

Q&A – Junior Clinical Research STAR Programme

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1. What are the requirements to attend the Programme?

To be eligible for the STAR Programme, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- a. Diploma: Master's Degree in Life Sciences
- b. Language skills: fluent in English and at least one local language of the country where the internship will be performed
- c. Travel document: a European Passport or a Visa allowing you to do internship or work in Europe

2. Internships:

a. Where can I do the internships?

Internship organisations are selected together by ECCRT and the student, based on the student's location and language skills. The final approval of the internship organisation is subject to validation by ECCRT.

b. Who looks for the internships?

ECCRT, together with the participant, will search for suitable internship opportunities in hospitals, pharma or medical device companies, and Contract Research Organisations, in which the internship will take place for a whole year. ECCRT has contacts for internships, however our experience indicates that for foreign students, it is not so easy to find a place (language, visa issues, etc.). Therefore, we require the students to actively get involved and look for places. Once identified, ECCRT will approach the organisations.

The intern will have a regular discussion with ECCRT's mentor to help in the internship experience.

c. The internship can be combined with another job or study?

Yes, if only you have a part-time job. The internship can be scheduled in a way to suit our participants needs and current situation. Ideally the time available for the internships is 80% (work time).

3. Financial Questions

a. Am I paid during the internships?

It depends on the country legislation and company where the internship will take place.

b. What is included in the programme fee?

The programme fee includes: the training preparation and participation, the administration cost, the materials you will receive during the training session and the catering services, the mentoring during the internships and insurances for the internships performed in Belgium.

c. Do I need to pay VAT ?

In general, yes: as an end-user, you are required to pay VAT. Therefore, you need to add 21% to the total amount to be paid.

d. How many instalments are available for payment of the programme fees?

You can pay in two instalments: 50% of the total amount upon registration and the remaining 50% no later than 15 days before the programme begins. Please note that by this date, you must have paid the full amount to receive access to our Virtual Campus.

e. Can I get any discounts on the programme fee?

The STAR Programme fee already includes a 15% discount compared to the total cost of booking the courses individually.

4. Logistics

a. Does ECCRT provide any VISA or work permit?

ECCRT can provide you with an admission letter to support your application for a student visa extension or stay permit. However, please note that we are not a school or university and therefore cannot directly extend your student visa. Any visa extensions must be handled through your local authorities.

b. How to apply for the programme?

Here is the process on how you can apply for the programme:

- **Complete the application form** ([here](#))
- **Submit your CV and motivation letter**
- **Intake call:** if your application is positively evaluated, you'll be invited to an intake conversation with a mentor
- **Acceptance:** If the intake is successful, you will be officially accepted into the programme
- **Book the programme:** on the ECCRT website. We recommend booking at least two months in advance, but no later than one month before the programme starts.

5. Other

a. What are the chances for having a job afterwards?

We are proud to share that **100% of past participants** who completed our STAR Programme secured a job shortly after (many even during) their internships.