

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS (Call ID: 137/2026)

Post/s of Full-Time or Part-Time Research Support Officer I or II

Project MASCOT - “Development of a sMart And Sustainable InClusive WOrksTation”

Funded by the FUSION Technology Development Programme 2025 of Xjenza Malta

And any other projects undertaken by the Department of Disability Studies, Faculty for Social Wellbeing.

1. Applications are invited for a Research Support Officer (RSO) to carry out duties in relation to the MASCOT Project, which is funded by Xjenza Malta. The RSO may also be required to work on other projects undertaken by the Department of Disability Studies, Faculty for Social Wellbeing.
2. Applicants must be in possession of a Bachelor’s degree and/or a Master’s degree in Mechanical/ Manufacturing Engineering or a Master’s degree in Disability Studies or a Master’s degree in Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy or other related area. The applicants should have a demonstrable experience in the field of disability. The applicant should be self-motivated and have the ability to work both independently and as part of a team. They must be able to organise and prioritise tasks within the project timeline to meet interim deadlines. They must also possess good communication and academic writing skills in English. International applicants are required to present an internationally recognized English Language proficiency Certificate at the required level. Further details are available at:

http://www.um.edu.mt/international/international/english_language_requirements.

The University of Malta is an Equal Opportunity employer.

3. **The selected candidate must be living in Malta for the period of employment.**
4. The post is for a period until 30 June 2028. A part-time position will entail 20 hours of work per week.
5. The initial remuneration per annum / per hour, inclusive of any cost-of-living adjustments shall be €27,207 / €13.08 (RSO I); or €30,327 / €14.58 (RSO II).
6. The selected candidate will be required to enrol in a PhD related to the project on a full-time basis or part-time basis.

7. Candidates must upload their covering letter, curriculum vitae, and certificates (certificates should be submitted in English) and contact details of at least two academic referees through this form <https://www.um.edu.mt/hrmd/workatum-projects> by not later than **Monday, 2nd November 2026**

Late applications will not be considered

8. Further information may be obtained from <https://www.um.edu.mt/hr/recruitment/projects/> and should you have any queries, please send us an email on projects.hrmd@um.edu.mt

Office of the University,
Msida, 19th October 2026

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Further Information

1. The MASCOT project is dedicated to fostering inclusivity and sustainability in manufacturing. Spearheaded by the University of Malta, the project brings together experts in smart manufacturing, human factors, assistive technology, disability studies, and sustainability. Partners include Seifert Systems Ltd. and Aġenzija Sapport. This collaboration ensures the development of innovative solutions that address the challenges faced by individuals with disabilities in accessing equitable employment on manufacturing shop floors.

The project focuses on designing and implementing a configurable workstation that integrates assistive technologies, Internet of Things (IoT), and artificial intelligence (AI). This smart and inclusive design will accommodate diverse abilities, empowering persons with disabilities to participate effectively in manufacturing environments while maintaining operational efficiency. By leveraging life cycle thinking, the MASCOT workstation will also reduce the carbon footprint and improve energy efficiency. Further information may be obtained by contacting Dr Amy Camilleri Zahra at amy.camilleri-zahra@um.edu.mt. The RSO may also be required to work on other projects undertaken by the And any other projects undertaken by the Department of Disability Studies, Faculty for Social Wellbeing.

2. The appointee will be responsible for carrying out research with the main duties including:
 - a. Overseeing the evaluation of the MASCOT Prototype, including preparation of the testing protocol, evaluation approach, and conducting of the evaluation at the industrial partner’s organisation;
 - b. Producing project deliverables within the time frames specified by the project partners;
 - c. Execution of dissemination activities and outreach related to the project;
 - d. Preparation of scientific publications related to the project;
 - e. Travelling to attend meetings/conferences as the need arises;
 - f. Performing any other project-related tasks as instructed by the Department of Disability Studies and the Department of Manufacturing and Industrial Engineering;
 - g. Enrol for a full-time or part-time Ph.D. degree in an area related to the project by registering with the Faculty for Social Wellbeing of the University of Malta under the supervision of Dr Amy Camilleri Zahra and the co-supervision of Prof. Ing. Emmanuel Francalanza and Prof. Ing. Paul Refalo.
3. The appointee will be expected to work at such places and during such hours as may be determined by the University authorities.

4. The selection procedure will involve:
 - a. scrutiny of qualifications and experience claimed and supported by testimonials and/or certificates (copies to be included with the application);
 - b. shortlisting; and
 - c. an interview and / or extended interview.
5. The post is for a period until 30 June 2028, which will be subject to a probationary period and to the provisions of the Statutes, Regulations and Bye-Laws of the University of Malta which are now or which may hereafter be in force.

Office of the University,
Msida, 19th October 2026