

## Position Details

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### Student Research Assistant Traineeship (graduate and phd level)

**Reference** 2013-082-TRA EXT

#### Function

The Monetary Policy Research Division (MPR) in the ECB's Directorate General Research (DG-R) is seeking applications for its Research Assistance Traineeship Programme. Applications from candidates who are available outside the summer months are particularly encouraged; in your application please indicate your preferred length of stay.

The programme is aimed at students who have completed a bachelor's degree and plan to enrol, or are currently enrolled, in a master's/PhD programme 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. They will become involved in research projects, the findings of which may be published in international academic journals, as well as in work of a more operational nature, such as supporting economists in undertaking model-based analysis and preparing policy-related notes and reports intended for the ECB's Executive Board. The opportunity to work closely with ECB research economists will allow the 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 graduate studies.

The successful applicants will generally be expected to contribute, to one or more of the following main tasks:

- constructing and maintaining monetary, financial and economic databases;
- presenting data in support of basic economic and statistical analysis;
- programming mathematical, statistical and econometric procedures for research projects;
- supporting and maintaining software tools and hardware installations in the Division;
- helping to maintain databases for DG-R management;
- helping to maintain internet and intranet systems in DG-R

#### Qualifications and experience

Applicants must have the following knowledge and competencies:

- Bachelor's degree in economics, finance, statistics, mathematics or a related field. Candidates with a quantitative background and an active interest in policy-relevant and applied research are particularly welcome to apply. The programme is also addressed to students who plan to enrol, or are currently enrolled, in a master's/PhD programme in economics, finance, statistics or a related field.
- Familiarity with macroeconomic, monetary and financial statistics as contained in databases such as those of the ECB, Eurostat, the BIS or the IMF is required. Familiarity with the ECB's Statistical Data Warehouse would be an advantage since it is used frequently in research projects.
- Experience working with large micro-datasets would be an asset.
- A very good knowledge of spreadsheet and database programmes (such as Excel, SAS, Access or FAME). In particular, a good knowledge of Excel graphing capabilities, pivot tables and summary statistics functions would be an asset.
- Proficiency in some standard econometrics packages, in particular MATLAB, Stata, OxMetrics, RATS, GAUSS or EViews, is essential. Some programming experience would be an asset.
- fluent command of English with proven drafting ability;
- a good knowledge of at least one other official language of the EU;
- a working knowledge of MS Office, in particular Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Access;
- some familiarity with HTML programming.

### **Competencies**

The successful candidate will:

- have very good interpersonal and communication skills;
- independently manage his/her workload;
- prioritise tasks and pay attention to detail, even when under time pressure;
- manage multiple assignments and processes simultaneously;
- share information and support team members in the attainment of common goals.

**Closing Date for Applications:** 10.05.2013

### **Further Information**

Traineeship for an initial period of between three and six months, with a possible extension of up to a total of twelve months depending on organisational needs and performance.

### **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.