

MARBLE Visiting Researcher Programme

Programme for visiting researchers

Programme	Participants	Main purpose	Duration
MARBLE Visiting Researcher Programme	doctoral candidates and other researchers	temporary research stay at MARBLE	from several days to one year

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1 Purpose of the Programme

The MARBLE Visiting Researcher Programme enables doctoral candidates and other researchers to spend a defined period at the MARBLE Centre of Excellence to carry out specific research, development, educational, or professional activities.

The Programme is intended for:

- doctoral candidates;
- postdoctoral researchers;
- professors and teaching staff;
- scientists and researchers;
- experts from research institutions and industry;
- other persons carrying out activities connected with MARBLE's areas of activity.

A Programme participant has visiting researcher status during the approved stay. Visiting researcher status does not constitute employment, a scholarship, an academic title, or Affiliated Researcher status at MARBLE.

2 Category of Stay

A research stay may last from several days to a maximum of twelve months. Depending on duration and content, the stay may be from one of the following categories.

Category	Duration	Possible forms of activity
Short research visit	Usually several days	• carrying out a specific experiment; • using specific equipment; • expert consultations; • collecting or analysing data;



		• testing an algorithm or prototype; • preparing future cooperation.
Mid-term research stay	from several weeks to several months	• work on a joint research task; • participation in experimental campaigns; • development of a publication or project proposal; • work with the MARBLE research team; • use of infrastructure over a longer period.
Longer visiting stay	from six to twelve months	Intended for more extensive research cooperation.

3 Research-Stay Plan

For each visiting researcher, an activity plan is prepared before the start of the stay.

The plan contains:

- purpose of the stay;
- the duration and planned dates of stay, including the start and end dates;
- the name of the MARBLE host, a MARBLE employee;
- planned activities;
- time frames for the planned activities (Gantt chart);
- required infrastructure and equipment;
- expected results;
- safety and organisational conditions;
- method of financing costs;
- rules on publication and use of data;
- confidentiality matters and rules;
- intellectual property and publication rules.

4 MARBLE Host

Each visiting researcher is assigned a MARBLE host.



The host:

- assists in preparing the stay plan;
- introduces the researcher to the MARBLE research environment;
- coordinates access to infrastructure;
- connects the researcher with relevant researchers;
- monitors implementation of the planned activities;
- confirms completion of the stay.

The host does not have the status of formal mentor or co-mentor unless this is specifically agreed through another separate programme.

5 Non-Financial Support from MARBLE

MARBLE may provide the visiting researcher with:

- appointment of a host;
- a workspace during the stay;
- access to laboratories, research infrastructure and equipment, research vessels and test sites, as well as software tools, data, and computing resources;
- participation in seminars, workshops, and internal events;
- participation in experiments and field activities;
- connections with other researchers and partners;
- technical and organisational support for agreed activities;
- a certificate of completed research stay.

Access to individual resources depends on availability, safety rules, prior training of the student, and MARBLE's obligations toward third parties.

6 Financial Support from MARBLE

As a rule, the visiting researcher or the researcher's home institution independently bears:

- travel costs;
- accommodation costs;
- meal costs;
- insurance costs;
- visa and residence-permit costs;
- the researcher's salary or other remuneration;
- other personal and institutional costs.



Exceptionally, depending on available funds and the significance of the proposed cooperation, MARBLE may partially or fully cover individual justified costs of the research visit.

Any financial support must be approved before the cost is incurred and stated in the stay plan or in a separate decision.

Participation in the Programme does not create a right to funding for future activities.

7 Intellectual Property

Existing knowledge, data, software solutions, and other rights remain the property of the party to which they belonged before the start of the stay.

Participation in the Programme does not in itself transfer intellectual property rights.

For stays that may result in new inventions, software solutions, commercially valuable data, prototypes, other results with potential for protection or commercialisation, rights and obligations are regulated between the Programme participants and MARBLE before the start of the relevant activities.

Where infrastructure, financial resources, or a significant contribution by MARBLE researchers have been used, their contribution should be appropriately recognised through co-authorship in publications or an appropriate acknowledgement.

8 Confidentiality, Safety, and Insurance

The visiting researcher is required to:

- comply with occupational safety and health rules;
- complete the necessary training;
- use equipment and premises responsibly;
- protect confidential information;
- comply with data-management rules;
- observe ethical rules and academic integrity;
- have appropriate health and other necessary insurance;
- obtain the necessary visas and permits;
- comply with MARBLE's rules of conduct.

Before access to confidential information or projects, a confidentiality agreement may be concluded.



9 Application to the Programme

The application contains:

- the candidate's curriculum vitae;
- employment and home-institution information;
- description of the professional and research area;
- purpose of the proposed stay;
- planned activities;
- expected results, such as a completed experiment, collected or analysed dataset, developed or tested prototype, prepared scientific paper, delivered lecture or workshop, prepared project proposal, prepared plan for continued cooperation, transferred method or specific knowledge, or developed new research topic;
- proposed duration and dates of stay;
- proposal of a MARBLE host or area of cooperation;
- information on required infrastructure and equipment;
- method of financing costs;
- information on possible confidentiality, data, and intellectual property matters;
- confirmation or consent of the home institution, where required.

For a doctoral candidate, confirmation or a recommendation from the candidate's mentor may be requested.

10 Application Deadlines

The call for applications is permanently available on MARBLE's website.

For a short research visit, the application is usually submitted at least 30 days before the planned start.

For a stay longer than one month, the application is usually submitted at least 60 days before the planned start.

For a stay longer than six months, the application is usually submitted at least 90 days before the planned start.

Exceptionally, applications submitted within a shorter period may also be approved where organisational conditions and special circumstances exist.



11 Selection Criteria

Applications are assessed by a committee of 3 members according to:

- alignment of activities with MARBLE's areas of activity;
- scientific, technological, or educational value of the stay;
- clarity of the plan and expected results;
- the candidate's competencies;
- benefit for MARBLE and the candidate;
- potential for continued cooperation;
- availability of a host;
- availability of required infrastructure;
- safety, legal, and organisational conditions;
- availability of financial resources, where financial support is requested.

12 Monitoring and Evaluation

At the beginning of the stay, the visiting researcher gives a lecture on previous work.

Monitoring of the stay is done through periodic meetings between the visiting researcher and the host.

At the end of the stay, the visiting researcher gives a presentation or seminar, where appropriate, and states the results achieved and possibilities for continuing cooperation.

13 Alumni Network

The visiting researcher becomes a member of the MARBLE Visiting Researcher Alumni Network after completing the approved research stay.

Members of the alumni network may:

- participate in selected MARBLE events;
- propose continuation of research cooperation;
- participate in preparing joint projects;
- maintain contact with researchers and other former visiting researchers;
- propose new candidates and institutions for cooperation.

Membership in the alumni network is voluntary and does not constitute employment, a scholarship, or another contractual relationship with MARBLE.