
Fellowship Programme 2024

« PhD grants » - Application guide

The English version of the regulations is provided for information purposes only, and in case of any discrepancy in translation, the French version shall prevail.

The information contained in this regulation is derived from the ANRS MIE's reference document entitled "Modalités d'organisation administrative, scientifique et financière de l'ANRS MIE" (MOASF), regarding the financial regulations for research grants allocated by ANRS MIE, which you can refer to on the [ANRS MIE website](#).

The information regarding organization, application submission and evaluation procedures, and deadlines are specific to this call for applications.

Deadline for Applications

The application documents must be submitted electronically by:

21st May 2024 at 11:59 PM (Paris time)

on the website:

https://apogee.anrs.fr/Apogee.Guichet/workflow_url

Context

The ANRS MIE aims to support the attractiveness of research careers within its scope, both in France and through international collaborations. The agency has therefore made the support of the next generation of scientists a strategic priority by mobilizing resources and implementing specific actions to encourage their involvement and development in its research areas.

The "Fellowship Programme 2024" is the first initiative launched within the framework of the new ANRS MIE programme specifically dedicated to young researchers

Objectives

This call for applications aims to fund individual PhD grants for promising researchers working on specific topics within the framework of ANRS MIE.

For this first edition, the ANRS MIE Fellowship programme is awarding five fellowships, focusing on the themes addressed by two of its coordinating bodies, the Coordinated Action on Modelling of Infectious Diseases (AC 49) and the Arbo-France Network.

Scope of the call

For each of the major themes mentioned above, the priority research areas have been specified as follows:

1. PhD Grants on Modelling of human infectious diseases (2 grants)

The proposed projects should focus on all aspects of the modelling of human infectious diseases within the scope of ANRS MIE, covering all aspects, with priority themes and approaches including but not limited to:

- Multiscale modelling of epidemic dynamics
- Within-host dynamic models
- Accounting for individual behaviour in epidemic models
- Modelling sexually transmitted infections
- Vector-borne and/or zoonotic disease modelling
- Lessons from COVID-19 on the use of modelling as a decision-making aid

The PhD project should involve innovative modelling and/or methodology.

2. PhD Grants on arboviruses (3 grants)

All aspects and disciplines of arbovirology related to emerging or re-emerging viruses are eligible, with two priority themes identified, but which are not restrictive:

- Animal component of arboviral infections: study of the animal compartment of a zoonosis / study of a strictly animal arbovirosis that can be used as an emergence model ;
- Population health intervention research* on human arboviruses, in mainland France and/or in overseas territories: vector control / monitoring the progression of the arboviral risk and the use of vaccines.

* *Population health intervention research (PHIR) aims to produce knowledge about interventions (actions, programmes, organisations or policies) likely to influence the distribution of risk and protection factors in a given population and reduce social inequalities in health, and likely to have an impact on the social, cultural and environmental determinants of health in that population.*

General terms and conditions

Timeline

Opening of the call for applications: from April 8th to May 21st, 2024 (11:59 PM - Paris time)

Results: July 2024

Eligibility Criteria

PhD grants are intended for candidates who are:

- French or foreign nationals
- Holders or in the process of obtaining at least a DEA / Master 2 or equivalent degree - proof of degree attainment must be provided when the funding is setup, which must occur within 6 months after the publication of results
- Affiliated with a French research organisation, public or private
- Candidates for a French doctoral school.

Duration of Grants

PhD grants are awarded for a duration of 36 months.

Submission Procedure

All applications must be submitted online via the ANRS MIE call for projects platform, Apogée, which can be accessed here: https://apogee.anrs.fr/Apogee.Guichet/workflow_url

The application must be submitted by the candidate.

On the Apogée platform, two different forms are available for the two types of grants: one for grants focusing on the modelling of human infectious diseases, and one for grants focusing on arboviroses. It is up to the applicant to choose and complete the appropriate form.

The form to be completed online comprises two main parts: administrative and scientific information about the applicant and the scientific presentation of the project specifically carried out by the candidate.

The scientific part of the application must follow the template available on Apogée or on the "Fellowship programme 2024" page.

<https://anrs.fr/en/funding/all-calls-for-proposals/fellowship-programme-2024/>

Even if the Apogée platform is in French, the submission file (fields to be completed and documents to be uploaded) **must be written in English** and must include all the elements required for the scientific and technical evaluation of the project and the applicant, i.e.:

- The detailed research proposal, with a clear description of the candidate's role (document A0);
- The candidate's CV, highlighting experience and training relevant to the proposed project;
- A short letter of motivation from the candidate, outlining their interest in carrying out a thesis on the proposed subject;
- A letter of support from the host laboratory indicating why the candidate is suitable for the project.

No additional documents will be taken into account after the close of the call for applications, the date and time of which are indicated on page 1.

A candidate may submit only one application for a fellowship for this call for applications.

Applicants must inform the ANRS MIE by email as soon as possible of any other grants obtained after submitting their application, in order to suspend their candidacy to the ANRS MIE as soon as possible.

Selection procedure

- ANRS MIE checks the administrative and scientific eligibility of applications;
- An international and independent selection committee, including all the necessary disciplines, evaluates and ranks the applications received;
- The committee communicates the list of candidates recommended for funding to the ANRS MIE, which selects the laureates and publishes the results.

Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation will focus on:

- The project: its innovativeness and originality, its excellence in relation to the state of science, clarity of objectives, feasibility, and its collaborative dimension, with particular attention to co-supervised thesis requests;
- Candidates: their expertise and academic background, and their adequacy with the presented project, their motivation for the project, and their prospects for continuing their career in this field;
- The quality and expertise of the host organisation.

Candidate's host laboratory and managing organisation

The applicant must be attached to a French public or private research organisation. The legal entity to which the applicant is attached (*i.e. the managing body employing the recipient*) must be clearly specified.

It should be noted that in the context of the *Protocole d'accord portant sécurisation des parcours professionnels des agents contractuels dans les trois fonctions publiques* and the *Charte pour le recrutement et le suivi des personnels contractuels à l'Inserm*, the ANRS MIE **strongly recommends that all applicants contact the managing body of their laboratory** to check their employability for the entire duration of the funding, **before responding to the call for applications**.

Terms and conditions of support

Funding

The funding granted will cover the salary of the laureate for 36 months, in accordance with the scales applied in their host institution, and will include a fixed amount of €5,000 for operating expenses reserved for the grantee and placed under their control, which will be used to finance:

- Publication fees associated with scientific articles related to the laureate's thesis project, for which the laureate will appear as an author of the publication;
- Expenses associated with the laureate's participation in a conference/seminar/training course related to his/her project, including travel expenses incurred by such participation.

Under no circumstances may this operating budget be used as a personnel or research budget for the project. If this environment budget is not used by the end of the grant, it must be reimbursed to the ANRS MIE, as must any part of the salary budget that remains unused.

Grant Financing Procedures

PhD Grants accepted for funding result in the payment of a subsidy by the ANRS MIE to the managing organization of the grantee's hosting laboratory ("managing organization"). This subsidy will allow the organization to open and finance a fixed-term contract, such as a doctoral contract, for the benefit of the grantee. Therefore, every successful candidate must contact their managing organization to prepare the setup of their fixed-term contract at least 6 weeks before the desired start date, which must occur within the minimum and maximum deadlines mentioned in the following section ("Funding Deadlines").

Simultaneously, the candidate will send a letter of acceptance of the grant to ANRS MIE within the same period, indicating the name and contact details of their managing organization, in order to setup the funding.

The subsidy covers the employer cost of the fixed-term contract (excluding environmental costs) for the entire accepted duration of the grant, plus the €5,000 operating budget for the grantee's use, as well as management

fees within the limits indicated below. The ANRS MIE generally requests managing organizations to remove or minimize management fees charged on the support it provides to them. If it is strictly impossible for the managing organization to agree to this removal, the management fee rate attributable to the fixed-term contract will be capped at 8% of the total amount of eligible expenses.

Funding deadlines

The date on which the recipient takes up his or her post may **not be earlier than 2 months** after publication of the results of the call for applications and **not later than 6 months** afterwards, provided that the administrative steps following the acceptance of the application have been completed within the required deadlines.

Obligations of laureates

The winners of this call for applications undertake, with the acceptance of ANRS MIE funding, to comply with the following terms and conditions:

1. Integration into the ANRS MIE network of young researchers and into the partner facilitation bodies involved in the call for applications

The grantee will be integrated into the network of young researchers of ANRS MIE upon the setup of their funding. Throughout the duration of their research grant, they may be invited to participate in meetings organized by the network or by the agency's animation bodies, and to present the progress of their work.

2. Reports

The grantee will submit to ANRS MIE:

- **An interim scientific report**, 18 months after taking up their post, including a progress report on their work and research prospects, as well as publications associated with their project.
- **A final scientific report**, within 3 months following the end of the funding of their grant, including a final activity report, the publications associated with their project, the title and date of their thesis defence, as well as the reasoned opinion of the laboratory director highlighting the career prospects of the candidate.

The managing organization of the funding will provide ANRS MIE with the corresponding financial reports, as specified in the grant award document.

Additionally, the grantee must inform ANRS MIE of any changes that may have occurred in their administrative situation at any time.

Publications

Any publication or oral or poster presentation of results from the grantee's research project must explicitly acknowledge financial support from ANRS MIE within the scope of its support for animation bodies, either, as the case may be, the Arbo-France network or the Coordinated Action "Modeling of Infectious Diseases" (AC49):

"This study was supported by a grant from ANRS MIE (acronym of the program, program year, registration number: example "Fellowship Programme 2024 - Arbo-France/ANRSXXXX" or "Fellowship Programme 2024 - AC49 2024/ANRSXXXX")."

To obtain the ANRS MIE logo, please email information@anrs.fr

To obtain the Arbo-France logo, please email contact@arbo-france.fr

Promotion of Open Science

In 2024, the ANRS MIE is evolving its open science policy, Plan national pour la science ouverte 2021-2024 and the joint commitments signed with the Agence nationale de la recherche (ANR), the Agence nationale de sécurité sanitaire de l'alimentation, de l'environnement et du travail (Anses), the Institut national du cancer (INCa) and the Agence de la transition écologique (Ademe).

In this context, the candidate and their thesis supervisor undertake to make available, under the [Creative Commons Attribution \(CC-BY\)](#) or equivalent license, peer-reviewed scientific publications resulting from their project funded by ANRS MIE, using one of the three following publication channels:

- In a native open-access journal;
- In a subscription-based journal under a "transformative agreement" or "transformative journal";
- In a subscription-based journal with deposit of the publisher's version or accepted version ("postprint") in the open archive HAL under a CC-BY license, implementing the Non-Transfer Strategy.

Furthermore, the candidate and their thesis supervisor undertake to:

- Deposit in the national open archive HAL the full text of these scientific publications no later than at the time of publication (accepted version for publication or publisher's version), and to mention the ANRS reference of the research project from which they originate (e.g., ANRSXXXX).
- Provide a Data Management Plan (DMP). The purpose of this request is to prepare the data for possible sharing and dissemination, respecting the principle of "as open as possible, as closed as necessary." The plan can be entered and updated on the DMP OPIDoR portal, preferably using the structured model, exploitable by machines. A first version of the DMP must be submitted to ANRS|MIE within 6 months following the start of the thesis project. This plan must be updated as needed, at least at the end of the project and halfway through. This obligation to submit a DMP continues after the expiration of the funding agreements.

ANRS MIE encourages the deposit of initial versions, preprints, in open platforms or archives and to prioritize permanent or unique identifiers (DOI, HAL Id, or ORCID, for example).

Finally, ANRS MIE reminds that publication fees or "Article Processing Charges" (APCs) are eligible for funding from the operating budget awarded to laureates (see Funding paragraph), except for those concerning hybrid journals (subscription-based journals with no ongoing agreement).

Contacts

For any questions regarding the regulations, submission and evaluation procedures, and result communication:
Structural Research Support Department – Call for Project Team: aap@anrs.fr

In case of technical problems on the application submission platform: apogee@anrs.fr