



version December 2021

Explanatory note on application FWO PhD fellowship – call 2022

Study results and percentiles

PhD fellowship applications are assessed on two main criteria, the project proposal quality as well as on the candidate's potential as a researcher. The criterion '**candidate**' includes *motivation and (potential) competences*, as well as the academic **study results**.

Study results are evaluated by assessing e.g. degrees mentioned on the diploma as well as the marks scored for dedicated courses. A relevant indicator is the position of the candidate within her/his study group (students having obtained the same diploma in the same period and at the same institution). The position may be expressed as X-th place in a group of N students. Even better is the use of **percentiles**.

A percentile PXX on a study result divides a group of students in XX% scoring equal or lower, and (100 - XX)% who obtained a better score. As an example: students with a result higher than the percentile P90 belong to the top 10% of their study group. Hence, 90% of the students had less good results.

PhD fellowship candidates are required to add information on their position in their study group (preferably the percentile) in the online application form ('e-loket' or e-portal), and to confirm these data via a dedicated document, a declaration co-signed by the promotor.,

The requested information is referring to the **master diploma** that complies with Art. 7 of the regulations ([PhD fundamental research](#) / [PhD strategic basic research](#)). Advanced master diplomas cannot be considered here.

Candidates in their last master year should enter the requested info referring to the relevant **academic bachelor diploma**. In case a master study was started following a *professional* bachelor and a subsequent 'switching program', the study result of the latter should be referred to.

Related to the relevant diploma, the own study result is required, as well as the number of students in the concerned group of graduates of the study programme, and the percentile. In case the percentile is not available, alternatively the ranking within the study group may be entered. These data, together with other indicators of the obtained study results, can further be situated, completed and substantiated in an additional text field ('study results narrative') in the application form.

- For **Flemish master** and (academic) **bachelor** diplomas, tables per university and graduation are available through the application form on the e-portal
- Candidates referring to a diploma obtained at a **non-Flemish** institute should contact this institute to obtain the requested info, the percentile or, in the second instance, the ranking of the candidate. If no info at all can be obtained, other relevant info can be provided in the concerned text field.



version December 2021

How to proceed?

1/ application form in the e-portal

- **Make sure your diplomas are correctly and completely mentioned (and uploaded) in the e-portal ('Personalia' / 'Diplomas')!**
- Via the e-portal enter the **application form** PhD fellowship, proceed to the tab '**personal data**'
- select the relevant diploma from the given overview of your diplomas
- enter your **study result** as an overall percentage,
- in case you refer to a **Flemish diploma**: select and open the file with the percentiles from the institute where you obtained your diploma;
 - o find your diploma and the concerned academic year (for small study groups, percentiles may be aggregated over more academic years)
 - o find the number of graduates in your study group
 - o determine 'your' percentile:
 - o *Your study result is different from percentile values -> Look for the highest percentile value that is smaller your study result.*
 - o *Your study result equals one or more percentile values -> Look for the lowest percentile value that equals your study result.*
E.g. P70 and P75 exactly match your study result of 74,00%, your percentile is P70.
- if a **non-Flemish diploma** is referred to, ask for percentile info or alternative data at the institute where you graduated;
- enter the obtained information in the application form, and if relevant, **explain in the text field** ('study results narrative')

2/ confirmation via the 'percentile' form

- download the form from the e-portal/application form, tab 'personal data';
- copy the percentile related data from the application form;
- if referring to non-Flemish diploma, attach the information obtained from the concerned institute to the form;
- sign the document, and have it signed by your promotor;
- upload the form as a pdf, in the e-portal/application form, tab 'personal data'.

The info to be entered on the 'Personal Data' tab must exactly match the info stated on the **percentile form**. The candidate and the promotor **are jointly responsible for the correctness of the information provided**. ***An application may be declared ineligible if the data prove to be incorrect.***

version December 2021

Example of how to find your percentile vs. your own study results



How to... percentiles

Diploma	Acjaar	# diploma's	P10	P20	P30	P40	P50	P60	P70	P75	P80	P85	P90	P95
Bachelor	2016-2017	152	59,80	61,09	61,81	62,97	63,97	65,11	67,39	68,66	69,74	71,06	72,73	76,61
Bachelor	2017-2018	146	59,31	60,49	61,61	63,13	63,90	65,06	66,94	67,79	68,74	71,35	75,49	79,02
Bachelor	2018-2019	164	58,39	59,60	60,86	62,30	63,87	65,78	67,67	68,71	70,55	71,47	75,20	79,11
Bachelor	2019-2020	158	59,48	60,43	61,15	62,18	63,07	65,34	67,39	68,53	69,43	71,81	74,66	78,65
Bachelor	2020-2021	173	59,71	60,28	61,03	62,30	63,74	64,71	66,87	67,79	70,03	71,84	74,20	78,64
Master	2016-2017	117	65,96	68,57	69,77	71,38	72,33	72,83	74,69	75,14	76,03	76,98	78,74	80,42
Master	2017-2018	72	62,96	65,54	67,79	68,83	69,63	71,54	73,08	74,07	74,54	75,75	76,13	77,98
Master	2018-2019	80	64,63	67,07	69,34	70,40	71,19	73,00	74,62	75,41	76,03	76,83	77,98	79,83
Master	2019-2020	92	62,87	64,58	66,84	68,28	68,74	70,23	71,82	73,10	73,95	74,44	75,04	76,18
Master	2020-2021	89	62,52	65,21	66,74	67,77	69,61	71,33	73,03	74,32	75,25	76,42	77,66	80,36

Karel: MSc 2021 with 72,08% --- > **P60** (89 students) -- > top 40% of study group
Tess: MSc 2020 with 74,93% --- > **P85** (92 students) -- > top 15% of study group
Shari: MSc 2022
 -> BSc 2020 with 78,65% --- > **P95** (158 students) -- > top 5% of study group

A/ Your study result \neq percentile value -> Look for the highest percentile value that is < your study result.

B/ Your study result = one or more percentile values -> Look for the lowest percentile value that = your study result.

(e.g. 69,00% -> P75)

P70	P75	P80	P85	P90	P95
67,00	69,00	69,00	70,00	72,00	78,00

Beware of percentiles in small (<25-30) study groups!! (use aggregated academic years or other info)