



Regulations 2019

Dutch L'Oréal-UNESCO Fellowship For Women in Science

L'Oréal Netherlands, the Netherlands Commission for UNESCO, the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study (NIAS) and the Dutch Network of Women Professors (LNVH) work together to offer a national programme of grants for women researchers.

These national grants, which have been available since 2012, are part of the international partnership between L'Oréal and UNESCO - "For Women in Science" (FWIS) which was set up in 1998 to improve the position of women working in science. FWIS has two international programmes alongside national programmes in different countries.

1. Objectives

The Dutch L'Oréal-UNESCO "For Women in Science" Fellowship grants are intended to advance the academic careers of women researchers with 3-10 years of post-PhD academic experience (comparable to Veni/Vidi level) and working in the field of Life Sciences. The aim is to promote the number of women professors in the Netherlands.

These grants offer women researchers the opportunity to work within the interdisciplinary, international academic environment at NIAS-KNAW in Amsterdam, away from the distractions of regular administrative and teaching tasks so that they can focus on broadening their research and writing publications or grant proposals.

2. Description of the grants

Two grants of € 25.000 each are available annually to fund the costs of two fellowships at NIAS in Amsterdam for a continuous period of either 3 or 5 months. The fellowships are called 'Dutch L'Oréal-UNESCO Fellowship for Women in Science' and include the provision of an office, computer, research facilities and, depending on distance between NIAS and home, either accommodation or a daily travel allowance. The holder of the fellowship may be eligible to apply for replacement funds to cover the costs of teaching, administrative or clinical tasks. FWIS fellows are eligible to apply for funds to cover the additional expenses of child-care made during their fellowship.

3. Criteria - who may apply

Women researchers with 3-10 years of post-PhD academic experience (Veni/Vidi level) may apply. Maternity leave, part-time work and family care will be taken into account and, if applicable, the upper limit of 10 years can be extended by up to 18 months per child.

Applicants submit a proposal to the on a current research topic in the Life Sciences, which we define as: proposals focusing on scientific and engineering knowledge that contribute to the understanding of the underlying processes in the existence of living organisms. This includes the study of conditions of health and disease in humans. It implies a comprehensive and integrated approach which may also include the humanities and social sciences, while at the same time doing justice to a solid foundation in the natural sciences.

As the aim of this programme is to increase the number of women professors in the Netherlands by improving the career prospects of women researchers, only researchers with a permanent or temporary contract¹ at a Dutch University or Research Institute are eligible to apply. Zero-hour contracts or visiting researcher positions do not apply.

The Call is open from 8 March 2018 to 11 May 2018. Applications can be submitted for fellowships at NIAS starting early September 2019 or early February 2020 (academic year 2019/2020).

Candidates who are not successful may apply a second time by submitting a new project proposal to the Dutch L'Oréal UNESCO For Women in Science Grant Programme.

4. Submitting a proposal

An application consists of the following:

- application form
- project proposal form
- CV (maximum 5 pages including the list of publications)
- two letters of recommendation
- copies of the two most relevant publications

For more information about the application criteria please consult the application form and the project proposal form.

The application can be submitted by email to dr. Marike Bontenbal, Nederlandse UNESCO Commissie, mbontenbal@unesco.nl, no later than May 11, 2018.

5. Evaluation and results

The Netherlands Commission for UNESCO sends applications that meet the criteria set out above to the jury for evaluation. The jury is made up of an interdisciplinary group of scientists and consists of seven members. In 2018, the members of the jury are:

- Professor M.C.E. van Dam-Mieras, Emeritus Professor of Sustainable Development and Innovation of Education, former member of the Netherlands Commission for UNESCO, Chair of the jury
- Professor A.L. Bredenoord, Professor of Ethics of Biomedical Innovation, University Medical Centre Utrecht
- Prof. dr. dr. P.Y.W. Dankers, Professor of Biomedical Materials, Eindhoven Technical University
- A. Lee, MSc., Scientific and regulatory affairs Director, L'Oréal Benelux
- Professor A.H.E.M. Maas, Professor of Cardiology for Women, Radboud University Medical Centre, member of the board LNVH

¹ At the time of fellowship at NIAS.

- Professor W.G.J. Duyvendak, Professor of Sociology, University of Amsterdam, Director Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities and Social Sciences (NIAS-KNAW)
- Professor W. van Saarloos, Professor of Theoretical Physics, Leiden University; Vice President KNAW.

The evaluation and selection of applications is based on:

- Scientific achievements of the candidate
- Scientific quality of the research proposal
- Relevance of the L'Oréal UNESCO FWIS Fellowship for the applicant's scientific career.
- Budget proposal
- The extent to which the application fits the interdisciplinary character of NIAS.²

L'Oréal Netherlands, the Netherlands Commission for UNESCO, the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study (NIAS) and the Dutch Network of Women Professors (LNVH) reserve the right not to award a Dutch L'Oréal UNESCO (FWIS) Fellowship Grant if there are no suitable candidates.

6. Time line and Award Ceremony

Candidates will be informed on the results of their application before July 15, 2018. The results will be formally announced at the official FWIS Award Ceremony in autumn. Laureates are expected to present their research project at the ceremony.

7. Terms and conditions

Candidates must indicate their preference for the fellowship period on their application form. The starting dates for a fellowship at NIAS are early September 2019 or early February 2020.

At the end of the fellowship, a NIAS Progress Report form needs to be submitted. In addition, fellows can be asked to deliver a short public report or testimonial about their time at NIAS that can be shared through the website and media of the FWIS partners.

In the run up to the Award Ceremony and during the fellowship period all laureates are expected to act as ambassadors representing the position of women in science in the Netherlands. Laureates may be asked to attend events or make themselves available for interviews in relation to the FWIS programme. Laureates agree to take part in communication activities related to the Dutch L'Oréal UNESCO For Women in Science Grant Programme and allow photographic and film material to be used by the media.

Laureates give UNESCO, L'Oréal, NIAS and LNVH permission to use their photographs, name, awards and titles in international communications for the duration of the Dutch FWIS programme. This permission is restricted to non-commercial goals that are directly related to the For Women in Science Grants Programme.

² Please note that the fellowships are preferably meant for candidates for whom the interdisciplinary research climate of NIAS and the interaction with the other fellows are particularly attractive, or in other words, when the NIAS environment provides particular added value to both candidate and project proposal.

Appendix:

NIAS Fellowship 2019 Dutch L'Oréal-UNESCO Fellowships for Women in Science³

The Dutch L'Oréal-UNESCO "For Women in Science" Fellowship grants are intended to advance the academic careers of women researchers with 3-10 years of post-PhD academic experience (comparable to Veni/Vidi level) who work in the field of Life Sciences at a Dutch university or research institute. The grants offer women researchers a residential stay of 3 or 5 months during which they can perform scientific work in an international and interdisciplinary environment.

NIAS offers the following facilities:

- Office with PC, network and printer connection, telephone and Wi-Fi in the whole building
- Office equipment and stationary
- Large and small meeting rooms with presentation facilities
- Library service
- Academic and social activities within an international and multidisciplinary community
- Communal workday lunches; coffee and tea facilities

In case commuting time (single journey) exceeds 1.5 hours, fellows are eligible to make use of accommodation provided by NIAS. For more information please consult the NIAS-website <https://nias.knaw.nl/what-we-offer/practical-matters/sub-page-2/>

Grants

The grant is for a maximum of € 25.000 and funds the costs of a fellowship at NIAS in Amsterdam for a continuous fellowship period of either 3 or 5 months. Any remaining grant may be used up to 12 months from the starting date of the fellowship. The grant covers the following costs:

- a. Use of the NIAS facilities described above (€ 700 per month)
- b. Travel expenses (on reimbursement basis)
- c. If eligible for accommodation (see regulations above), subsidized rent for a studio apartment in the Fellows House (€ 500 per month) or subsidized rent for a family apartment (€ 750 per month)
- d. The holder of the fellowship may be eligible for replacement funds to cover the costs of teaching, administrative or clinical tasks. The replacement fund only covers the contractual obligation for teaching and administration hours per month (maximum full-time € 2.600 per month). The university faculty must send NIAS a statement of hours, and payment will be made to the faculty once NIAS has approved the declared amount.
- e. Contribution to additional costs of childcare that occur as a result of working at NIAS instead of the regular work place (on reimbursement basis).
- f. A small workshop or meeting at NIAS during or directly following the fellowship period. The academic programme of the workshop should aim at developing new, preferably interdisciplinary themes, and participants should be of high scientific quality. Planning and budgeting to be drafted in consultation with NIAS.

Fellows who opt for the fellowship of 3 months and who do not need the whole grant of € 25.000 to cover the costs mentioned above (a-f) can use any remaining funds for an academic activity relating to the fellowship project, for example a visit to a university or research institute outside the Netherlands or the organization of an (international) workshop, e.g. at the Lorentz Center in Leiden, which is a national center for scientific workshops in all scientific disciplines, and a partner of NIAS.

³ For more information about NIAS or the proposal or workshop topic, please contact dr. Angelie Sens, institute manager NIAS, 020-2246703, angelie.sens@nias.knaw.nl.