

Wallonie - Bruxelles
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IN WBI Excellence Scholarship Program

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Short-term scholarships (1 to 3 months)

Long-term scholarships (1 to 2 years)

Presentation of the program

In a context of increased mobility and globalisation, this scholarship program was set up by Wallonia-Brussels International (WBI).

In support of the competitiveness clusters determined by the [Marshall Plan 4.0](#) initiated by Wallonia, it allows the reception of researchers from foreign countries wishing to carry out a postdoctoral program within higher-education institutions that are organised or subsidised by the Wallonia-Brussels Federation.

IMPORTANT ELEMENTS TO CONSIDER CAREFULLY BEFORE COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FILE

- Any beneficiary who has already obtained a scholarship including a possible renewal for a given subject cannot reintroduce a new application ;
- For long-term scholarships, a maximum of three applications will be allowed for each candidate;
- Files that are incomplete, submitted after the deadline or not meeting eligibility criteria will be considered inadmissible.

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Wallonia-Brussels International

International Scholarship Department, coordination of academic and cultural liaison officers (ACLO)
2, Place Saintelette - 1080 Brussels (BE)

1. Profile

Researchers from any country with a degree of doctor by a given foreign university wishing to carry out a postdoctoral program in higher education institutions organised or subsidised by the Wallonia-Brussels Federation.

It should be noted that you are allowed to submit a file even if you are in an active term and the doctorate certification is not yet in your possession. In this case, it will be necessary to send proof of achievement **at the latest on :**

- **For long-term scholarships (stay between September and August): 1st of June ;**
- **For short-term scholarships :**
 - **for stay between February and May : 1st of December ;**
 - **for stay between June and September : 1st of April ;**
 - **for stay between October and January : 1st of July.**

2. Areas

In order to support the various competitiveness clusters of the Marshall Plan 4.0, the following are the focus areas :

- Transport and logistics ;
- Mechanical engineering ;
- Life sciences ;
- Agriculture-industry ;
- Aero-space ;
- Environmental technologies.

All other fields will be taken into account, whether in the human sciences, fundamental or applied.

What are the Walloon competitiveness clusters?

The Competitiveness Clusters, which bring together companies around a promising economic sector (see above), constitute a major economic asset for the development of Wallonia. This is made concrete by the creation of synergies around an innovative economic project stimulated by companies, training or research-innovation centres.

If the research theme is similar to one of the above, WBI will forward the file to the Clusters for their opinion.

We urge you to visit www.poles.be to find out about the activity of each cluster and to check if your research project could be in line with one of them.

3. Countries involved

Any country.

4. Types of programme

- **Long-term** scholarships (minimum 1 year, renewable once) at postdoctoral level ;
- **Short-term** scholarships (1 to 3 months, non-renewable) at postdoctoral level.

5. Application deadlines

- **For long-term scholarships :**

No later than the **1st of March (UTC/GMT +1)** preceding the academic year during which the stay is requested (**starting 1st of October at the latest**).

▪ **For short-term scholarships :**

- for stay between February and May : no later than the preceding **1st of October (UTC/GMT +2)**;
- for stay between June and September : no later than the preceding **1st of February (UTC/GMT +1)**;
- for stay between October and January (starting 1st of November at the latest) : no later than the preceding **1st of May (UTC/GMT +2)**.

6. Submitting applications

The form must be typed and sent by e-mail in one single PDF file (maximum 10 MB) to the Program manager.

7. Selection

WBI selects candidates in collaboration with all the scientific, academic and institutional partners involved in the program.

The jury is composed of members :

- from the National Fund for Scientific Research - FRS-FNRS ;
- from the Directorate-General for “Economic Affairs, Employment and Research” of the Walloon Public Service (DG06) ;
- from WBI.

These base their decision on, but are not limited to, the following criteria when making their selection :

- Area related to the Marshall Plan 4.0 competitiveness clusters ;
- Letters of recommendation attached to the form ;
- Academic references ;
- Interest in the field of research for our universities, research centres ;
- Scientific publications ;
- Professional career.

These criteria make it possible to set out classifications in three A-B-C categories. Only those applications which have been graded A by at least one of the members of the jury will be selectable. It should be noted that sub-categories (A- and A+) are part of category A.

In principle, the decision will be taken at the latest :

For long-term scholarships : no later than the 15th of July.

For long-term scholarships :

- for stays starting between February and May : by the 1st of January ;
- for stays starting between June and September : by the 1st of May ;
- for stays starting between October and January : by the 1st of September.

8. Financial arrangements

- Monthly amount 2.120 euros covering living expenses, accommodation, educational materials and travel expenses within the country ;
- WBI will cover international travel costs (one round trip for the total duration of the program) ;
- WBI covers "healthcare" insurance for non-EU fellows ;
- WBI takes responsibility for “repatriation assistance” insurance (only for long-term scholarships).

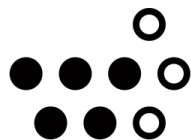
9. Renewal procedure (*applies only to long-term scholarships*)

The maximum duration of WBI funding is 2 years for a post-doctorate including one renewal. To the extent that nothing is automatically established, it will be the responsibility of the awarded fellow wishing to renew their funding to submit, every year by the **1st of May** at the latest, an application for renewal (form to be requested from your manager) to be examined by the jury.

10. To be included in the file

The application form and its appendices must be duly completed and signed in the required places.

- **Application form** ;
- **Appendix 1** : Declaration of additional funding (template on page 10) ;
- **Appendix 2** : Minimum 2 letters of reference (template on page 11) prepared by the faculty of an academic institution able to judge the scientific quality of your work. These must be sent by e-mail directly to WBI and cannot be sent to you ;
- **Appendix 3** : Letter of invitation or agreement from the host university or from the professor(s) supervising the research (no template). It should be noted that researching a host university is a process that is your responsibility and WBI does not intervene in this process ;
- **Appendix 4** : Copy of diplomas (bachelor, 120 credits master and doctorate).



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APPLICATION FORM

A. ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

In order to comply with the provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the requested data below will be kept in the International Scholarship Department (WBI) and will not be provided to the jury.

Last name	
First name	
Date & place of birth	
Nationality	
Sex	
Address of current residence	
Permanent address	
Phone number	
E-mail	
Professor expert from the host institution in the Wallonia-Brussels Federation Last name, first name & e-mail	

How did you learn about this Excellence Scholarship programme?

- REPRESENTATIONS ABROAD (EMBASSIES, DELEGATIONS, ...)
- WEBSITE: www.wbi.be/etudierouenseigner
- PRESS
- SOCIAL NETWORKS
- UNIVERSITIES AND HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS
- THROUGH CONTACTS



B. ACADEMIC PART

EXCELLENCE GRANTS PROGRAM IN WBI	<p><i>Please tick the appropriate box :</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> short-term postdoctoral program</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> long-term postdoctoral program</p>
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Grant usage period	From to
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Expected duration of the programme months ofyears
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Native country	
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Area <small>(See Article 31 of the Decree of 31 March 2004 defining higher education (click here) and go to pages 14 and 15 to select an area (required))</small>	
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GENERAL DETAILS

Last name	
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First name	
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Current role or position	
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Establishment in your country and Department/Laboratory	
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Establishment in the Wallonia-Brussels Federation and Department/Laboratory	
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Supervisor in the Wallonia-Brussels Federation	
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Supervisor in your country	
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Mentor thesis (pending or completed)	
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DESCRIPTORS FIELDS RELATING TO THE TOPIC OF YOUR PROGRAM

Choose a maximum of 8 FRS-FNRS description fields corresponding to your research topic, by order of importance, with the first being the description related to your scientific discipline, to be filled in with any relevant keywords of your choice.

The list of descriptor fields can be downloaded from http://www.fnr.be/docs/Reglement-et-documents/FRS-FNRS_Champs_descripteurs.pdf

	Descriptors fields	Pertinence to the topic
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		

KEYWORDS (OPTIONAL)

You can add any keywords (check first if the descriptor or field is not included in the previous item)
max. 200 character, keywords separated by "/"

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

	Establishment frequented	Academic year	Degree obtained	Level obtained
Higher education (to be detailed by academic year up to Master level)				
Post-graduate studies (after Master)				

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Name of employer	Business sector	Country	Position held	Period

STUDY GRANTS OR FUNDING OBTAINED PREVIOUSLY

Funding organisation(s)	Funding instrument	Duration of funding	Academic year

Have you previously submitted an application for funding via this instrument ? If so, specify the number of requests submitted and relevant dates.

LANGUAGE KNOWLEDGE

- Based on the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) level, to be consulted at the following address:
<http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/resources/european-language-levels-cefr>

Language	Understanding		Speaking		Writing
	Listening	Reading	Participate in a conversation	Express yourself fluently in speech	

PUBLICATIONS

List the 5 most significant publications:

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Title of the research

Project summary (max. 900 character)

Describe in detail the program you intend to pursue (*up to 10.000 characters in length for this section not including spaces*)

Additional details

Does your programme fit into a competitiveness cluster from the Marshall 4.0 Plan ? If yes, which one ?

Is your programme part of an inter-university cooperation effort ? If yes, which one (specify partners) ?

What scope would you give to this programme for the preparation of, or as part of, your professional life? What would be the expected benefits for the Wallonia-Brussels Federation? Similarly, what would be the possible anchoring point of your research in our Federation?

CANDIDATE'S DECLARATION

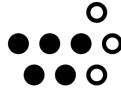
I, the undersigned

- declare that I have read the conditions for the award of the WBI.In Excellence Scholarships and undertake to be in strict compliance with these ;
- declare that the information provided is genuine and true. I agree that any omission to the information required or false statement on my part, even if unintended, may lead to the cancellation of the application ;
- note that the information provided will be used for evaluation and statistics production purpose and submitted to F.R.S.-FNRS and DG06 as part of the jury.

Done at, on

Candidate's signature

Appendix 1 : Declaration of additional funding



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Important note

Any other source of public or private funding must be explicitly mentioned by the candidate using the enclosed declaration, whether in the course of the proceedings or at the agreement stage.

WBI decides on the compatibility of the additional funding with the WBI grant.

Last name and first name:

Country:

1. If an excellence grant is awarded to me, and during the scholarship period:
 - a. I will not benefit from any source of funding other than from that of the IN WBI (*) scholarship programme.
 - b. I will also benefit from another funding source detailed below(*):

Funding period	Organisation/institution providing the funding	Net amounts received per month/year	Is the amount a grant or salary/wage?	Subject to ONSS (National Office for Social Security) YES/NO

2. When I applied for an excellence grant, I also applied for funding from the following organisation, but I have not yet received a definitive answer. I undertake, however, to immediately inform WBI of any additional information concerning this funding application(*).

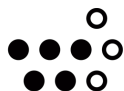
Funding period	Organisation/institution providing the funding	Net amounts received per month/year	Is the amount a grant or salary/wage?	Subject to ONSS (National Office for Social Security) YES/NO

(*) Delete where not applicable

Certified sincere

Date and signature

Appendix 2 : Letter of reference



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IN WBI Excellence Scholarship Program

Wallonia-Brussels International (WBI)

International Scholarship Department, coordination of academic and cultural liaison officers (ALAC)
Place Saintelette, 2 - 1080 Brussels (BE)

Programme manager : Joëlle PORSON
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LETTER OF REFERENCE

This evaluation form will not be sent to the candidate.

The file should be sent to WBI directly by e-mail to j.porson@wbi.be.

The attestation must be drawn up by the faculty of an academic institution able to judge the scientific quality of the candidate's work. The letter may in no case come from a person who has a family relationship with the candidate, up to the fourth degree.

TO BE FILLED IN BY THE CANDIDATE:

Last name and first name: E-mail: Title of the research:	Country: Grant usage period:
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TO BE FILLED IN BY THE REFEREE:

Last name and first name:

Title:

Institution:

E-mail:

1. Appraisal of the candidate's work programme and ability to complete it (*no wordcount limits*):

2. In comparison with other people at the same level of training, I consider that the candidate's application is:

- To be supported as a priority
- To be supported eventually

Referee's signature