

Key eligibility and procedural changes

PhD fellowships

Call 2027 – classification 1

The main changes in call 2027

The main developments introduced to the call concern:

1. Eligibility criteria

 Master's degree seniority

 Scientific seniority

2. Evaluation criteria

 Scientific career stage

 Academic achievements

 Promotor recommendation letter

Understanding these changes is essential to ensure a fair and consistent evaluation of all applications.

The main changes - eligibility

1/ Maximum diploma seniority



At the time of the application deadline (early March)

36 months
previous maximum



24 months
from the 2027 call onwards

= Focus on early career-researchers

The main developments - eligibility

2/ Fellowship duration

Duration of three or four years, set by prior paid doctoral research experience at the time of submission (early March)

Master's degree not yet obtained

Four-year fellowship

Master's degree obtained < 12 months ago

Four-year fellowship

Master's degree obtained > 12 months ago + < 6 months doctoral research

Four-year fellowship + declaration

Master's degree obtained > 12 months ago + > 6 months doctoral research

Three-year fellowship

Different fellowship durations = different career stages

The main developments - evaluation

3/ Type I and Type II applicants

Career stage

TYPE I

Master's degree not yet obtained

TYPE II

One or more master's degree(s) obtained

Evaluation

PRESELECTION

TYPE I ↔ TYPE I

TYPE II ↔ TYPE II



Evaluated separately at preselection

Interview

TYPE I + TYPE II together

The main developments - evaluation

4/ Academic achievement and research potential



No percentile rankings

► Applicants should:



Explain academic trajectory



Substantiate achievements



Highlight study results



Put achievements into context

Panel members should consider both the achievements and how clearly they are substantiated and contextualised.

The main developments - evaluation

5/ Promotor recommendation letter

► Recommendation letter

- Mandatory
- Greater weight in the evaluation

► The letter should demonstrate:

-  Commitment of the promotor
-  Available expertise & infrastructure
-  Added value for candidate and host institution
-  Support for the applicant's development

Consider this letter as an integral part of the application.

Further reading and contact

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