

Start Programme – Fellowships scheme 2026

Call for applications "Master's grants – International Network"

Terms and conditions

The information contained in these terms and conditions is extracted from the ANRS MIE reference document entitled "Modalités d'organisation administrative, scientifique et financière de l'ANRS MIE" (MOASF), which sets out the financial regulations for research grants awarded by the ANRS MIE and is available on the [ANRS MIE website](#). Information on the organisation, application and evaluation procedures, and dates are specific to this call for applications. This document concerns exclusively applications for Master's grants – International Network as part of the Start Programme's Fellowships scheme to support junior researchers.

This call for applications aims to fund **12-month fellowships** to complete **a master's degree** and an **internship from among the internships offered** under this call.

Phase I: initial applications (presentation of the considered master's degree(s) and selection of an associated internship offer from the list provided)

Application deadline:

2 February 2026 at 11:59 p.m. (Paris time)

Applications must be submitted electronically on the [Apogée platform](#) (section "AAP Exceptionnel").

Phase II: final applications (only for candidates selected in Phase I)

Application deadline for selected candidates:

14 May 2026 at 11:59 p.m. (Paris time)

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1. Introduction

1.1. Context

The ANRS Emerging Infectious Diseases (ANRS MIE) supports the attractiveness of research careers in areas within its scope¹ and in all scientific disciplines, in France and internationally, by promoting scientific excellence and innovation.

As part of this initiative, ANRS MIE launched the [Start Programme](#) in 2024 to accompany and support the next generation of researchers. This support has been defined as a **strategic priority**² and the agency is mobilising resources and implementing specific actions to promote the engagement and development of junior scientists in its research areas.

The objectives of the Start Programme are as follows:

- to contribute to the training of junior scientists interested in ANRS MIE's research topics;
- to encourage and support these researchers in pursuing and developing new research within the agency's scope;
- to facilitate their integration into the research ecosystem by strengthening links between them and with the scientific community.

Among the actions dedicated to training, the Start Programme's **Fellowships scheme** provides funding for individual grants for junior scientists wishing to train in research.

In addition, keen since its creation to support research in **low- and middle-income countries (LMICs)** particularly affected by infectious diseases, the ANRS MIE has developed an ambitious international initiative. This initiative is based in particular on a vast network of partners, the [International Network](#), composed of research and health institutions and authorities based in West and Central Africa, Southeast Asia, Brazil and France, and brought together within partnerships, the "Partner Sites" and the "International Research Platforms in Global Health (PRISME)".

In this context, the call for applications (CFA) for **"Master's grants – International Network"** is aimed at professionals and students from LMICs and aims to enable successful applicants to benefit from a grant to help finance a year of Master's I, Master's II or a specialised Master's (MS) degree (attending courses, completing an internship, obtaining a degree) and thus open up opportunities to pursue a career in research in close collaboration with partners in the ANRS MIE International Network.

1.2. Scope of the call for applications

Master's grants – International Network apply to **master's I, master's II or specialised master's (MS) degrees** according to the following criteria:

- the master's degree must be related to an **internship offer proposed by a Partner Site/PRISME of the International Network** (internship offers are published on the

¹ Research on HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis, STIs, tuberculosis, and emerging infectious diseases in all disciplines and fields of action.

² "Support and promote the involvement of junior researchers and their professional development" (Objective No. 7 of the ANRS MIE Strategic Guidance Document 2023-2027: <https://anrs.fr/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/anrs-orientation-strategique-fr-def.pdf>)

agency's website – call for applications page): the candidate must select only one internship offer as part of their application;

- the master's degree must be aimed at preparing the candidate **for a PhD and a career in research**;
- the master's degree may be taken in any country, **without geographical restrictions**, and online degrees are eligible.

Applications are expected from professionals and students from LMICs who are already involved in research activities of a Partner Site/PRISME of the ANRS MIE International Network or who wish to begin collaborating with these partners.

For the 2026 edition of this call for applications, internships are offered in the context of collaborations with the following partner countries: Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Senegal and Vietnam.³

Note regarding first years of master's degree (M1): although some M1 degrees do not require an internship for course validation, all candidates wishing to pursue a M1 degree under this call for applications must complete an internship offered by a partner of the ANRS MIE International Network.

2. General terms and conditions

2.1. Eligibility criteria

To be eligible for this call for applications, candidates must:

- be a national of and reside in a low- and middle-income country⁴;
- have submitted a complete application in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in this document;
- for candidates selected for Phase II: provide proof of acceptance to the requested master's degree; or proof of application to the requested master's degree(s) if the results have not yet been published; or proof that an application file has been prepared if applications are not yet open. Payment of funds will be conditional upon obtaining a certificate of acceptance to the master's degree.

Laureates of the 2025 edition of the "Master's grants – International Network" call for applications who have obtained a grant to complete a first year of master's degree (M1) may apply under this edition of the call for applications in order to obtain a grant to complete a second year of master's degree (M2). However, this grant is not automatically guaranteed.

Each candidate may submit only one grant application under this call for applications.

2.2. Organisation of the call for applications

The call for applications will take place in two phases.

³ See Appendix 1 (List of representatives of ANRS MIE International Network partners)

⁴ World Bank classification: [Low and Middle Income Countries](#)

Phase I: Initial project

Applications must specify the considered master's degree(s) (candidates may propose several master's degree options) and must include the selection of an internship offer proposed by a Partner Site/PRISME of the ANRS MIE International Network. Offers are available on the ANRS MIE website (call for applications page).

At the end of Phase I, one candidate per internship offer will be selected and invited to submit a complete application (Phase II).

Phase II: Finalised project (for candidates selected during Phase I)

Candidates selected at the end of Phase I, accompanied by their scientific supervisor/internship tutor (whose name is indicated in the internship offer), must submit a complete application detailing their entire project.

2.3. How to submit applications

Phase I

The application file may be written in French or English and must include all the information necessary for its evaluation. Any incomplete application will be considered ineligible.

The deadline for submitting applications is 2 February 2026 (23:59 Paris time). No additional documents will be accepted after the closing date for Phase I.

Applications must be submitted online via the [Apogée platform](#) (section "AAP Exceptionnel"). The application form to be uploaded on the Apogée platform is available on the call for applications webpage and on the Apogée platform.

The application file includes:

- administrative information about the candidate;
- information on the considered master's degree(s) and the selected internship offer;
- a description of the candidate's academic and professional background;
- the reasons and justifications for the choice of internship in line with the candidate's education, experience and career plans;
- a letter of recommendation from one of the candidate's direct supervisors (university lecturer and researcher, professor, laboratory or department head, etc.) confirming the candidate's potential and expressing support for their application (document to be uploaded – mandatory);
- copies of relevant diplomas (documents to be uploaded – mandatory);
- the "Etudes en France" certificate (confirmation of acceptance/pre-enrollment) (document to be uploaded – mandatory for degrees connected to the Etudes en France system⁵. **Each candidate is invited to consult the Campus France website for their country or territory of residence about the application schedule).**

An application guide is available on the call for applications webpage and on the Apogée platform.

⁵ https://pastel.diplomatie.gouv.fr/etudesenfrance/dyn/public/authentification/login.html?_csrf=9e70b2ae-0f8e-41ae-bca3-e717e3914b85&codeLangue=FR#

Phase II

Candidates selected during Phase I will be invited to compile and submit a complete application file, accompanied by their scientific supervisor/internship tutor.

The application file includes:

- administrative information about the candidate;
- a description of the targeted master's degree(s), accompanied by a justification for the choice;
- information about the internship;
- a provisional schedule of activities planned during the internship, in relation to the targeted Master's degree(s);
- a detailed budget for the master's degree and internship (document to be uploaded – template provided – mandatory);
- administrative information concerning the organisation responsible for managing the grant (the information required is documented in the template provided for drawing up the budget);
- proof of acceptance of the management of the grant by this organisation (document to be uploaded – mandatory) ;
- proof of acceptance to the requested master's degree; or proof of application to the requested master's degree(s) if the results have not yet been published; or proof that an application file has been prepared if applications are not yet open (payment of funds will be conditional upon obtaining a certificate of acceptance to the master's degree) (document to be uploaded – mandatory).

N.B.: where applicable, applicants must inform the ANRS MIE (contact: aap@anrs.fr) as soon as possible if they obtain another grant after submitting their application, so that their application under this call can be quickly suspended.

2.4. Selection procedure

Phase I

- The ANRS MIE checks the administrative eligibility of applications.
- Each eligible application is evaluated by:
 - o the internship supervisor/tutor (in conjunction with the managers of the Partner Site/PRISME);
 - o an external evaluator;
 - o a representative of the ANRS MIE.
- A ranking of applications is established for each of the internship offers.
- Selected candidates (candidates ranked first in the various internship offers) are invited to submit a complete application (Phase II), to be compiled in collaboration with their internship supervisor.

Phase II

- The ANRS MIE evaluates the administrative and financial aspects of the complete application files.

A waiting list may be established at the end of Phase I and Phase II in order to offer the grant to another candidate in the event of withdrawal, and if time permits.

2.5. Evaluation criteria

The evaluation focuses on:

- the candidate's background (experience, academic background, coherence with the choice of master's degree and internship);
- the candidate's motivations and professional plans (choice of master's degree and internship, career plans in research and coherence with the choice of master's degree and internship);
- the recommendation of a scientific supervisor;
- collaboration with a Partner Site/PRISME (experience of collaboration and/or motivation and interest in collaborating);
- the quality of the application submitted (clarity and completeness of the application).

2.6. Calendar

Phase I: until **2 February 2026** (11:59 p.m. Paris time)

Phase II: from **16 March 2026** to **14 May 2026** (11:59 p.m. Paris time)

Publication of results: June 2026

3. Funding terms and conditions

3.1. Funding

The grant awarded will be for a **maximum amount of €20,000** (excluding management fees) for a maximum period of 12 consecutive months during the 2026-2027 academic year.

The grant awarded will result in the payment of a subsidy from the ANRS MIE to the organisation managing the grant. As a general rule, this will be the institution to which the laureate is attached for the duration of the internship. The use of a third-party institution is possible if there is a tangible and legally defined link (statutory, by agreement, etc.) between the institution to which the laureate is affiliated for the internship and this third-party institution. This link must be duly documented by the candidate during the phase II of the call for applications.

It is the responsibility of the candidate and the internship supervisor to obtain the agreement of the managing body regarding the possibility of managing the grant. The identified managing body must be indicated on the application form during Phase II of this call for applications.

The ANRS MIE requests that managing bodies waive or limit to the strict minimum the management fees they charge on the allocated grants.

If it is strictly impossible for the managing body to agree to this deletion, the rate of management fees charged shall be **between 0% and at 8%** of the total amount of subsidised expenditure, in accordance with the *Modalités d'organisation administrative, scientifique et financière de l'ANRS MIE* (MOASF).

3.2. Eligible costs

The grant is intended to contribute to the financing of a master's degree year, including participation in courses, completion of an internship and obtaining the degree.

It may cover all of the following necessary expenses:

- university registration fees;
- living expenses (food, insurance, everyday expenses);
- accommodation costs;
- transportation costs;
- visa or residence permit fees;
- and any other costs directly related to the completion of the master's degree and internship.

This funding may be combined with other sources of funding. It is the responsibility of candidates to ensure that their overall funding will cover the entire project.

4. Laureates commitments

Laureates for this call for applications undertake, upon acceptance of ANRS MIE funding, to comply with the following terms and conditions.

4.1. Integration into the ANRS MIE Start network (junior researchers)

The laureate will be integrated into the ANRS MIE Start network and may be invited to participate in meetings organised by the network and the agency's scientific bodies, where they will be asked to present the progress of their work. They will also be required to attend any meetings organised by the ANRS MIE relating to the monitoring of their grant.

4.2. Progress reports, final scientific report and financial reports

The laureate shall send the following to the ANRS MIE:

- a progress report six months after the start of their training (maximum 1 page);
- a final scientific report, within three months after the end of their master's grant funding, including a final activity report, an opinion from the internship supervisor highlighting the grant recipient's career plans, and a proof of completion of the master's degree.

The organisation managing the grant will provide the ANRS MIE with the corresponding financial reports in accordance with the terms specified in the grant agreement.

In addition, the laureate must inform the ANRS MIE at any time of any changes in their administrative situation.

4.3. Publications

Any publication or oral communication produced as part of the funding obtained must mention the financial support of ANRS MIE using the following wording:

"Cette étude a bénéficié d'une subvention de l'ANRS MIE (Programme Start – Dispositif Fellowships – Bourses de master Réseau international 2026 - ANRSXXXX-XX)."

"This study was supported by a grant from the ANRS MIE (Start Programme – Fellowships Scheme – Master's grants International Network –2026 ANRSXXXX-XX »)."

Any publication or oral communication produced as part of the funding obtained must be mentioned in the final scientific report.

To obtain the ANRS MIE logo: information@anrs.fr

4.4. Promotion of open science

As this funding is provided by the State, publications resulting from this work must comply with the provisions encouraging open science set out in Article 30 of Law No. 2016-1321 of 7 October 2016 for a Digital Republic⁶.

As part of ANRS MIE's contribution to the promotion and implementation of open science, and in line with the French National Plan for Open Science (PNSO) and Plan S at the international level, recipients of ANRS MIE funding undertake to guarantee immediate open access to peer-reviewed scientific publications and to adopt a FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) approach to research data in accordance with the principle of "as open as possible, as closed as necessary".

Thus, grant recipients and their scientific supervisors/tutors undertake, in the case of funding under the Fellowships scheme, to make all scientific publications resulting from projects funded under this call available in open access under a Creative Commons CC-BY or equivalent licence, using one of the following three methods:

- publication in a natively open access journal;
- publication in a subscription journal that is part of a transformative agreement or transformative journal
- transformative agreement;
- publication in a subscription journal.

Manuscripts accepted for publication will be deposited in the HAL open archive under a CC-BY licence, implementing the Non-Transfer of Rights Strategy (SNCD), in accordance with the terms and conditions specified in the specific conditions of the funding decision or contract.

In addition, they undertake to deposit the full text of these scientific publications (version accepted for publication or publisher's version) in the HAL national open archive, at the latest at the time of publication, and to mention the ANRS MIE reference of the research project from which they originate (Start Programme – Fellowships funding scheme – International network – Master grants 2025ANRSXXXX-XX/Start Programme – Fellowships scheme Master's grants International Network 2025 ANRSXXXX-XX)".

ANRS MIE encourages the submission of preprints to open platforms or open archives and the use of permanent or unique identifiers (e.g. DOI or HAL Id). ANRS MIE recommends publication in journals or works that are natively open access.

⁶ https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/jorf/article_jo/JORFARTI000033202841

5. Contact

For any questions about the terms and conditions, the application and evaluation procedure, and the communication of results relating to this call for applications:

Research Support and Infrastructure Department – Calls for Projects Team:

aap@anrs.fr

For any technical questions about the Apogée platform (submission of applications):

apogee@anrs.fr

Appendix 1: List of representatives of the ANRS MIE International Network

PARTNERSHIP	CIVILITY	TITLE	SURNAME	FIRST NAME
Partner Site Brazil	Ms	Dr	DE CASTRO	Nathalie
	Ms	Dr	TELFORD	Erica
Partner Site Burkina Faso	Mr	Dr	DAHOUROU	DéMré
	Mr	Dr	KANIA	Dramane
	Mr	Pr	NAGOT	Nicolas
Partner Site Cambodia	Mr	Dr	GELLIE	Victor
	Mr	Pr	SAPHONN	Vonthanak
	Mr	Dr	SPIRE	Bruno
Partner Site Cameroon	Mr	Pr	DELAPORTE	Eric
	Ms	Dr	VARLOTEAUX	Marie
	Ms	Pr	ZOUNG-KANYI BISSEK	Anne-Cécile
PRISME* Côte d'Ivoire	Mr	Dr	BECQUET	Renaud
	Mr	Dr	MOH	Raoul
PRISME* Democratic Republic of Congo	Mr	Pr	AHUKA	Steve
	Ms	Pr	PEETERS	Martine
PRISME* Guinea	Mr	Pr	DELAPORTE	Eric
	Mr	Pr	TOURE	Abdoulaye
Partner Site Senegal	Ms	Dr	LABORDE	Gabrièle
	Mr	Dr	TAVERNE	Bernard
	Ms	Pr	TOURE KANE	Coumba
Partner Site Vietnam	Ms	Dr	GOURINAT	Ann-Claire
	Mr	Dr	LAUREILLARD	Didier
	Ms	Dr	LINH	Thi Thui Doan
	Ms	Dr	PHAN	Thi Thu Huong

* Plateforme de Recherche Internationale en Santé Mondiale

N.B.: In the context of the 2026 edition of the call for applications for 'Master's grants – International Network', internship offers are available through the following partnerships:

- Partner Site Brazil;
- Partner Site Burkina Faso;
- Partner Site Cambodia;
- PRISME Côte d'Ivoire;
- PRISME Guinea;
- Partner site Senegal;
- Partner site Vietnam.