Guidelines EUR Fellowships Vidi & ERC Starting Grant 2019

1. Objective
The EUR Fellowship grant is meant as an extra stimuli for talented researchers from Erasmus University Rotterdam. Due to the lack of budget and the growing competition within various funding schemes, it has become more difficult for researchers to obtain research funding from the NWO Talent Scheme and the European Commission H2020 programme. With the EUR Fellowship scheme the Erasmus University Rotterdam wants to motivate talented researchers and facilitate them in writing a grant proposal, executing their research and evolve in their academic career.

2. Eligibility criteria Vidi & ERC Starting grant EUR Fellowships

- Researchers who have submitted a proposal for a NWO Vidi or an European Research Council (ERC) Starting Grant and have received a good evaluation but due to budgetary reasons were not funded, can qualify for the EUR Fellowship at the first possible call deadline.
  - NWO Vidi: Researchers who have received an excellent or very good in their Final Assessment Score in their evaluation report.
    - Excellent: 1.0 tot 1.4
    - Very good: 1.5 tot 3.4
  - ERC Starting Grant: the candidate needs to be through to Step 2 (invitation to the interview).
- Researchers who have previously received a particular type of grant under the EUR Fellowship Programme cannot apply again for the same kind of grant. For example researchers who have won an EUR Fellowship for a Vidi or ERC Starting Grant cannot apply for an EUR Fellowship for the same grant in a later round.

3. Grant Conditions

Every year a maximum of € 1,410,000 is available for the EUR Fellowships. A total of €600,000 is reserved for Vidi & ERC Starting Grant EUR Fellowships. This amounts to four Vidi/ERC Starting Grant Fellowships.

- Two Vidi & ERC Starting Grant EUR Fellowships for candidates from EUR Woudestein & ISS
- Two Vidi & ERC Starting Grant EUR Fellowships for candidates of the Erasmus MC.

If the juries are not convinced of the quality of the proposals, they can decide on a different distribution of the funds or decide to award less fellowships in the concerning round.

3.1 Scope
NWO Vidi and ERC Starting Grant: € 150,000. When applying with an NWO Vidi or an ERC Starting grant the Fellowship can be used over a period of four years (in the event of a full-time appointment). In this Fellowship the candidate can apply for the following:
1. For the purpose of the researcher itself;
2. For the deployment of a Postdoc;
3. For the deployment of a PhD candidate. (The faculty needs to provide the additional funding of the PHD after the € 150,000 until the amount needed to finance a four year fulltime deployment as PhD is reached).

Only direct project costs (salary costs and equipment costs incurred in support of the research project) can be financed by the EUR Fellowship. The faculty is responsible for indirect costs such as salary costs for teaching, management tasks, and overhead.
3.2 Appointment
The EUR Fellow must be appointed to a faculty of the Erasmus University Rotterdam for the term of the research project as described in the proposal.

3.3 Suspension and discontinuation
The EUR Fellowship can only be postponed, extended or suspended with the prior written permission of the Executive Board. The Board will grant permission in the case of a) pregnancy and birth, and b) other exceptional circumstances.

If the researcher leaves the Erasmus University Rotterdam, or for any other reason discontinues all activities associated with the EUR Fellowship research, the funding will be ended immediately. Discontinuation of all activities associated with the EUR Fellowship research must be explained in a letter submitted to the Executive Board.

3.4 Contribution Science Hub EUR
During the fellowship, the EUR Fellows are asked to contribute to research related activities at the EUR for 3- half days. For example as a guest speaker at a research grant training, to be a member of a mock interview committee, or for scientific impact activities such as the EUR Science Hub.

4. The Application

4.1 Proposal
The application must be submitted with the approval of the Dean of the faculty, or in the case of the Erasmus MC the head of department.

4.2 Contents of the Application
The EUR Fellowship application should contain the following elements:

In the case of a NWO Vidi:
- a) The complete NWO Vidi application as submitted to NWO.
- b) All correspondence with the NWO, including referee reports, rebuttal and final evaluation report with the Final Assessment Score.
- c) A maximum of 1300 words containing the specific part of the NWO Vidi proposal that will be executed in the EUR Fellowship. It is specifically not the intention that a completely new proposal is submitted (for the research itself or for the deployment of a Postdoc or a PhD).
- d) A modified version of the NWO Vidi budget that fits within the terms and conditions of the EUR Fellowship. The modified budget must be consistent with the description of the elements to be carried out (Part c).
- e) The motivation from the candidate for the EUR Fellowship application.
- f) Commitment letter of the Dean of concerning Faculty, or in the case of the Erasmus MC the head of department, for the EUR Fellowship application.
- g) In the case of an application for deployment of a Postdoc or a PhD, other than the candidate, the Dean should explicitly declare to agree with the deployment of the Postdoc or PhD and to provide the resources necessary to do so.

In the case of an ERC Starting Grant:
- a) The complete ERC Starting Grant application as submitted to the European Commission.
- b) All evaluations by the European Commission of the ERC Starting Grant application (including the final decision), and if available, all correspondence concerning the evaluations.
- c) A maximum of 1300 words containing the specific part of the ERC Starting Grant proposal that will be executed in the EUR Fellowship. This is a modified version of the ERC Starting Grant application.
that fits within the terms and conditions of the EUR Fellowship. It is specifically not the intention that a completely new proposal is submitted.

d) A modified version of the ERC Starting Grant budget that fits within the EUR Fellowship’s term and budget. The modified budget must be consistent with the description of the elements to be carried out (Part c).
e) The motivation from the candidate for the EUR Fellowship application.
f) Commitment letter of the Dean of concerning Faculty, or in the case of the Erasmus MC the head of department, for the EUR Fellowship application.
g) In the case of an application for the deployment of a Postdoc or a PhD, other than the candidate, the Dean should explicitly declare in the proposal to agree to the deployment of that Postdoc or PhD and state his/her willingness to provide the resources necessary to do so.

Please note that additional explanations, attachments or documents, besides the formal template, will not be considered in the evaluation process.

4.3 Deadline of Submission
The application will be submitted to awards@eur.nl no later than Friday 1 November 2019. The complete application needs to be digitally submitted in a PDF file. All aspects of the application as mentioned in a-g (see 4.2) need to be included in the exact order as stated in the provided template form. The proposal needs to be readable and accessible.

5. Evaluation

5.1 Evaluation Criteria
The EUR Fellowship application will be evaluated against the following criteria:

- The quality and talent of the researcher (publications, international network and mobility, academic track record, awards etc.).
- The quality of the research proposal (relevance, feasibility, originality, impact and innovative nature of the research proposal).
- The motivation of the candidate (potential impact and benefits from the EUR Fellowship for the research career of the candidate)
- The NWO or ERC final evaluation report and final assessment score is one of the criteria that is included in the assessment of the EUR Fellowship.¹

5.2 Procedure
The EUR Fellowship coordinator assesses if the received application is complete and meets the admission criteria. The proposals is consecutively sent to the evaluation committee members, who will evaluate the proposals individually on the evaluation criteria and prepare a ranking. These individual rankings will be combined in one overview.

Two jury meetings are organized, with a distinction between the EUR Woudestein & ISS candidates and Erasmus MC candidates. The highest ranked proposals will be discussed and the jury members will reach a decision in consensus for the Executive Board. The Executive Board will base their final awarding on this advice.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 November 2019</td>
<td>Deadline submission of proposals</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 December 2019</td>
<td>Jury meeting Erasmus Woudestein</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 December 2019</td>
<td>Jury meeting Erasmus MC</td>
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¹ The NWO evaluation(s) (in case of NWO Vidi) and evaluation(s) of the European Commission (in case of the ERC Starting Grant) is (are) used in support of the evaluation process. However, the selection committee can decide on a different result.
5.3 Composition of the Selection Committee
Both evaluation committees consist of four jury members: the Rector Magnificus (chairman) and three (assistant/associate) professors or Young Erasmus Academy members. The committee is assisted by the EUR Fellowship coordinator. To prevent conflicts of interest researchers from a broad range of expertise will be invited to partake in the jury committee.

6. Contact
For more information, please contact the EUR Fellowship Coordinator:
Pim Jansen (Erasmus Research Services)
Tel: 06 – 51 80 75 11
Email: awards@eur.nl