainment of a university degree/diploma giving access to doctoral studies. Preference will be given to holders of master degrees in Biological Sciences, Pharmaceutical Sciences, or Biotechnologies;
- 2) The doctorate degree must have been awarded no more than 6 years prior to application (case 1.a). Likewise, applicants not in possession of the

Doctorate degree (case 1.b) must have no more than 8 years full-time research experience.

Exceptions will apply in the case of women with children (one year per child may be claimed, for a maximum of three additional years) or of other documented career breaks (e.g. serious illness). Please indicate the period of absence in the submitted CV. The Scientific Committee will take this issue into account during the evaluation procedure.

- 3) Applicants must have a proven record of research accomplishments and at least one original first author publication (including joint first authorship), either published or in press, in an international peer-reviewed journal at the time of application.
- 4) Applicants must have a solid working knowledge of English.

This call has no nationality restrictions.

3. GENERAL CONDITIONS

- 1) The position will be funded by the Program **for a period of 2 years**.
- 2) Selected candidates must start working **on March 1st, 2024**. The starting date can be postponed **no later than June 1st 2024**. It will not be possible, under any circumstances, to further postpone the starting date.
- 3) Throughout the duration of the contract, postdoctoral scientists must work full time at the chosen host institution. The fellowship **CANNOT** be combined with any other form of bursary; similarly, the fellowship is not compatible with subordinate working contracts, either temporary or permanent. The fellowship is compatible with funding of a different nature from the above described, provided that it does not exceed a total of 15000 Euros (before tax).
- 4) The total amount of the salary is **27000 Euro per year (before tax)** for 2 years. The fellowship is intended only to pay the researcher's salary and cannot be used in other ways (laboratory reagents and supplies, etc.).
- 5) Candidates who have previously been granted Zardi-Gori fellowships can apply for a second time to continue their project. In this case a short report, indicating key findings and results obtained, has to be included in the application.

4. HOW TO APPLY

To start submission of the application, go to the web site: www.fondazionezardigori.com. Please enter "Ricerca", "Bandi" and you will be directed to the correct application form.

You will be asked to fill in the form with a description of your CV (max 4000 characters including spaces), a list of your scientific peer-reviewed

publications a short abstract of the proposed project (max 2000 characters including spaces) and the description of the proposed research project (background, experimental plan, expected results and possible future developments, max 9000 characters including spaces).

Then prepare the following documents:

1. Two letters of recommendation (mandatory).
2. A letter of acceptance by the host Institute, signed by the legal representative of the Institute (mandatory). This letter should clearly report the declaration that, in case the candidate will be awarded a Fondazione Zardi Gori fellowship, he/she will be able to develop his/her project in the indicated Institution. Please report on the acceptance letter the name of the laboratory, the name of the PI/Professor/Group leader who will supervise the candidate, the Department and the Institution where the research will be developed.
3. Preliminary results of the project (if available) within a maximum of two A4 pages.

All files must be in PDF format. Application forms, reference letters, and scientific project must be written in English.

Submit your application (the form and the other files) to the following e-mail: segreteria@fondazionezardigori.com.

After receiving the application a confirmation email at the email address supplied will be sent.

Incomplete applications will not be considered. Only one application per candidate will be accepted.

For more information or questions about the application process, please e-mail segreteria@fondazionezardigori.com

7. DEADLINE

Applications will be accepted from **July 1st, 2023 to August 31st, 2023**.

8. REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS, SELECTION AND FEEDBACK

Applications will be initially screened to ensure that they are complete and fulfil eligibility criteria.

All ineligible candidates will receive a letter explaining the reasons for their exclusion from the selection process.

All applications sent by the deadline and meeting the eligibility criteria will be evaluated by an **International Scientific Committee**.

Candidates will be awarded funding based on the following criteria:

1) Quality of the scientific curriculum vitae

This will include: education track, previous research experience, participation to and presentations at meetings, prizes, travel grants.

2) Track record of publications

Only original papers and reviews in peer-reviewed international journals will be evaluated. Posters/abstracts at conferences, meeting proceedings, and book chapters will not be considered for the evaluation of publications but can be included, separately, in the CV.

3) Quality of the proposed research project.

Projects should be of the highest originality and scientific quality. The possible translational impact will be considered a plus, but it is not a requirement. The potential of the project to generate substantial contributions to the field will be carefully evaluated.

4) Quality of the Hosting laboratory or Institution.

Quality of the Host Institution (in terms of laboratories, facilities, etc.) as well as the competence of the Head of the hosting laboratory (expertise in the field of the project, mentoring, international standing, etc.) will be evaluated.

A final merit list will be constructed on the basis of scores.

9. OBLIGATIONS FOR RECIPIENT FELLOWS

- 1) Successful candidates will be required to produce short reports on their research activity, describing their progress and the results obtained.

One **mid-term report** after 12 months and one **final report** at the end of the 24 months are required.

The **mid-term report** has to be sent no later than one month after the end of the 12th month. Please note that if Fondazione Zardi-Gori does not receive the mid-term report by this deadline, payment will be suspended until the report is submitted.

The **final report** must be submitted at least two weeks before the end of the 24th month. The last payment will not be paid until Fondazione Zardi-Gori has received the final report.

All reports must be sent to the address:
segreteria@fondazionezardigori.com

- 2) It is mandatory for all Fellows **to acknowledge Fondazione Zardi-Gori in any publication** generated from work conducted by the fellow during the period in which he/she was benefiting of Fondazione Zardi-Gori fellowship.

- 3) Once a candidate has been granted the fellowship, by accepting it, he/she will take the responsibility to cooperate with Fondazione Zardi Gori in its activities of dissemination and promotion of its scientific research, whenever required. The candidate must therefore be **available to be interviewed** for printed and online publication and **participate in promotional events** (such as a press conference, meetings in schools, and one or two events with the general public) or other scientific dissemination activities organized by Fondazione Zardi Gori.

10. PRIVACY

All personal data will be treated in accordance with the current Italian legislation (GDPR 2016/679).

11. LEGISLATION

The Italian translation of the present Call for Applications has legal validity under the Italian legislation.

Milan, June 29, 2023