

Frequently Asked Questions about the Doctoral Grant for Teachers

First read the brochure carefully!

1. When can I submit my application?

In 2018 there are two submission rounds, the first deadline will be January 16, the second deadline is yet unknown. The call will open in the second half of November 2017. From that moment on you can submit your proposal. The deadline is 16 January 2018.

2. What do I have to fill in via ISAAC under institution of application and institution of execution?

NWO considers the school as the institution of application and the university of the supervisor as the institution of execution.

3. How do I find a supervisor?

If your PhD subject is related to the subject that you also graduated in then the person who supervised your graduation project might be able to help you find a suitable supervisor. If you no longer have any contacts at a university, the Internet is a good way of finding research groups working on the subject in which you are interested. Once you have found a possible supervisor, you need to make an appointment with him or her to discuss your intentions. Not only is it important that your supervisor sees potential in your research proposal – is also important that he or she has the time and the opportunities to supervise you well. Your supervisor has to be appointed as a professor at a Dutch university.

4. Must I send my certificates with the application?

No, the only attachment that you must send with the application is the declaration from your employer.

5. Can I also submit an application if I do not have the necessary masters or 'doctorandus' title?

Yes, you can also submit an application if you have not gained an academic master or 'doctorandus'. It's possible though that local policy of a university does not allow this. Please discuss this with your supervisor, to prevent problems in the future. Ideally a candidate has a relevant academic degree for the proposed research.

6. How can you recognise a candidate who has a high chance of being awarded funding?

Candidates with a high chance of being awarded funding often already have some academic experience in the form of a scientific publication, attending a scientific congress, or because they have already started on their research outside of a PhD programme. Ideal candidates have affinity with the subject of the research, as they have followed an educational programme in the area of the PhD proposal or they already have experience in the field of research.

7. How strict is the condition about the minimum of lesson-related tasks?

Strict. We cannot make any exceptions to the conditions stated in the brochure.

8. Must I convert my application into a PDF file?

Yes, PDF is the only format that ISAAC accepts because it is the only format which guarantees that the document we receive is exactly the same as the document you have sent. If you experience any problems when converting a Word document to a PDF document then you can contact the ISAAC helpdesk (contact details at www.isaac.nwo.nl) or the helpdesk at your school.

9. How should my supervisor sign the application?

Both the applicant and the supervisor are requested to sign the last page of the application form. This signed, scanned page should be uploaded in ISAAC together with the application form and the statement from the employer.

10. Can I be considered for a grant without participating in this competition?

No, only candidates who complete the entire procedure are eligible for a grant.

11. Are there other grants or programmes with which I can go and do research?

NWO has a large number of funding instruments but nearly all requests for funding from these can only be applied for by researchers who have a PhD. There are, however, two temporary task forces that fall under NWO; these are the NRO, Netherlands Initiative for Education Research, and the NRPO-SIA, the National Temporary Taskforce Practice-Oriented Research SIA. Via the website of NWO you can find more information about the programmes that these temporary taskforces fund.

12. When can I start if I have received a PhD grant?

You can start your research once your school has found a replacement for you and all of the necessary documents sent after the grant was awarded have been returned to NWO. You must start within one year after the grant was awarded.