



**EUROPARC**  
F E D E R A T I O N

## EUROPARC Scholarship for Young Professionals

# FAQs

### 1. Who is eligible to apply?

**Persons who are currently employed by a European Protected Area or a nature conservation institution or organisation in a European country. This means:**

- Person who is currently employed by a or in a European Protected Area, either by a park directly, or an administration who oversees, administers or manages Protected Areas, Parks, Natura 2000 sites, nature reserves or any combination of these.

-Person employed by an administration, municipality, ministry, agency, institution, NGO or other bodies of any size or geographical jurisdiction, but with a role in the direct management of Protected Areas.

### 2. I am not employed by a Protected Area or nature conservation organisation but I have been regularly **collaborating on a voluntary basis** for a long time. Am I eligible?

The scholarship is only intended to people currently employed in a Protected Area or a nature conservation institution or organisation

(see previous point). However, in exceptional circumstances, if the applicant can show that he/she has been regularly involved as a volunteer in a Protected Area or NGO managing Protected Areas, he/she can send the application and we will decide on case-by-case basis.

### 3. Should the employment contract be officially translated into English?

It is not required.

### 4. Can two colleagues apply together for one scholarship?

No. They can apply individually but would compete.

### 5. I am older than 35 years old. Can I apply?

No, you need to be between the ages of 18 and 34 on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2025.

**6. My country is geographically located in Europe but it does not appear in the [Council of Europe list](#). Can I still apply?**

If this is the case, please contact us under [communications@europarc.org](mailto:communications@europarc.org). Please clearly state in the subject line that your question relates to the EUROPARC Scholarship for Young Professionals.

**7. I have no European nationality but I am living and working in a European country. Am I eligible to apply?**

Yes.

**8. I am a student, can I apply?**

No, this is not a traditional scholarship application but capacity building for those already working and looking to gain experience.

**9. How many countries can I visit?**

Although **there is no upper limit on number of countries**, the tour itself will need to justify why each site and country has been selected in relation to the topic that the applicant is seeking to learn more about. The coherence and travel possibility of the tour proposed needs to make sense. The study tour should include a country different to that of the applicant's country of residence. Please note that sustainability is an important aspect as well. Travel should therefore be well thought-out and planned using sustainable transportation wherever possible.

**10. What evidence will I need to supply of contacts made in proposed study areas?**

You will need to complete in the application form with named persons with whom you have

spoken or corresponded with, regarding the possibility of the study tour. If you are pre-selected, you will need to send us the email correspondence as proof your agreement with your contacts. A list of sites and email/website addresses without evidence of contact will not be considered sufficient.

**11. How long can the tour be?**

The study tour can be planned as one continuous tour or be scheduled in smaller units. There is no upper limit of the duration, but the coherence of time spent in each Protected Area and the overall duration of the tour will be a consideration in the assessment criteria. Please consider how the trip can be done in the most sustainable manner.

**12. What is the period of the award? When do I plan the study tour for?**

The study visit should be undertaken during the following year of the submission, from January to the end of September. An extension for up to 2 months can be granted if a well-founded request for exceptional circumstances is made 3 months prior to the end of the award period.

**13. What does it mean "no economic activity" as a result of the study tour?**

When engaged in the study tour itself, i.e. apart from your regular salary, you cannot earn any money whilst in the parks or countries you are visiting.

**14. When will I know if I am successful?**

The jury assesses in June. Please consult the schedule in the guidelines and the EUROPARC website.

**15. Who assesses the applications?**

The scholarship applications are assessed internally by volunteers and staff of the EUROPARC Federation.

**16. What happens if I am successful?**

The successful applicants will be notified and arrangements made for them to attend their EUROPARC conference to receive their award. They should also continue to address further details of their study tour plan and submit it to EUROPARC at least two months prior to the start of the study tour.

**17. How much is the Scholarship?**

In total the award is worth EUR 2.000 and should be used to cover all expenses required for the study tour planned.

**18. When do I get the money?**

You will receive the first instalment after approval by EUROPARC of your definitive study tour plan and prior to start the study tour.

After you have completed your study tour and when you have submitted your report and it has been approved by EUROPARC, arrangements will be made to send your final instalment.

In addition, your participation fee and accommodation at the EUROPARC Conference will be covered by EUROPARC and the local hosts.

**19. What other benefits will I receive as a EUROPARC Young Professional Scholar?**

Depending on the relevance of your study visit to the current themes explored throughout the EUROPARC network, opportunities may arise to speak at events, share your knowledge or lead

workshops. Many scholars stay in touch with the mentors from visited parks and follow up opportunities develop naturally. Some scholars are even now hosting EUROPARC conferences or sitting on the EUROPARC Council.

**20. What do I need to do to disseminate my results of the study visit?**

Applicants will be asked to disseminate the results of their study tour. We would expect some social media presence during and after the study tour and/or any presentations you can do with your work colleagues on return from the study tour.

**21. What kind of report and film do I need to produce?**

You will receive specific guidelines prior to departing on the study tour regarding the technical and content description required for both the study tour report and video material.

**22. What evaluation of my study tour is done?**

EUROPARC will contact you on completion of your study tour and submission of your report and film to gather vital evaluation feedback from you. This is required and will be necessary before your final instalment is paid.



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