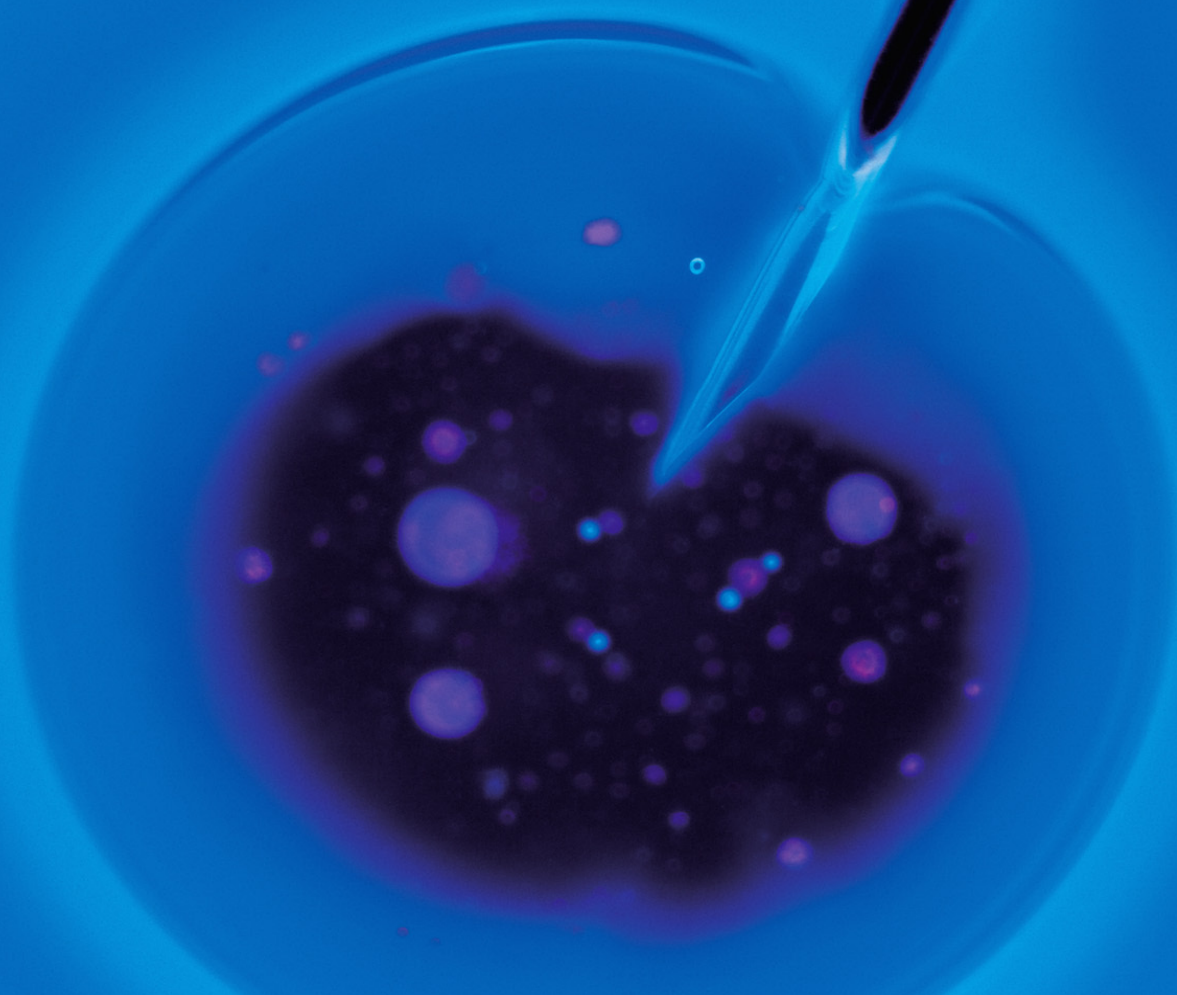


ATTRACT

Opportunities for Outstanding Young Researchers in Luxembourg

Multi-Annual Research Programme



Fonds National de la
Recherche Luxembourg

Detailed Programme Description

**National Research Fund Luxembourg (FNR)
Multi-Annual Research Programme**

**ATTRACT
Opportunities for Outstanding Young Researchers in Luxembourg**

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National Research Fund Luxembourg (FNR) Multi-Annual Research Programme

ATTRACT Opportunities for Outstanding Young Researchers in Luxembourg

1. ATTRACT in Brief: What Is It?

ATTRACT is a programme by the National Research Fund Luxembourg (FNR) which aims to build on the excellence, dynamism and creativity of research in Luxembourg by attracting researchers with a high level of ability in science or technology and proven experience in a professional research context.

The programme is designed for researchers not yet established in Luxembourg; it offers them the opportunity to set up an independent research team within a public-sector research institution in Luxembourg that is willing to host them. Research proposals must be submitted jointly by the candidate and the host institution. Host institutions will offer candidates the prospect of building up and integrating their project into the institution's activities.

Projects submitted should be innovative and of high scientific quality and candidates must have gained a minimum of two and a maximum of eight years' professional experience since successful completion of doctoral studies. Projects selected under the ATTRACT programme have a lifespan of five years and the financial contribution by FNR will be up to EUR 1,000,000. Exceptionally the Fund may contribute up to EUR 1,500,000. Expenditure on equipment, however, is restricted to EUR 200,000. In 2009, the FNR will select up to two candidates for funding.

2. Aims of the ATTRACT Programme

The aims of the ATTRACT programme are:

- to build on the excellence, dynamism and creativity of research in Luxembourg by attracting young researchers who have demonstrated a very high level of scientific ability and have gained a minimum of two and a maximum of eight years' experience (at the time of submission: 2nd February 2009) in a professional context since successful completion of doctoral studies;
- to offer such researchers not yet based in Luxembourg the opportunity to set up their own independent research team in a Luxembourg public-sector research body that is willing to host them, on the basis of a jointly submitted proposal;
- to promote mobility and strengthen scientific careers at an early stage in Luxembourg;
- to support innovative projects of outstanding scientific quality which will help to enhance Luxembourg's position in the international world of R&D;
- to strengthen the fabric of research in Luxembourg by creating new skills in strategically important research fields;
- to help to develop new research networks in Luxembourg that involve research personnel and institutions in other countries.

3. ATTRACT 3rd Call: Timing

The National Research Fund launches annual calls for proposals between 2007 and 2011.

The **third call is launched on 3rd November 2008** with the following mandatory deadlines:

2 nd February 2009:	Joint submission by the candidate and the Luxembourg host research institution of a summary application form with a brief project description
16 th February 2009:	FNR invites candidates to submit full proposal
15 th April 2009:	Joint submission of the full proposal
Beginning of July 2009:	Evaluation panel meeting and interviews
Mid July 2009:	Funding decision by the FNR and information of candidates

4. Eligibility Criteria

In order to be eligible for the programme, candidates must:

- have proven experience of research in a professional context for a minimum of two years and a maximum of eight years following successful completion of doctoral studies, the date of the doctoral certificate being considered as evidence;
- have an outstanding level of scientific ability – i.e. research work must be internationally recognised (scientific publications, references or research results, other);
- undertake to set up a research team capable of advancing research in Luxembourg in the relevant field;
- not have their main research base in Luxembourg at the time of submission of the summary proposal (2nd February 2009);
- submit their proposal to the FNR jointly with a public-sector research body in Luxembourg that is willing to host the project and to offer the researcher a work contract.

Each candidate may only submit one project proposal. Candidates who have applied in previous calls are excluded from subsequent calls.

5. ATTRACT Project Requirements

Eligibility of projects submitted:

- Projects must have a lifespan of five years with an approximate yearly contribution from the FNR of EUR 200,000; exceptionally the FNR may accept to contribute up to EUR 1,500,000. Expenditure on equipment, however, is restricted to EUR 200,000. The FNR also accepts projects which are co-financed by other research bodies, if they accept the FNR's rules and conditions.
- Projects must be carried out within a public-sector research body in Luxembourg, such as listed in the section "How to Find a Host Institution for an ATTRACT Project".
- The candidate will be the scientist in charge of the project. He/She will manage both the project and the research team. This will contribute to the career development of the ATTRACT candidate as an independent researcher.
- Although most of the successful candidate's working hours will initially be devoted to the ATTRACT project, financed essentially through the FNR's contribution, the candidate will along the duration of the project be encouraged to submit applications for other research work in Luxembourg, elsewhere in Europe or internationally (e.g. to the European Commission under FP7 or to other European or international programmes).
- Projects must meet the ATTRACT project selection criteria (see below).

6. Language Requirements

For organisational reasons, proposals may be submitted in English only.

7. ATTRACT Selection Criteria

Selection criteria are:

Criteria	Subcriteria
1.Track-record and potential of candidate	
2. Scientific quality and originality of project	Innovativeness of idea
	Innovativeness and appropriateness of approach
3. Quality and efficiency of project plan	
4. Short to long-term outcomes of the proposed project	Intended short-term outcomes
	Intended long-term impacts

8. How to Find a Host Institution for an ATTRACT Project

The following is a list of public-sector research institutions in Luxembourg that are potential host research institutions for ATTRACT:

<i>INSTITUTION</i>	<i>ADDRESS</i>	<i>CONTACT</i>
University of Luxembourg	162A, avenue de la Faïencerie L-1511 Luxembourg Tel: +352 46 66 44-1 Fax: +352 46 66 44-508 www.uni.lu	Pr. Lucienne Blessing Vice-Rector Research Faculty of Sciences, Technology and Communication Tel: +352 46 66 44-1 Email: lucienne.blessing@uni.lu
CRP Gabriel Lippmann	41, rue du Brill L-4422 Belvaux Tel: +352 47 02 61-1 Fax: +352 47 02 64 www.lippmann.lu	Dr Fernand Reinig Director Tel: +352 47 02 61-1 Email: reinig@lippmann.lu
CRP Henri Tudor	29, avenue John F. Kennedy L-1855 Luxembourg Tel: +352 42 59 91-1 Fax: +352 42 59 91-777 www.tudor.lu	Dr Claude Wehenkel Director Tel: +352 42 59 91-1 Email: claudewehenkel@tudor.lu
CRP Santé	1 AB, rue Thomas Edison L-1445 Strassen Tel: +352 26 970-1 Fax: +352 26 970-717 www.crp-sante.lu	Dr Jean-Claude Schmit Scientific Director Tel: +352 26 970-1 Email: schmit.jc@chl.lu
CEPS/INSTEAD	44, rue Emile Mark P.O. Box 48 L-4501 Differdange Tel: +352 58 58 55-1 Fax: +352 58 55 60 www.ceps.lu	Dr Pierre Hausman Scientific Director Tel: +352 58 58 55-526 Email: pierre.hausman@ceps.lu

Eligible for funding are also other public bodies, departments or establishments in Luxembourg with the mission to undertake research activities and to develop and transfer technology in their respective fields. For more information on these institutions please contact the FNR.

In case candidates have a project idea without knowing whether they will find a host institution interested to develop the proposal in common, it is strongly recommended to contact the FNR, who may help to establish a contact with potential host units for the research project in Luxembourg. It is also important to contact the FNR or the host institutions as soon as possible and to explore sufficiently in advance the conditions for implementation of the project in Luxembourg (including working conditions and possible regulatory obligations).

9. Selection Procedure

Final proposals under the ATTRACT programme will be evaluated and selected in stages as described below.

- Preproposals will be used to test the eligibility of the applicants.
- Proposals will be evaluated (written evaluation) by three independent and senior experts in the relevant field with regard to the criteria set out in this document.
- Following the written evaluation process, a panel of experts will vote to select a maximum of five candidates who will present their projects at an interview.
- The interviews will take place in July 2009 in Luxembourg.
- The panel will then suggest up to two candidates for funding to the FNR's Scientific Council. Should no proposals meet the criteria of excellence, the panel explicitly reserves the right not to propose any candidate for funding.
- The panel's proposal will be evaluated by the Scientific Council of the FNR.
- The final funding decision will then be taken by the Board of Administration of the FNR.

10. Integration into the Luxembourg Environment: Individual Coaching

The National Research Fund will help researchers to integrate into the R&D environment in Luxembourg, notably by cooperating with the University of Luxembourg's Mobility Centre to assist them and their families in the process of settling in (including obtaining visas, completing work and residence permit procedures, finding accommodation, opening bank accounts, becoming familiar with the tax system and learning about the country). The Fund will also assist researchers to set up networks of scientists or research teams working in similar and/or related fields in Luxembourg.

In particular, the FNR will pay for a one-year individual professional coach who will define, together with the ATTRACT candidate, an individual assistance and training programme for the development of management and/or personal skills.

11. Further Information

For further information please visit the National Research Fund Luxembourg website www.fnr.lu or contact:

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www.fnr.lu

ATTRACT 3rd CALL: Timing

The National Research Fund launches annual calls for proposals between 2007 and 2011. The third call is launched on 3rd November 2008 with the following mandatory deadlines:

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Potential Host Institutions

_ University of Luxembourg_www.uni.lu
_ CRP Gabriel Lippmann_www.lippmann.lu
_ CRP Henri Tudor_www.tudor.lu
_ CRP Santé_www.crp-sante.lu
_ CEPS/INSTEAD_www.ceps.lu

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In case candidates have a project idea without knowing whether they will find a host institution interested to develop the proposal in common, it is strongly recommended to contact the FNR, who may help to establish a contact with potential host units for the research project in Luxembourg.

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www.fnr.lu



Since 2000, the National Research Fund Luxembourg (FNR) has been financing high-level research projects through its multi-annual research programmes in priority domains for Luxembourg.

Furthermore, the FNR attaches great importance to the promotion of international collaboration, the mobility of researchers, and the promotion of scientific culture in general.

The FNR gives an additional impetus to research activities in Luxembourg through its accompanying measures, grants that support, for instance, the organisation of a scientific conference or a stay at a research institution abroad.

Since autumn 2008, the FNR has taken over the management of the grant scheme Aides à la Formation-Recherche (AFR), which provides financial support for PhD and postdoctoral students. Overall, the AFR scheme will contribute to the improvement of the young researcher's training conditions and enhance the career development of researchers.

For further information, please visit the FNR's website www.fnr.lu or send an email to info@fnr.lu.

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In order to be eligible for the programme, candidates must:

_have proven experience of research in a professional context for a minimum of two years and a maximum of eight years following successful completion of doctoral studies, the date of the doctoral certificate being considered as evidence;

_have an outstanding level of scientific ability – i.e. research work must be internationally recognised (scientific publications, references or research results, other);

_undertake to set up a research team capable of advancing research in Luxembourg in the relevant field;

_not have their main research base in Luxembourg at the time of submission of the summary proposal (2nd February 2009);

_submit their proposal to the FNR jointly with a public-sector research body in Luxembourg that is willing to host the project and to offer the researcher a work contract.

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_The candidate will be the scientist in charge of the project. He/She will manage both the project and the research team.

_Although most of the successful candidate's working hours will initially be devoted to the ATTRACT project financed essentially from the FNR's contribution, the candidate will along the duration of the project be encouraged to submit applications for other research work in Luxembourg, elsewhere in Europe or internationally (e.g. to the European Commission under FP7 or to other European or international programmes).

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