

The Netherlands Fellowship Programmes

NUFFIC

(Netherlands Organization for International
Cooperation in Higher Education)

& Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The Netherlands Fellowship Programme

- PhD degrees can be pursued at 18 Dutch universities and institutes for international education. Please consult the list of these universities and institutes, together with their addresses and websites for more information.
- The maximum NFP budget available for a PhD study is EUR 74,000. This amount covers the tuition fees and aims to provide a contribution to the costs of subsistence and travel.
- PhD students are allowed to seek alternative sources of funding to help them cover the costs of their study. The maximum duration of a PhD fellowship period is four years.

A candidate applying for an NFP fellowship for pursuit of a PhD must meet the following criteria:

- be a national of one of the 57 developing countries on the list;
- have been admitted to the Dutch institution as a PhD fellow. This means that the applicant meets all the requirements set by the Dutch university or institute.
- have completed an NFP PhD Study Application Form and have provided all the required documentation;
- have completed a PhD research proposal in collaboration with the Dutch institution;

- offer proof that the PhD will be pursued according to a 'sandwich' or 'picnic' model, which means that a large portion of the PhD research will take place in the candidate's home country.
- In a 'sandwich' model the greater part of the field research takes place in the home country. The start of the PhD study and graduation ceremony of the candidate usually take place in the Netherlands.
- In a 'picnic' model the PhD candidate will do research in her or his own country for most of the time and spend only a few short periods of time in the Netherlands;
- be nominated by her or his employer, who pledges to continue paying the candidate's salary and to hold a job for the candidate while she or he is in the Netherlands.

The Candidate

3/3

- provide statements explaining motivation (of both the applicant and the employer);
- not be employed by a large industrial, commercial or multinational firm;
- offer evidence that she or he is sufficiently skilled in speaking and writing the language of instruction;
- be available to pursue the PhD without interruption;
- declare that she or he will return to her or his home country immediately after the period of study and research has ended.

The application and selection procedure

- A candidate can apply for a PhD fellowship only after a research proposal has been agreed upon by both the candidate and the Dutch provider.
- The application and selection procedure consists of the following steps:

1) Admission to the pursuit of a PhD is granted on an individual basis. Senior academic staff or a specific PhD committee decide whether or not an applicant will be accepted. Usually the assessment is based on the research proposal submitted by the applicant.

The application and selection procedure

Application for a fellowship:

- 2) After being accepted, the candidate submits a request for a PhD fellowship. A completed NFP PhD Study Application Form to the Netherlands embassy or consulate in the candidate's own country. Accompanied by the necessary documentation and by a research proposal.*
- 3) The embassy or consulate assesses the application. Special attention to the following: the development value of the proposed research for organization and country; proof that the candidate's employer and the Dutch institution support the application; a guarantee from the Dutch institution that the candidate will receive a PhD degree upon successful completion of the research and dissertation.*

The application and selection procedure

- 4) The embassy or consulate forwards an application to Nuffic, together with its own recommendations. Nuffic assesses the application.*
- 5) Nuffic selects the candidates who will receive PhD fellowships. Nuffic gives priority to applications which:
propose that the research project be co-supervised by an institution in a developing country;
have a proven link with other activities that are financed by the NFP or the NPT; are submitted by female candidates; are submitted by candidates from sub-Saharan Africa; stem from agreements made with selected organizations in the pilot countries;*
- 6) Nuffic informs the candidate and the institution of its decision.*

Deadline for applications

The applications for PhD research projects that start in 2005 should have reached Nuffic before 1 November 2004.

Applications for PhD research projects that start in 2006 should have reached Nuffic before 1 July and before 1 November 2005.

Candidates are advised to submit their applications to the Netherlands embassies or consulates at least one month before Nuffic's deadlines.

Website

<http://www.nuffic.nl>