Applying for a FWO doctoral fellowship

Info session – call 2021

December 2020
Preface

• What you should learn today...
  • to understand the evaluation & selection process
  • to prepare an application that meets the evaluation criteria

• This presentation
  • serves as applicant’s “quick starting guide” (key topics only)
  • more details: programme webpages incl. documents & regulations

• DISCLAIMER
  • Official & binding documents: regulations in Dutch
    • English regulations: no legal status
Covid-19

Crisis impacts your life, your research and your career...

- restricted access to research facilities
- taking care of children during lockdown
- increased commitment to teaching or healthcare, ...
- standstill international mobility
- ...

... and your PhD fellowship application...

-> mention influence on quality of your application
-> FWO instructs expert panels to take this into account in assessment

Check measures taken by FWO:

maatregelen-coronavirus
measures-coronavirus
Outline

1. FWO mission & key numbers
2. PhD fellowships at a glance
3. Evaluation & selection process
4. Preparing your application
5. ... further reading & contact
Welcome to the FWO

• Mission
  • Funding of *fundamental* & *strategic* research
  • Funding programmes
    • *Individual researchers* (pre-, post-doc, mobility)
    • *Research teams* (projects, SBO, Odysseus,…)
    • Research infrastructure
    • Scientific prizes

• Bottom-up in all disciplines

• *Scientific excellence* and interuniversity (incl research institutes) competition

• Transparent and *equal opportunities*

*Opening new horizons*...
The FWO by numbers

Budget 2020: **364 MEUR**

**Yearly average 2016-2019**
- Research projects: 64%
- Fellowships: 27%
- Infrastructure: 9%

**Yearly average 2016-2019**
- Fundamental Research: 67%
- Strategic Basic Research: 18%
- Clinical Research: 5%
- Infrastructure: 10%

**Fellowships**
- PhD fellows: 1587
- Postdocs: 850

- 50% PhD fellows
- 40% Postdocs

**Call 2020**
- 26,1% PostDoc fellows
- 32,0% PhD fund.(295)
- 34,1% PhD SB (200)
Research Integrity

• Part of FWO Policy:
  • Clause in call text, application and contract on commitment to RI
  • Profiles for (co)promoters and researchers
  • Adaptations in General Regulation and Regulation pre- and postdoc fellowships on procedure and sanctions in case of RI violation

• ! Read the detailed information and the RI Clause

Every applicant and beneficiary is expected to know the rules and what (s)he will be committed to.
Join the FWO community...

HOW?

STEP 1: FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA
- Twitter
- Instagram
- Facebook
- LinkedIn
- YouTube

STEP 2: USE #FWOVLAANDEREN
Tag @fwoVlaanderen

December 2020  Info session PhD fellowships 2021
Outline

1. FWO mission & key numbers
2. PhD fellowships at a glance
3. Evaluation & selection process
4. Preparing your application
5. ... further reading & contact
FWO PhD fellowship ("aspirant") at a glance

• Target group & eligibility
  • Young researchers to complete a PhD
  • Parallel calls fundamental research (FR) / strategic basic research (SB)
  • Apply up to 2 times for PhD fellowship
  • All nationalities
  • Master diploma ‘ManaBa’ / EEA+CH
    • Obtained ≤ 3 years ago on March 1, 2021
    • This call: UK diploma’s still accepted as EEA...
    • NARIC: “equivalent” to specific Flemish master
      • Advanced Master (‘ManaMa’) not taken into account
  • Scientific seniority <18m on March 1, 2021

• 4-year grants
  • start Nov 1, 2021
  • 2 years + renewal (2 years)
  • Fellowship grant € 2,075.90 /month (minimum)
  • Bench fee € 3,720 /year
PhD fellowship: fundamental vs strategic

Both fellowships: Challenging & original research (PhD level)

Fundamental research
- “curiosity driven”
- knowledge
- Applications may follow
  - societal & economic benefits
  - Long term

Strategic: research with a goal

Basic research: knowledge

Innovative applications
- Products, processes, services
- Long term perspective
- Economic added value
  - Specific companies
  - Collective of companies / (industrial) sector
  - Socio-economic benefits

In line with Flemish transition priorities NL - EN
Flemish Transition areas -> priorities

1. Health & Well-Being
   - ...
2. Smart Resources Management
   - ...
3. Food
   - ...
4. New energy Demand & Delivery
   - ...
5. Urban planning, mobility dynamics & logistics
   - sustainable smart cities
   - increased spatial efficiency through smart densification
   - synchromodality
   - spatially resilient systems
   - green mobility and logistics
   - intelligent transport systems
   - behaviour and lifestyle
   - big data
6. Digital society
   - ...

Economic & societal added value
(‘future’ economic activities)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NL</th>
<th>EN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DEC 2020</td>
<td>Info session PhD fellowships 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Eligibility time window: master diploma

Extensions eligibility window (+1Y):
- regulations Art 7: maternity-, parental-, sickness leave > 3m
- (+ x Y): phys./pharm.-specialist or resident veterinarian >1Y training

Eligibility time window: scientific seniority

*Limit date in case of fulltime continuous research
Eligibility window: scientific seniority

- Scientific experience / seniority
  - \( \leq 18 \) months since (1st) master
    - Not accounted for during advanced master studies
    - Accounted for employment %
    - Counted as on March 1, 2021!

- Any kind of ‘scientific activity’ (not just PhD research)
- All university/university college appointments
  - Excl. ATP, practice/teaching assistant...
- Business enterprise R&D experience
- \( \rightarrow \) prove by contracts, documents, statements
Eligible host organisations

- **Main host organisation**
  - 5 Flemish universities
  - *Evangelic Protestant Faculty Leuven / Faculty for Protestant Theology in Brussels* (not SB)

- + Flemish/federal research institutes (research location)

- **Main promotor**: *Regulations* Art.10
  - *FWO invites main promotor for recommendation letter*

- **Co-promotor(s)** (postdoc level)
  - *FWO notifies co-promotors – No recommendation!*

Dec 2020  Info session PhD fellowships 2021
Additional fellowships

• Kom op tegen kanker (Med4 panel)
  • Best ranked candidate in Med4 panel FR

• “Meise Botanic Garden – FWO” fellowships
  • “INBO – FWO” fellowships

• 1 – 2 fellowships (FR and/or SB) (< - reserve list) funded by MBG/INBO
  • Agreement on being additional host institute (before submitting)
  • FWO contract and conditions
  • collaboration agreement main and additional host institute
Other PhD programmes

• **Special PhD fellowship:**
  - 1 year fellowship to complete PhD
  - 1 dedicated panel
  - Candidates currently not working in research

• **European University Institute (EUI) fellowship**
  - Social sciences – Florence
  - Deadline 31 January 2021

• **Baekeland PhD programme**
  - PhD project with (co-financing!) Flemish enterprise
  - PhD programme @ Flanders Innovation & Entrepreneurship (VLAIO)
Obtaining your PhD in Firenze?

PhD in four domains:
• Economy
• History and civilisation
• Law
• Political and social science

Deadline: 31 January 2021
Submission of application at EUI
Evaluation partly by FWO

Have a look at the [Doctoral programme at the European University institute in Firenze](#)
FWO Postdoctoral fellowship at a glance

- Key dates

- Call open
  - Dec 7 2020

- Submission
  - Mar 1, 2021

- Decision Board
  - Oct 7, 2021

- Start fellowship
  - Nov 1, 2021
Outline

1. FWO mission & key numbers
2. PhD fellowships at a glance
3. Evaluation & selection process
4. Preparing your application
5. ... further reading & contact
Single submission 2-step evaluation & selection process

Phase 1
- Remote assessment: 3 panel members
- (online) panel meeting consensus scoring & ranking
- Rejected proposals
- Retained for phase 2 interviews

Phase 2
- Panel meeting: interviews consensus scoring & ranking
- Selected candidates
- Rejected proposals

22
Submission to expert panels

**FR** • Panel structure fundamental research (FR)
  - ‘Fellowships’ (PhD/postdoc) panels (next to ‘fund. project’ panels)
  - 31 panels: 30 in 5 scientific domains + interdisciplinary panel (cross-domain)
  - Updated panel members list published Mar 2021
    - 12 members incl. scientific chair
    - >50% members with non-Flemish affiliation

**SB** • Panel structure PhD fellowships strategic basic research (SB)
  - 24 SB panels
  - Updated panel members list published Mar 2021
    - 12 members, moderated by FWO representative
    - >50% members with non-Flemish affiliation
    - ≥ 1/3 involved in R&D business enterprise sector
Submission to expert panels

- Choose panel that best fits your application!
  - Check panel scopes *FR or SB*
  - Motivate panel choice
  - Interdisciplinary panel (*not SB*): follow acceptance criteria decision tree
  - SB: scope on research methodology (not application field)
  - Avoid “out of scope” (=score 0)

- Evaluation of your proposal:
  - Consensus panel decisions (scoring & ranking) in both steps (preselection / interviews)
  - Roles (per application):
    - 3 panel members as *internal evaluators of your proposal* in step 1
    - Internal reviewers take the lead in interview
    - but all panel members involved in Q&A
    - 1 of the internal evaluators compiles feedback to the applicant
### Evaluation criteria “candidate” & “project”

#### Phase 1 preselection

**Study results**
- Academic education record
- Position in study group (percentile)
- ‘Distinguishing’ achievements as a student

**Motivation & relevant competences**
- Substantiated motivation
- Skills & expertise (acquired / developing)
- Scientific background / (if applicable) start as PhD researcher

#### Phase 2 interviews

**Potential competence as independent researcher**
- Knowledge about own research field
- Insight in project approach and positioning
- Reasoning skills and critical scientific mindset
- Motivation

#### Phase 1 + 2

**Scientific quality, relevance and challenge, originality**
- Originality / contribution state-of-the-art
- Risks and challenges

**Quality research approach, feasibility**
- Methodology
- Feasibility, risk mitigation

---

**Weighted total score (both phases)**

- 60%
- 40%
Potential competence as independent researcher
- Knowledge about own research field
- Insight in project approach and positioning
- Reasoning skills and critical scientific mindset
- Motivation

Potential competence as strategically thinking and innovation oriented researcher
- Insight in strategic importance & positioning project
- Notions of economic landscape (IPR, players, innovations)

Study results
- Academic education record
- Position in study group (percentile)
- ‘Distinguishing’ achievements as a student

Motivation & relevant competences
- Substantiated motivation
- Skills & expertise (acquired / developing)
- Scientific background / (if applicable) start as PhD researcher

Scientific quality, relevance and challenge, originality
- Originality / contribution state-of-the-art
- Risks and challenges

Quality research approach, feasibility
- Methodology
- Feasibility, risk mitigation

Phase 1 preselection
- Phase 1 + 2
- Study results
- Motivation & relevant competences
- Scientific quality, relevance and challenge, originality
- Quality research approach, feasibility

Phase 2 interviews
- Potential competence as independent researcher
- Potential competence as strategically thinking and innovation oriented researcher

Evaluation criteria: “candidate” “project” ”application potential”

Weighted total score (both phases)
- Weighted total score: 60% 20% 20%
**Uniform evaluation: scoring descriptors**  
**Scoring grids (see programme webpages) - example**

**PHD FELLOWSHIP: scoring descriptors criterion “Candidate” (preselection)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Unacceptable</strong></td>
<td><strong>Weak</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fair/Reasonable</strong></td>
<td><strong>Good/Very good</strong></td>
<td><strong>&gt;20%</strong></td>
<td><strong>&gt;20%</strong></td>
<td><strong>&gt;10%</strong></td>
<td><strong>&gt;5%</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.a. Study results (academic education)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depending on whether the master studies are already concluded, master or bachelor percentiles (referred to their university study group) are to be provided by the candidates. In addition, detailed course scores should be added. Bachelor percentiles in particular should, if possible, be complemented by intermediate master study results. Students from non-Flemish universities should provide either a percentile score (available), or at least their rank within their study group. Candidates may refer to other evidence of having distinguished themselves during their studies. One may refer to upward trends during course of education, particular situations that may have influenced the study trajectory, also to results of additional studies/diplomas. (Bachelor or) master thesis score, specific classes successfully attended, or other specific cases. The scoring based on the provided percentiles should therefore be well framed and fine-tuned with all available info and evidence. Also, percentiles referring to small study groups should be carefully dealt with.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>No scoring possibility</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The study results do not stand out (may be at the head of the pack within study group, but below average in the applicants population).</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(e.g.) &lt;970 for relevant master diploma, and no other evidence of standing out.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>master students: (e.g.) &lt;980 for bachelor, and lack of other evidence of distinguishing elements, such as partial master results.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarer good study results, situated well above average and at the top of the study group, as evidenced by:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(e.g.) &gt;70 for relevant master diploma, or other evidence;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>master students: (e.g.) &gt;800 (and confirmed by intermediate master study results) or equivalent.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Very) good academic education record situated in the (broad) top of the study group, as evidenced by:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(e.g.) PBS for relevant master diploma, or even P90 (score 5). Other evidence may apply.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>master students: (e.g.) bachelor &gt;990 (confirmed by intermediate master study results), or other evidence.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top student with an excellent/outstanding academic education record, as evidenced by:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(e.g.) PBS, or even top 1% (score 7), for relevant master diploma. Other evidence of excellence may apply.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>master students: (e.g.) P95 bachelor with proven top start of master studies, or other evidence.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**1.b. Motivation and substantiation of relevant competences of the candidate**

In their "motivation statement", applicants should substantiate acquired competences (expertise and skills), and present a credible approach to further improve skills and acquire missing competences if any. Relevant competences (expertise and skills) imply the proper scientific background to start the PhD project, as well as e.g. experimental skills, presentation or writing skills, international contacts, commitment/persistence, that may have been acquired during the candidate’s academic education, master thesis or extracurricular activities (academic or non-academic). Proven scientific seniority (post masters) may also be taken into account as well as scientific recognition (prizes, publications, ...), international mobility,...

**No scoring possibility**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All or one of the following items apply:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candidate may not fully be motivated or prepared to start a research career. Evidence of some specific competences is missing. How these competences will be acquired is less well substantiated.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>candidate has started PhD research but with little evidence of progress made (incl. competences acquired).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One or more of the following items apply:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relevant competences and clear motivation likely are present and well substantiated (e.g. Master or Bachelor thesis) or some competences missing but a clear and credible plan is provided on how to acquire the proper skills.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candidate has started PhD research with proper intermediate results and development of new competences as a researcher.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Requirements as in “good”**  
**AND**  
The candidate has substantiated to have actively acquired all proper competences to successfully conduct PhD research. Clear plan to further enhance these capacities. Reveals clear motivation and drive.
Selection process

Available fellowships -> panels
90% - - > proportional distribution over panels (quota)
10% - - > assigned to ‘best remaining candidates’

Step 1 – preselection
• (quota x 2) best ranked candidates invited to interview
• Rejected applications

Step 2 – interviews
• (quota) best ranked candidates with score ≥4 for Candidate and Project
  ≥2 appl. pot. (SB)
• ‘best remaining candidates’: ranked over all panels
  - -> assignment of remaining 10% fellowships
  - -> reserve list
• Rejected applications
Feedback to candidates

• All feedback AFTER selection decision Board (≥ Oct 2021)
  • Compiled by panel member
  • Including comments based on panel consensus decision and scores
  • Template per criterion (Candidate, Project, Application potential)
    • “Strengths”
    • “Weaknesses”
    • “Comments and suggestions for improvement”
  • No further correspondence on feedback
• Do NOT contact panel members!

Out in step 1
- Scores preselection
- Panel comments

Out in step 2
- Scores interview
- Synthesis panel comments step 1 & 2

Grant
- Scores interview
- Synthesis panel comments step 1 & 2
Timing PhD Fellowships

- Submission: Mar 1, 2021
- Decision Board: Oct 7, 2021
- Start fellowship: Nov 1, 2021

Dates interviews published early 2021

Info session PhD fellowships 2021
Outline

1. FWO mission & key numbers
2. PhD fellowships at a glance
3. Evaluation & selection process
4. Preparing your application
5. ... further reading & contact
Preparing your application – e-portal

- E-portal/E-loket ([www.fwo.be](http://www.fwo.be)) ([register in time!](#)) -> FWO Validation /48hrs
- Direct access: [https://fwoweb.fwo.be](https://fwoweb.fwo.be)
- New version e-portal

---

December 2020

Info session PhD fellowships 2021
Preparing your application – e-portal

Login
Welcome back! Login to access the FWO’s E-Loket (V2)
Email
dirk.otte@fwo.be
Password
******
Did you forget your password?
☐ Remember My Login
LOGIN

Or first:
REGISTER
NL
EN

General Tasks
- Dashboard
- Personalia
- Panelmember
- Researcher
- Extranet

Researcher
3 applications in design
Mails
All
EXTRANET CV ONLINE

December 2020
Info session PhD fellowships 2021
Preparing your application – e-portal

Your e-application:
Preparing your application – personal details

- **General**
  - National registration number
  - Also non-Belgian applicants with Belgian ID card
  - ORCID registration [https://orcid.org/](https://orcid.org/)
- **Family status**
  - Complete & up to date! *(keep updated)*
- **Diplomas & posts/career**
  - Correct, complete & up to date!
  - *Master future date: keep FWO updated!*
- **Disciplines**
  - *Use level 4*
    - Engineering and technology
    - Mechanical and manufacturing engineering
    - Mechanics
    - Acoustics, noise and vibration engineering
- **Publications**
  - Complete list *(accepted for publication)*!
  - Updates after submission may be mentioned during interview
- **Addresses**
  - *(future) ‘Belgian service address’*
  - Legal domicile address
    - Non-Belgian domicile in EU: add **TIN code** *(tax identification number)*
Preparing your application – various items

- **General:**
  - English + Dutch! (title, abstract)
  - Up to 3 free text keywords
  - **SB:** Position your proposal in terms of economic finality (companies, sector(s), Flanders transition areas/priorities)

- **Host institution - promotor**
  - Main host institution + main promotor (+ co-promotor(s))
    - FWO invites main promotor for recommendation letter
    - Co-promotors are only notified
  - Additional Flemish/federal host institutions (+co-promotor(s))
  - Other co-promotors and their affiliation

- **Peer review**
  - Selection of panel (motivate)

- **Ethics**
  - EU-conform ethical questionnaire

- **Data Management Plan**
  - Info: **NL - EN**
Preparing your application – ‘candidate’

**Evaluation criteria ‘candidate’ (preselection)**

- **Motivation statement**
- Career breaks
- Master thesis
- Mobility *past*
- Mobility* plans (Research stays)
- Scientific awards
- 5 main publications
- Other scientific output + impact

- **Positioning study results**
  - Percentile
  - Positioning/clarification

- **Study results**
  - Academic education record
  - Percentiles scores Master (or Bachelor)

- **Motivation & Relevant competences**
  - Skills & expertise (acquired / developing)
  - Substantiated motivation

*Check new Mobility opportunities: research in collaboration with company or other organization in Belgium or abroad

Mention/substantiate COVID-19 hinder & delays (motivation statement, mobility, career breaks, ...)

Dashboard

- Personalia
  - General
  - Diplomas
  - Posts/Career
  - Disciplines
  - Publications
  - Contact details
  - Addresses
  - Preferences

December 2020

Info session PhD fellowships 2021
Motivation statement

• Personal motivation
  • Why starting a research career / a PhD
  • Research interests

• Scientific background & competences to start PhD
  • Substantiate having (or will have) proper expertise & skills
  • Skills already developed or credible approach to acquire
    • Scientific expertise (Master thesis, start PhD, …)
    • Skills: experimental, writing, commitment, perseverance, …
    • International contacts, contacts with industry (SB), …
Positioning study results

- Percentile (or rank in study group)
  - More info on webpage
  - e-Application form + signed (cand.+prom.) form
  - Relevant master study result (global percentage)
    - In final master year: refer to bachelor diploma
    - NOT an ‘advanced master’ (ManaMa)
  - Find percentile score tables Flemish university (in e-portal application form)
  - Non-Flemish diploma -> contact the institute

- Positioning your results: text
  - Clarify study result /percentile
  - Other evidence of distinguishing yourself during studies
    - Master thesis, ...
  - Other studies (advanced master - manama, specific courses, ...)
    - If in last master year: 1st master year results
How to... percentiles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diploma</th>
<th>Academiejaar</th>
<th># diploma’s</th>
<th>P10</th>
<th>P20</th>
<th>P30</th>
<th>P40</th>
<th>P50</th>
<th>P60</th>
<th>P70</th>
<th>P75</th>
<th>P80</th>
<th>P85</th>
<th>P90</th>
<th>P95</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BACHELOR</td>
<td>2015-2016</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>57,85</td>
<td>58,75</td>
<td>59,86</td>
<td>60,69</td>
<td>62,08</td>
<td>63,33</td>
<td>64,79</td>
<td>65,32</td>
<td>66,53</td>
<td>67,47</td>
<td>68,55</td>
<td>70,97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2016-2017</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>57,58</td>
<td>58,89</td>
<td>59,86</td>
<td>60,69</td>
<td>61,81</td>
<td>63,33</td>
<td>64,44</td>
<td>65,35</td>
<td>66,08</td>
<td>67,67</td>
<td>69,78</td>
<td>72,22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2017-2018</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>57,7</td>
<td>59,03</td>
<td>60,42</td>
<td>61,59</td>
<td>62,92</td>
<td>64,64</td>
<td>66,22</td>
<td>67,01</td>
<td>67,66</td>
<td>68,19</td>
<td>68,64</td>
<td>72,44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2018-2019</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>58,19</td>
<td>60,14</td>
<td>61,82</td>
<td>62,47</td>
<td>63,75</td>
<td>64,75</td>
<td>66,25</td>
<td>67,15</td>
<td>68,08</td>
<td>69,16</td>
<td>70,04</td>
<td>73,12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2019-2020</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>58,26</td>
<td>59,52</td>
<td>60,42</td>
<td>61,33</td>
<td>62,64</td>
<td>64,25</td>
<td>66,05</td>
<td>66,94</td>
<td>68,19</td>
<td>68,72</td>
<td>69,72</td>
<td>73,78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MASTER</td>
<td>2015-2016</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>61,17</td>
<td>63,59</td>
<td>65,38</td>
<td>67,34</td>
<td>69,25</td>
<td>70,66</td>
<td>72,73</td>
<td>73,76</td>
<td>75,08</td>
<td>76,28</td>
<td>76,94</td>
<td>77,34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2016-2017</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>62,57</td>
<td>64,17</td>
<td>66,25</td>
<td>67,72</td>
<td>69,27</td>
<td>71,04</td>
<td>73,44</td>
<td>73,87</td>
<td>75,65</td>
<td>77,3</td>
<td>78,65</td>
<td>81,07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2017-2018</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>64,69</td>
<td>66,25</td>
<td>67,96</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>71,84</td>
<td>74,24</td>
<td>75,83</td>
<td>77,29</td>
<td>77,93</td>
<td>79,11</td>
<td>81,1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2018-2019</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>67,34</td>
<td>69,08</td>
<td>69,79</td>
<td>71,57</td>
<td>72,83</td>
<td>74,97</td>
<td>75,3</td>
<td>76,5</td>
<td>77,43</td>
<td>78,19</td>
<td>80,81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2019-2020</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>64,84</td>
<td>66,97</td>
<td>69,19</td>
<td>71,02</td>
<td>72,65</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>75,4</td>
<td>76,24</td>
<td>76,8</td>
<td>77,29</td>
<td>78,82</td>
<td>80,33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Karel: MSc 2020 with 75,88% - - - > P70 (98 students) - - - > top 30% of study group
Tess:  MSc 2018 with 77,93% - - - > P85 (94 students) - - - > top 15% of study group
Shari: MSc 2021
-> BSc 2019 with 74,22% - - - > P95 (138 students) - - - > top 5% of study group

-> highest Pxx < own study result
if Pxx = your study result -> Pxx
If ≥2 Pxx = your study result -> lowest Pxx (e.g. if study result = 78,24% -> P80)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>P75</th>
<th>P80</th>
<th>P85</th>
<th>P90</th>
<th>P95</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>77,48</td>
<td>76,24</td>
<td>76,24</td>
<td>79,55</td>
<td>81,05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Beware of percentiles in small study groups!! (use aggregated acad. years or other info)
Preparing your application – ‘project’

**Project description – WORD template ≤10* pages**

- Improvements w.r.t. 1st application
- Rationale and positioning w.r.t. the state-of-the-art
- Scientific research objective(s)
- Research methodology and work plan
- **SB:** strategic dimension and application potential
- references

**Submitted to other funding? Be transparent!**
- Update FWO on pending evaluations!

**Positioning** (research group, (inter)nationally)
- Position own previous/current PhD research (if applicable)

**Science communication**

- Mention/substantiate COVID-19 hinder & delays

---

**Evaluation criteria ‘project’**

- Scientific quality, relevance and challenge, originality
  - International state-of-the-art
- Quality of the research methodology and feasibility
  - Risk mitigation

---

December 2020

Info session PhD fellowships 2021
Preparing your application – appl. potential

**Project description**

*WORD template* – *(SB: 12 p)*

- ...  
- **SB**: Strategic dimension and application potential  
- ...

**Evaluation ‘application potential’**

Strategic importance research approach (relevance)  
Strategic importance for possible users (impact)

- Specific companies  
  - AND/OR-  
- Collective of companies / (industrial) sector - AND/OR-  
- in line with Flanders 2025 transition priorities

Dec 2020

Info session PhD fellowships 2021
Submitting your application

State of application
In preparation

Overview of your applications
Download application pdf
Download personalia pdf
Submit application

< March 1 2021

5:00 pm CET

Declaration by the applicant!
... GDPR, research integrity,...

Submitted

-> automatic confirmation follows
-> registration number sent
-> eligibility check: Q&A with FWO admin

December 2020

Info session PhD fellowship 2021
Making it to step 2: interviews

- **Invitations and instructions** June 8 (SB) and July 1 (FR) 2021 (end preselection)
- **Interviews** 1 Sep – 1 Oct 2021
- @FWO in Brussels, or online?
  - FWO will decide timely
- Interview format: pitch + Q&A
  - Interview instructions and guidelines will be available
  - Opportunity to mention realizations since submission date
- Evaluation criteria different from preselection (criterion ‘candidate’)
  - Score grid ‘interview’
  - Focus on ‘potential’ capacity as PhD researcher (total picture)
  - Not the ‘performance’ but contents of what you say...
Outline

1. FWO mission & key numbers
2. PhD fellowships at a glance
3. Evaluation & selection process
4. Preparing your application
5. ... further reading & contact
Further reading & contact

• Programme webpages FR NL - EN / SB NL - EN
  • Regulations (legal version: Dutch)
    • General / PhD programme / bench fee / peer review
  • Supporting documents
    • This presentation / Screenshots e-application
    • Percentiles info (NL - EN)
    • Scoring grids (preselection FR SB – interview FR SB)
    • Guidelines interview (updated later)

• Help! Who to contact
  • Additional info & specific questions
    • FWO file administrators per domain (or SB)
    • Dirk Otte, programme manager fellowships
  • FWOhelpdesk@fwo.be
    • (e-portal/IT problems only)
More information about the FWO

www.fwo.be
Information about FWO’s operation, regulations, scientific prizes and appeals...
All publications are free to download

www.geschiedenisfwo.be
Module about FWO’s history

Join us
Thank you for your attention

...keep safe and good luck!