

# Research career opportunities in French-speaking Belgium

This document shows the funding opportunities that a researcher might have at each stage of their career in the French Community of Belgium, also known as Wallonia-Brussels Federation (WBF).

It is a collaborative effort of the EURAXESS WBF network, i.e. the EURAXESS Bridge-Head Organisation (BHO) FNRS, the Université de Namur EURAXESS Contact Point, as well as the EURAXESS Service Centre (ESC) of the Université catholique de Louvain, the Université libre de Bruxelles ESC, the Université de Liège ESC and the Université de Mons ESC. It is coordinated by BHO FNRS.

Please note that there is a glossary of acronyms on the last page and that all QR codes are clickable.

The content of this document is based on the information available on 10-03-2025.

For further details, please contact the WBF EURAXESS [Contact Points/Service Centers](#).



## Which stage of the research career are you interested in?

These are the R1 to R4 profiles definitions following the Council Recommendation of 18 December 2023 on a European framework to attract and retain research, innovation and entrepreneurial talents in Europe (<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/C/2023/1640/oj/eng>):



Early-career researchers



Senior researchers

# Overview of the funding opportunities allowing to pursue a research career in French-speaking Belgium























	R1	R2	R3	R4
<b>EU Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)</b>	MSCA Doctoral Networks	MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships	---	---
<b>EU European Research Council (ERC)</b>	---	ERC Starting Grants	ERC CoG, ERC AdG	ERC CoG, ERC AdG
<b>FNRS</b>	ASP, BSD, CSD, SD, VETE-CCD, FRESH grant, FRIA grant, Télévie doctoral grant	CR, CSPD, SPD, Postdoc Télévie	CQ, MISU, CCL	MR, DR, CCL
<b>Innoviris</b>	Applied PhD - Brussels	Brains for Brussels		
<b>Wallonie</b>	Win4Doc			
<b>Université de Liège (ULiège)</b>	Bourses de doctorat-sciences humaines	---		
<b>Université catholique de Louvain (UCLouvain)</b>	FSR Research Projects Global PhD Partnership UCLouvain-KULeuven	FSR Postdoc		
<b>Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB)</b>	Mini-ARC – sciences humaines Esprit libre PhD grants Cooperation & Development	---		
<b>Université de Mons (UMons)</b>	Bourse cofinancée avec partenaire académique ou privé Bourse de resoumission aux instruments FRIA/FRESH/ Aspirants FNRS	Bourse de resoumission à un projet postdoctoral FNRS		
<b>Université de Namur (UNamur)</b>	FSR fellowship for FRIA/FRESH/ ASP FNRS shortlisted but unfunded candidates, providing support for resubmission the following year FSR doctoral fellowship co-financed with another institution Institutional call for a cooperation and development doctoral fellowship	Institutional call for postdoctoral fellowship		

Funding opportunities to create a spin-off

Spin-off Bxl · Win4Spin-Off














# R1 funding and details

Funding	Description	Duration (months)	Eligible costs	Further details
<b>EU MSCA DN Doctoral Networks</b>	Recruitment of doctoral candidates eligible to the mobility rule in the frame of a network of doctoral training funded by the European Union (Horizon Europe) through a Doctoral Network call	3 - 36 (max. 48)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Living allowance</li> <li>• Mobility allowance</li> <li>• Family allowance (if applicable)</li> <li>• Long-term leave allowance (if applicable)</li> <li>• Special needs allowance (if applicable)</li> <li>• Research, training and networking costs (for the host institution)</li> <li>• Management costs (for the host institution)</li> </ul>	About the available job offers: EURAXESS  
<b>ASP FNRS Research Fellow</b>	Research fellow - Mandate aiming to complete the PhD	24 (max. 48)	Grant (see 'amounts of grants and salaries')  	 
<b>BSD FNRS</b>	Grant for secondary school teachers who are WBF university graduates with job stability and who can take leave for one year with the certainty of returning to their job at the end of this leave, enabling them to complete a research project in view of obtaining a PhD degree in one of the WBF's academic institutions	12	Grant  	 
<b>CSD FNRS</b>	Mandate for a doctor who simultaneously undertakes a doctorate and a specialised master's degree	48 – part time (max. 96)	Grant  	 
<b>SD FNRS</b>	Mandate for a licensed medical specialist who undertakes a PhD	24 – part time (max. 48)	Grant  	 
<b>VETE-CCD</b>	Fellowship for veterinary doctors in clinical specialisation to enable them to undertake a doctoral thesis	24 – part time (max. 48)	Grant  	 















## R1 funding and details

Funding	Description	Duration (months)	Eligible costs	Further details
<b>FRESH-FNRS</b>	Doctoral grant in human and social sciences	27 (max. 48)	Grant (see 'amounts of grants and salaries') 	 
<b>FRIA-FNRS</b>	Doctoral grant in fields of research related to industry and agriculture			 
<b>Télévie Grant - FNRS</b>	Télévie doctoral student grant in the domain of cancer	Max. 48	Grant	 
<b>Applied PhD - Brussels</b>	Funding for applied PhDs: partnership between one academic and one non-academic entities (private, public, or not-for-profit organisation)			 
<b>Win4Doc - Wallonia</b>	Cofunding for applied PhDs: partnership between an enterprise situated in Wallonia and a research unit from a university. The project should favor themes connected to Wallonia's RIS3 Smart Specialisation Strategy.	Max. 48	Salary, fixed operating and coordination costs, general costs, subcontracting costs (70% cofunding for a Small Enterprise, 60% for a Medium Enterprise and 50% for a Large Company)	 










## R1 funding and details

University	Funding	Further details
<b>ULiège</b>	Bourses de doctorat-sciences humaines	(FR version only)  
<b>UCLouvain</b>	FSR Research Projects	 
	Global PhD partnership UCLouvain-KULeuven	(ENG version at the bottom of the page)  
<b>ULB</b>	Mini-ARC-ULB Scholarships	 
	Esprit libre	(FR version only)  
	PhD grants - Cooperation & development	(FR version only)  
<b>UMons</b>	Scholarship co-funded with an academic or private partner	<a href="mailto:avre@umons.ac.be">avre@umons.ac.be</a>
	Resubmission scholarship for FRIA/FRESH/FNRS Aspirants	
<b>UNamur</b>	FSR fellowship for FRIA/FRESH/ASP FNRS shortlisted but unfunded candidates, providing support for resubmission the following year	<a href="mailto:secretariat.adre@unamur.be">secretariat.adre@unamur.be</a>
	FSR doctoral fellowship co-financed by a private organisation	
	Institutional call for a cooperation and development doctoral fellowship	





## R2 funding and details

N. years post PhD	Funding	Description	Duration (months)	Eligible costs	Further details
0-8	<b>EU MSCA PF – Postdoctoral Fellowships</b>	Funding of a postdoctoral researcher eligible to the mobility rule and of his/her research project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• European Fellowships (EF) : in a Member State of the EU or an Associated Country to Horizon Europe</li> <li>• Global Fellowships (GF) :               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Outgoing phase: 12-24 months in a Third Country</li> <li>✓ Return phase: 12 months - in a Member State of the EU or an Associated Country to Horizon Europe</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12-24 (EF)</li> <li>• 24-36 (GF)</li> <li>• Plus 6 months of Non-Academic placement if requested in the proposal</li> </ul>	Living allowance Mobility allowance If applicable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family allowance</li> <li>• Long-term leave allowance</li> <li>• Special needs allowance</li> </ul>	NCP-FNRS website (FR version only) 
					MSCA website 
0-5	<b>CR FNRS – Postdoctoral researcher</b>	Funding of a postdoctoral researcher and of a his/her operating costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12-24 (EF)</li> <li>• 24-36 (GF)</li> <li>• Plus 6 months of Non-Academic placement if requested in the proposal</li> </ul>	Salary Operating costs	
2-7	<b>EU ERC StG – Starting Grant</b>	Attractive funding to support investigator-driven frontier research across all fields  An ERC StG Principal Investigator or PI should have already shown evidence of the potential for research independence, for example by having produced at least one important publication as main author or without the participation of their PhD supervisor	60	Funding of excellent investigators (PIs), their projects and their teams	NCP-FNRS website (FR version only) 
					ERC website 
	<b>CSPD FNRS</b>	Postdoctoral Medical doctor applicant to a MSc	24-48 (part-time)	Salary	
	<b>SPD FNRS</b>	Postdoctoral Clinical Master Specialists (SPD)	24-72 (part-time)	Salary	



## R2 funding and details

N. years post PhD	Funding	Description	Duration (months)	Eligible costs	Further details
	<b>Postdoc Télévie</b>	Télévie research assistant grant in the domain of cancer	Max. 48	Salary	
	<b>Brains for Brussels</b>	Funding to support high-level researchers, currently working abroad or in the private sector, to carry out pioneering research relevant to the Brussels-Capital Region in which the results will be exploited	36 (max. 60)	Salary Operating costs Logistical support Additional overheads If applicable, relocation costs	











## R2 funding and details

University	Funding	Further details
UCLouvain	Call FSR Postdoc 2025 – Incoming Postdoctoral Fellowships	 
UMons	One-year postdoctoral fellowship to resubmit an FNRS postdoctoral project in case of a positive evaluation but non-selection	<a href="mailto:avre@umons.ac.be">avre@umons.ac.be</a>
UNamur	Institutional call for postdoctoral fellowship	<a href="mailto:secretariat.adre@unamur.be">secretariat.adre@unamur.be</a>







## R3-R4 funding and details



Seniority criterion	Funding	Description	Duration (months)	Eligible costs	Further details
7-12 after PhD	EU ERC CoG – Consolidator Grant Established researchers (R3) / Leading Researchers (R4)	Attractive funding to support investigator-driven frontier research across all fields  An ERC CoG Principal Investigator or PI should have already shown evidence of research independence.	60	Funding of excellent investigators (PIs), their projects and their teams	NCP-FNRS (FR version only) 
					ERC website 
From 12 years after PhD	EU ERC AdG – Advanced Grant Established researchers (R3) / Leading Researchers (R4)	Attractive funding to support investigator-driven frontier research across all fields  An ERC AdG Principal Investigator or PI is expected to be an active researcher and to have a track record of significant research achievements.	60	Funding of excellent investigators (PIs), their projects and their teams	NCP-FNRS (FR version only) 
					ERC website 
0-10 after PhD	CQ FNRS - Chercheuse et chercheur qualifiés/ Research associates (R3)	The CQ mandate allows a senior researcher to pursue his/her research independently	Permanent contract	Salary Operating costs for the first 3 years	F.R.S.-FNRS CQ webpage 
Min. 8 years after CQ	MR FNRS - Maître de recherches/ Senior research associate (R4)	Promotion after CQ mandate	Permanent contract	Salary	F.R.S.-FNRS MR webpage 

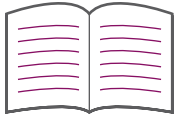


## R3-R4 funding and details

Seniority criterion	Funding	Description	Duration (months)	Eligible costs	Further details
Min. 4 years after MR	DR FNRS - Directrice et directeur de recherches/ Research director (R4)	Promotion after MR mandate	Permanent contract	Salary	F.R.S.-FNRS MR webpage 
	MISU FNRS – Mandat d’impulsion scientifique – Ulysse (R3) /ULYSSE Incentive Grant	Active researcher with an excellent career track record during the past ten years, including an international scientific recognition, plus the capacity to lead a research team. The applicant should come from abroad. More precisely, according to the MISU FNRS mobility rule, he/she should not have spent more than 12 months during the last 60 months in Belgium.	24-36	Salary Staff Operating costs Equipment	F.R.S.-FNRS MISU webpage 
After 6 years of SPD	CCL - Clinical researcher	Specialist clinical doctor pursuing a part time research activity (continuation of the Postdoctoral Clinical Master Specialists)	48 (part-time), can be renewed without limits		F.R.S.-FNRS CCL webpage  

## Funding opportunities to create a spin-off

Funding	Description	Further details
<p><b>Win4Spin-Off</b></p>	<p>Supporting the creation of spin-off companies and entrepreneurship training for researchers, via the development and validation of new products, processes or services intended to be used for short-term industrial purposes</p>	<p>Spin-Off of Wallonia</p> 
<p><b>Spin-Off Brussels</b></p>	<p>Supporting Brussels-based research organisations to valorise their research results by setting up a spin-off, so as to finish an innovative product, process or service</p>	<p>Brussels Spin-Off</p> 



# Glossary

**ASP:** Research Fellow

**BSD:** Special Doctoral Grant

**CCL:** Clinical Researcher

**CQ:** Research Associate

**CR:** Postdoctoral Researcher

**CSD:** Medical Doctor Applicant to an MSc and a PhD

**CSPD:** Postdoctoral Medical Doctor Applicant to an MSc

**DR:** Research Director

**ERC AdG:** ERC Advanced Grant

**ERC CoG:** ERC Consolidator Grant

**EU:** European Union

**FRESH:** Doctoral Grant in Human and Social Sciences

**FRIA:** Doctoral Grant Related to Industry or Agriculture

**MISU:** ULYSSE Incentive Grant for Mobility in Scientific Research

**MR:** Senior Research Associate

**SD:** Clinical Master Specialist Applicant to a PhD

**SPD:** Postdoctoral Clinical Master Specialists

**VETE-CCD:** Veterinary MD PhD Student