

REGULATIONS COVERING THE ULB
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FUND PHD
SCHOLARSHIPS

Call 2020 - scholarship 2021– 2022

ULB Development Cooperation Fund PhD scholarships

Purpose

The ULB Development Cooperation fund awards scholarships to PhD candidates from **developing countries**, to enable them to work on their PhD thesis in one of ULB's research units. The objective is for the PhD candidates to then **return to their home country and exploit the knowledge acquired at ULB**.

Funding

The PhD scholarships are awarded for one academic year, and can be renewed up to three times (subject to an application for renewal). The net amount (the so-called 'FRIA amount') of a PhD scholarship is 2033,06 € per month (as of 1st January 2020) and is indexed on an annual basis.

The scholarship is only awarded for the months during which the student is actually in Belgium (max. 6 months a year). In the final year of the PhD thesis, and subject to a well-argued application backed up by the supervisor's assurance that the thesis will be completed by the set date, the CCCI may **exceptionally** award a scholarship for 8 months.

Scholarships must be used during the current academic year: it may begin on 1 July of the year in which the grant is awarded and must end before 30 August of the year following the year in which the grant is awarded.

The monthly scholarship covers all expenses: food and accommodation, registration fees, books, international travel, health insurance, etc.

To benefit from the scholarship, the scholarship holder must be registered at ULB.

If the applicant is already receiving other funding (which is considered an advantage), only a top-up scholarship can be awarded. The top-up scholarship will cover the difference between the net FRIA amount and the net amount of the scholarship already received. Thesis supervisors will encourage candidates to answer honestly the question about their sources of income during their thesis, including any salary from their home university.

Deadline and procedure for submitting applications

Applications, consisting of the completed application form and the attachments, **must be emailed to lara.rauwers@ulb.ac.be by the ULB thesis supervisor by March 1st, 2021**.

Incomplete applications or applications submitted after March 1st will not be taken into consideration.

Eligibility criteria of PhD candidates who apply for a Development Cooperation Fund scholarship

- The PhD candidate must be a national of one of the developing countries listed at the end of this document; in case s/he has several nationalities, they must all be listed in the application. All nationalities must be among the eligible countries ;
- S/he must hold at least a Master's degree and must meet the criteria for PhD enrollment at ULB
- The thesis must be written under joint supervision (*co-tutelle*), or where this is not possible, under the co-supervision (*co-direction*) of a university in the home country;
- Applications from PhD candidates who have already started their thesis are eligible only if they have started their thesis under the supervision of a ULB supervisor and if the report of their thesis committee (not older than 3 months at the time of the application) is favourable.

Regarding the ULB supervisor

- S/he can submit **one application only**;
- if s/he currently receives a grant from the Development Cooperation Fund s/he will not be given priority.

Selection criteria

- a) Relevance of the research project to a development issue;
- b) Scientific quality of the research project;
- c) Match between the proposed research project and the candidate's profile;
- d) Prospects for the PhD candidate's return and future integration in their home country.

The ULB's "Cascade Policy for the Promotion of Women" will be used in ranking the candidates (for more information on the cascade Policy: <https://www.ulb.be/fr/diversites/egalite-des-genres>).

Content of the application for an *initial scholarship*

The application, completed and sent by the ULB thesis supervisor, must include:

- the completed application form;
- curriculum vitae of the PhD candidate (maximum 3 pages including a list of publications);
- two detailed and substantiated reference letters from the PhD candidate's ULB thesis supervisor and by the thesis supervisor in the home country;
- when the application does not concern the first year of the PhD thesis, the application must also include the latest report by the thesis committee (not older than 3 months at the time of application) including a progress report. If the the PhD candidate is not in Belgium, a videoconference meeting with his / her thesis committee is advised.

No other annexes will be taken into account.

Composition of the application for the *renewal of the scholarship*

The application, completed and sent by the ULB thesis supervisor, must include:

- the completed application form;
- two reference letters from the ULB supervisor and the thesis supervisor in the home country, each describing in their own words the progress of the thesis and the work already submitted by the PhD candidate;
- a report by the thesis committee (not older than **3 months** at the time of the application) describing the progress of the thesis and confirming the feasibility of the research programme in the remaining year(s). If the Committee's report exceeds 3 months, it will not be taken into account.
- if the renewal application concerns the final year of the thesis, the thesis supervisor must confirm that the thesis can be defended by the end of the final stay in Belgium.

These documents must be emailed IN ONE ATTACHMENT to lara.rauw@ulb.ac.be by the **ULB thesis supervisor** by **March 1st, 2021**.

Advice to PhD candidates about finding a thesis supervisor at ULB

1 / Identify potential thesis supervisors on the "Research" pages of our website:

<http://cvchercheurs.ulb.ac.be/Site/repertoire.php>

2 / When contacting a potential supervisor, please justify your choice of research topic and the reason why you would like them to supervise your thesis. Please also send them your CV and a sample of your (scientific) publications.

3 / It is strongly recommended that you identify a ULB thesis supervisor by end January at the latest.

List of nationalities eligible for ULB development cooperation scholarships		
Algeria	Kenya	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Angola	Kiribati	Saint Vincent and Grenadines
Anguilla	Laos	Surinam
Bangladesh	Lesotho	Swaziland
Belize	Lebanon	Syria
Benin	Liberia	Tanzania
Bhutan	Libya	Chad
Bolivia	Madagascar	Thailand
Botswana	Malaysia	East Timor
Burkina Faso	Malawi	Togo
Burundi	Maldives	Tokelau
Cambodia	Mali	Tonga
Cameroon	Morocco	Tunisia
Cape Verde	Marshall Islands	Tuvalu
Central African Republic	Mauritius	Vanuatu
The West Bank and the Gaza Strip	Mauritania	Venezuela
Colombia	Federated States of Micronesia	Vietnam
Comoros	Montserrat	Wallis and Futuna
Republic of the Congo	Mozambique	Yemen
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Myanmar	Zambia
Cook Islands	Namibia	Zimbabwe
Ivory Coast	Nauru	
Cuba	Nepal	
Djibouti	Nicaragua	
Dominican Republic	Niger	
Dominica	Nigeria	
Egypt	Niue	
El Salvador	Uganda	
Ecuador	Pakistan	
Eritrea	Palau	
Ethiopia	Panama	
Gabon	Papua-New Guinea	
Gambia	Peru	
Ghana	Philippines	
Grenada	Ruanda	
Guatemala	Salomon Islands	
Guinea	Samoa	
Guinea	Sao Tomé and Principe	
Guinea	Senegal	
Guyana	Seychelles	
Haiti	Sierra Leone	
Honduras	Somalia	
Indonesia	Sudan	
Iraq	Sudan	
Iran	Sri Lanka	
Jamaica	Saint Lucia	
Jordan	Saint Helena	