



EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK
EUROSYSTEM

Position Details

Research Assistance Traineeship (PhD and Graduate)

Reference 2013-088-TRA EXT

Function

The Financial Research Division in the Directorate General Research of the European Central Bank (ECB) is seeking applications for participation in its research assistance traineeship programme. Applications from candidates who would be available outside the summer months are particularly encouraged; an indication of the preferred length of stay would be welcome.

The programme is aimed at highly promising students who have completed a first degree and are planning to study, or are currently already studying, for a Masters/PhD degree in economics, finance, statistics or a related field. Participants in the programme will have the opportunity to cooperate closely with the economists in the Division, typically in the form of research assistance. Students will thereby become involved in research projects – the findings of which are then usually published in international academic journals – as well as work of a more operational nature, such as supporting economists in preparing policy-related notes and reports intended for the ECB's Executive Board. The opportunity to work closely with research economists at the ECB will allow students to develop their analytical skills and gain an insight into the research activities and policy-making processes of the ECB, thereby enabling them to acquire new ideas and stimuli for their future graduate studies.

The successful applicant will be entrusted with the following main tasks:

- construction and maintenance of monetary, financial and economic databases;
- presentation of data in conjunction with basic economic and statistical analysis;
- programming of mathematical, statistical and econometric procedures for research projects; and
- support and maintenance of software tools and hardware installations in the Division.

Qualifications and experience

Applicants must have the following knowledge and competencies:

- first degree in economics, finance, statistics, mathematics or related fields; at least two years of Master/PhD studies in quantitative economics or finance would be regarded as an asset.

- familiarity with at least some macroeconomic statistics and with money, banking and securities market statistics as contained in international databases (e.g. Thomson Financial Datastream, Bloomberg, Dealogic, SNL Financial, the ECB, Eurostat, Haver Analytics, the Bank for International Settlements or the International Monetary Fund);
- ideally, experience of using Bloomberg and Thomson Financial Datastream through Excel datafeed and familiarity with the ECB's external statistical data warehouse, since it is used frequently in research projects;
- a very good knowledge of spreadsheet and database programs such as Excel, SAS, Access and FAME, and, in particular, Excel graphing capabilities, pivot tables and summary statistical functions; and
- proficiency in some standard econometrics packages, in particular MATLAB, STATA, OxMetrics, RATS and GAUSS.
- advanced level command of English with proven drafting ability;
- a good knowledge of at least one other official language of the EU; and
- a working knowledge of MS Office, in particular Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Access.

Competencies

The successful candidate will have the following behavioural competencies:

- very good interpersonal and communication skills;
- independently manages his/her own workload;
- prioritises tasks and pays attention to detail, even when under time pressure;
- manages multiple assignments and tracks progress on numerous processes simultaneously; and
- shares information and supports team members in the attainment of common goals.

Closing Date for Applications: 16.05.2013

Further Information

Traineeships for an initial period between three and six months, which may be extended to up to 12 months subject to individual performance and organisational needs.

How to apply

Applications are to be made in English and submitted using our online application form. An

"Applicants' Guide" can be downloaded from our recruitment pages.

The recruitment process may include a pre-screening exercise and a telephone interview.

Before applying, applicants should check that they meet the conditions set out in Article 3 of the rules governing the traineeship programme:

[http:// www.ecb.europa.eu/ecb/jobs/pdf/traineeship_programme.pdf](http://www.ecb.europa.eu/ecb/jobs/pdf/traineeship_programme.pdf).

Further information on the ECB's traineeships can be found at <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/ecb/jobs/apply/html/index.en.html>.

Applicants are accepted from nationals of the Member States of the European Union and Croatia.