



# Terms and Conditions Rubicon

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# 1 NWO General Terms and Conditions

The NWO Grant Rules 2017 apply, except where they are at variance with these specific terms and conditions of Rubicon research grants.

## 2 Standard Payments

### 2.1 Standard payments outside the Netherlands

The payment for a period outside the Netherlands depends on the destination chosen and has three components: a basic amount, travel costs and research costs. It is not possible to apply for any other allowances than the three above described components.

NWO/ZonMw cannot provide any information about the fiscal aspects of this expenses allowance. You should contact your local tax inspector about this.

#### *Research costs*

The remuneration for research costs is € 230 per month for all laureates irrespective of the country of destination, except for the Netherlands.

#### *Travel costs*

The travel costs are based on a distance in a straight line (as the crow flies) between Amsterdam and the host institute. For a period of 12 months the travel costs are awarded once, and for a period longer than 12 months the travel costs are awarded twice. The travel costs shall be paid directly to the laureate.

Distance (km)	Fixed allowance per 12 months (EUR)
< 500	250
500 – 1.000	500
1.000 – 1.500	750
1.500 – 2.500	1.000
2.500 – 5.000	1.500
5.000 – 10.000	2.000
> 10.000	2.500

#### *Basic amount*

The basic amount is initially designated for the salary of the researcher and the corresponding social fees and taxes. If the basic amount is not fully consumed for the salary and the corresponding fees and taxes, the surplus may be spent on the Rubicon research. The basic amount is calculated by adjusting the yearly rate of 63,000 Euro using the correction coefficients in the list below. The yearly rate and the correction coefficients have been adopted from the Marie Curie Fellowships.

No rights may be derived from the amounts mentioned in this document.

The researcher is or will be employed by a Dutch university or enters employment at a host institute. There is no contract of employment with NWO/ZonMw.

**Rubicon Standard Payments for 2016 based on a yearly rate of 63,000 euro and the correction coefficients per country listed below.**

*Example: the payment for 12 months in Albania is  $63,000 * 0.761 = 47,943$  euro, with an additional  $12 * 230$  euro = 2.760 euro for research costs. The amount payable for travel costs is detailed above.*

<b>Country</b>	<b>Correction coefficient</b>
Albania	76.1
Algeria	81.7
Angola	114.6
Argentina	58.5
Armenia	89.9
Australia	105.0
Austria	104.8
Azerbaijan	93.0
Bangladesh	47.2
Barbados	116.6
Belarus	65.0
Belgium	100.0
Belize	75.3
Benin	92.6
Bermuda	151.5
Bolivia	51.3
Bosnia & Herzegovina	73.6
Botswana	55.3
Brazil	92.0
Bulgaria	71.5
Burkina Faso	93.8
Cambodia	70.5
Cameroon	103.3
Canada	86.4
Cape Verde	76.4
Cen African Rep.	114.3
Chad	125.3
Chile	67.1
China	85.0
Colombia	76.6
Congo	124.9
Costa Rica	76.7
Côte d'Ivoire	102.0
Croatia	97.5
Cuba	83.8
Cyprus	91.8
Czech Republic	83.8
Dem Rep Congo	127.6
Denmark	135.3
Djibouti	93.4
Dominican Rep.	66.9
Ecuador	68.8
Egypt	48.6
El Salvador	74.3
Eritrea	61.2
Estonia	78.3
Ethiopia	85.2

Faroe Islands	134.1
Fiji	68.1
Finland	116.6
France	111.0
Gabon	113.1
Gambia	67.7
Georgia	89.5
Germany	98.8
Ghana	68.2
Greece	92.7
Guatemala	78.8
Guinea	60.4
Guinea-Bissau	102.7
Guyana	58.9
Haiti	108.7
Honduras	69.0
Hong Kong	93.8
Hungary	76.2
Iceland	116.6
India	52.8
Indonesia	75.3
Ireland	113.5
Israel	108.7
Italy	106.7
Jamaica	94.9
Japan	115.9
Jordan	75.5
Kazakhstan	100.2
Kenya	78.1
Kyrgyzstan	83.1
Laos	77.7
Latvia	75.9
Lebanon	86.4
Lesotho	56.7
Liberia	100.1
Libya	60.0
Liechtenstein	110.0
Lithuania	73.1
Luxembourg	100.0
Macedonia (FYROM)	68.4
Madagascar	80.0
Malawi	76.0
Malaysia	71.6
Mali	90.4
Malta	89.6
Mauritania	64.5
Mauritius	72.7
Mexico	70.4
Moldova	61.1
Montenegro	66.9
Morocco	83.5
Mozambique	71.6
Namibia	68.3
Nepal	73.5
New Caledonia	128.9

New Zealand	94.1
Nicaragua	57.3
Niger	87.9
Nigeria	92.4
Norway	131.9
Pakistan	49.4
Panama	57.0
Papua New Guinea	83.0
Paraguay	71.9
Peru	75.5
Philippines	65.8
Poland	76.4
Portugal	89.1
Romania	68.3
Russia	115.5
Rwanda	87.3
Samoa	75.8
Saudi Arabia	84.8
Senegal	86.2
Serbia	67.1
Sierra Leone	85.2
Singapore	102.5
Slovakia	82.6
Slovenia	86.1
Solomon Islands	93.3
South Africa	55.8
South Korea	105.2
Spain	97.6
Sri Lanka	61.6
State of Palestine	100.4
Sudan	65.1
Suriname	50.6
Swaziland	56.8
Sweden	111.7
Switzerland	113.1
Syria	74.8
Taiwan	83.6
Tajikistan	64.9
Tanzania	65.2
Thailand	65.0
East Timor	78.3
Togo	88.7
Tonga	85.0
Trinidad & Tobago	74.1
Tunisia	70.5
Turkey	86.6
Uganda	65.7
UK	120.3
Ukraine	92.3
Uruguay	75.3
US	99.4
Uzbekistan	51.4
Vanuatu	112.6
Venezuela	70.0
Vietnam	51.1

Yemen	68.1
Zambia	66.4
Zimbabwe	47.2

## 2.2 Standard payments for the Netherlands

In the case of a period at a Dutch institute, it is assumed that this institute shall act as the employer. Payment of the awarded amount (maximum € 63,000 per annum) shall be paid to the institute concerned in six-monthly instalments. NWO/ZonMw will not act as the employer and the Regeling Overlaten Werkgeverschap will not apply.



## 3 Specific conditions for a research period outside the Netherlands

### 3.1 Notification of Starting Date

The research must start between 1 June and 1 September 2018 . You must send the completed and signed Rubicon Notification of Starting Date for research outside the Netherlands to NWO/ZonMw, four weeks before the starting date. The host institution must sign the form to confirm that the laureate is to be employed at that institution for at least the duration of the research described in the application. By doing this the host institute commits itself to providing the laureate with the opportunity to carry out the research funded by Rubicon. The research should be conducted over an uninterrupted period.

### 3.2 Date of PhD award

If you have not yet been awarded your PhD and the date of the award is not specified in your application, you must inform NWO/ZonMw of this date before the start of the research. If the date of your PhD award is not known, the Rubicon research cannot start.

### 3.3 Employment

NWO's/ZonMw's preference is that during their period abroad, researchers remain in the employment of/enter into employment at a Dutch knowledge institute that will manage the project and second the researcher to the foreign guest institute. This allows female researchers to make use of the Dutch legislation of 16 weeks paid pregnancy leave. If this possibility does not exist then the researcher can also enter into the employment of the foreign guest institute and will then fall under the applicable employment conditions there. In both cases NWO/ZonMw will guarantee that the salary is paid during a pregnancy leave for a maximum of 16 weeks. If you want to make use of this arrangement you can submit a written request to the Rubicon co-ordinator ([rubicon@nwo.nl](mailto:rubicon@nwo.nl)).

### 3.4 Payments

Payment of the awarded amount shall be made to the institute of employment in six-monthly instalments . This can be a foreign host institute or the Dutch institute which manages the project.

The first payment for international travel expenses will be transferred to your account, well before your departure (see Notification of Starting Date).

If your stay abroad is to last 12 months or longer, a second payment for international travel expenses will be made. This amount shall be paid into your account during the last quarter of your research period.

### 3.5 Costs

The host institute uses the grant to pay your salary, including the social obligations. You may use the budget for research costs for publication costs, additional travel and accommodation costs for work and congress visits during the grant period, and for any other costs associated with the Rubicon research. When the salary and social obligations (including fringe benefits) do not fully consume the Rubicon basic amount, the surplus must be used for research costs or salary. After receiving the final instalment the host Institute must recalculate the salary in order to fully spend the Rubicon.

NWO/ZonMw will not claim any materials or equipment purchased with the grant. Therefore, art. 3.1.4 of the NWO Grant Rules 2017 is not applicable to Rubicon projects at a foreign host institute. It is not permitted to use the grant to pay for overhead, administration costs, salary payments during pregnancy leave or sick leave or the employment of any other personnel than the laureate self.

Where the activities for which the grant is awarded may have adverse consequences for third parties – for example in the case of clinical research – the principal investigator, or alternatively his employer, may not hold NWO/ZonMw liable under any circumstances. This condition replaces Article 4.2.1 (9) in the NWO Grant Rules 2017 for Rubicon projects at a host institution outside the Netherlands.

### 3.6 Intellectual property

The patent laws that apply in the host country, other than the Netherlands, determine how intellectual property rights are established on knowledge and expertise that ensues from research carried out in the context of the Rubicon programme; this on the proviso that the host research institution is expected to provide the researcher with either appropriate and continuing access to the results of the research or an appropriate license to exercise the intellectual property rights in question, so that the career opportunities of the researcher are not hindered in any way. The researcher and the host institution can make further arrangements to this end in good faith.

Article 4.1.2 (1) of the NWO Grant Rules 2017 is not applicable to Rubicon projects conducted outside the Netherlands.

Insofar as research is carried out in the Netherlands, current NWO/ZonMw policies will be applicable.

### 3.7 Reporting obligations

No progress reports are required for Rubicon projects. Therefore art. 3.3.2 (1) and art. 3.3.2 (3) of the NWO Grant Rules 2017 are not applicable to Rubicon projects. Within thirteen weeks of the end of the research period, NWO/ZonMw expects a short report of the activities carried out, the results of your research, and your experiences while conducting this Rubicon research. NWO/ZonMw will send you a request to submit this report, together with a form for drafting it.

### 3.8 Final statement of accounts

Within thirteen weeks of the end of the grant period, the host institution must submit a financial accounting report for the Rubicon research conducted by the laureate. For Rubicon a statement from the host institution that the researcher was appointed to conduct the Rubicon research for the period stated is sufficient. This

statement must also be signed by the laureate. Art. 3.5.2 (2) and Art. 3.5.2 (4) of the NWO Grant Rules 2017 are not applicable to Rubicon projects.

If the project has been managed by a Dutch Institute the grant is covered by the regular audit specified in the university education audit guidelines issued by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science. NWO/ZonMw reserves the right to request additional information for the financial accounting report.

## **4 Specific conditions for a research period in the Netherlands**

### **4.1 Notification of Starting Date**

The research must start between 1 June and 1 September 2018. You must send the completed and signed Rubicon Notification of Starting Date for research in the Netherlands to NWO/ZonMw, four weeks before the starting date. The host institution must sign the form to confirm that the laureate is to be employed at that institution for at least the duration of the research described in the application. The research should be conducted over an uninterrupted period.

### **4.2 Date of PhD award**

If you have not yet been awarded your PhD and the date of the award is not specified in your application, you must inform NWO/ZonMw of this date before the start of the research. If the date of your PhD award is not known, the Rubicon research cannot start.

### **4.3 Payments**

Payment of the awarded amount shall be made to the host institute in six-monthly instalments.

### **4.4 Reporting obligations**

No progress reports are required for Rubicon projects. Therefore art. 3.3.2 (1) and art. 3.3.2 (3) of the NWO Grant Rules 2017 are not applicable to Rubicon projects. Within thirteen weeks of the end of the research period, NWO/ZonMw expects a short final report (maximum two pages of A4, excluding references and publications) of the activities carried out, the results of your research, and your experiences while conducting the Rubicon research. NWO/ZonMw will send you a request to submit the final report, together with a form for drafting it.

### **4.5 Final statement of accounts**

Within thirteen weeks of the end of the grant period, the host institution must submit a financial accounting report for the research conducted by the laureate. For Rubicon a statement from the host institution that the researcher was appointed to conduct the Rubicon research for the period stated is sufficient; this statement is also signed by the laureate. The grant is covered by the regular audit specified in the university education audit guidelines issued by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science. NWO/ZonMw reserves the right to request additional information for the financial accounting report. Art. 3.5.2 (2) and art. 3.5.2 (4) of the NWO Grant Rules 2017 are not applicable to Rubicon projects

# 5 Other conditions applicable to all Rubicon grants

## 5.1 Availability

During the grant period and until NWO/ZonMw has received both the final declaration of employment and the final research report, you must remain available and cooperate if NWO/ZonMw requests any provisional information. This means that, in addition to the postal address already submitted, NWO/ZonMw needs at least a valid e-mail address. You must also inform NWO/ZonMw as soon as possible of your postal address during your stay at the host institution.

NWO/ZonMw wants to keep track of where Rubicon researchers end up after they have completed their Rubicon-funded research and would therefore like to receive any change of address of the laureates. Then two and five years after the end date of the project, NWO/ZonMw can ask you whether you are still actively involved in scientific research, whether you have published any further papers on the results of the project, et cetera. NWO/ZonMw shall only use these data cumulatively in its reports about the Rubicon programme, and it will not be possible to trace the information back to the individuals concerned.

## 5.2 Ethical aspects

The research must be conducted, reports must be submitted and results must be published in accordance with the normal standards of ethical behaviour and integrity expected of those engaged in academic and/or technological research. The conditions below replace art. 3.1.3 (1) of the NWO Grant Rules 2017.

Before submitting a Rubicon application, you must determine if your proposed research raises ethical questions and therefore needs to be assessed by an ethics review committee.

Certain research require a statement of approval from a recognised medical ethics review committee (METC) or an animal experiment committee (DEC). For some research proposals a licence in accordance with the Population Screening Act (WBO) is required. More information on METCs is available at the Central Committee On Research Involving Human Subjects (CCMO), on DEC's the Dutch Association for Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees provides information and for the WBO The Health Council of the Netherlands can provide information.

NWO/ZonMw subscribes to the Openheid Dierproeven (Freedom of Information on Animal Experiments) and the Biosecurity Code. Rubicon applicants must subscribe to and comply with the prevailing codes.

A research project can only start when NWO/ZonMw (if applicable) has received a copy of the approving ethical statement and/or Population Screening Act licence. NWO/ZonMw also expects that the candidates pay due consideration to the timetable of the Rubicon evaluation and the time needed for the assessment by the ethics review committee or the application for a Population Screening Act licence. For complex questions related to ethical issues, NWO/ZonMw reserves the right to consult an external adviser.

If after consulting the applicant, NWO/ZonMw is of the opinion that an ethical assessment is needed for an application then the applicant is obliged to take the necessary measures for such as assessment. If the applicant fails to obtain the necessary statement of approval from an ethics review committee then the grant shall be immediately withdrawn. Once the project has started then your research must be conducted in an ethically responsible way. If you fail to do this then NWO/ZonMw shall reserve the right to stop your grant immediately.

### **5.3 Other funding**

Other funding may be received in addition to the Rubicon grant. Only if such funding is clearly intended to cover the same costs as the Rubicon grant shall NWO/ZonMw reduce the amount of the Rubicon grant. However, finance offered by another source to fund the Rubicon research may not be accepted without prior consent from NWO/ZonMw.

This clause may only be deviated from in exceptional cases and with prior approval from NWO/ZonMw.

### **5.4 Part-time research**

Rubicon research may be conducted on a part-time basis provided that this amounts to at least 75% of the normal 40-hour working week. The researcher may spend the remaining 25% of the normal 40-hour working week (or part of it) in paid employment. In that case, there will be a proportionate extension of the grant period or a proportionate reduction in the grant sum.

### **5.5 Stopping before the project is completed**

In case of a possible premature discontinuation of the project, NWO/ZonMw will decide if the grant should be returned and if it should be returned partly or completely. If the laureate is unable, either fully or partly, to complete the planned research or comply with the NWO's/ZonMw's terms and conditions due to illness or other causes then NWO/ZonMw can withdraw the grant or if payments have already been made stop further payments, if necessary with retrospective effect. If the researcher is abroad at the time when the grant is withdrawn or payments are stopped, the costs of the return journey will be paid by NWO/ZonMw.

In case of temporary cessation of the project due to maternity leave the project will be extended in proportion to the duration of the maternity leave.

The Dutch text of these Terms and Conditions is the authentic text and it prevails over any translations of them.