

Purpose

The ULB Fund for Development Cooperation PhD Grants awards PhD grants to students from **developing countries**, enabling them to write their PhD thesis in one of the ULB's research units. The objective is for such students to then **return to their home countries and exploit the knowledge acquired at the ULB**.

Funding

The PhD grants 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 grant is €1,926,38 a month (as of 1st January 2017) and is indexed on an annual basis.

The grant is only awarded for 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, as an exception, award a grant for 8 months.

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

In the case of the applicant already receiving other funding (seen as an advantage), only a top-up grant can be awarded. This grant will cover the difference between the net FRIA amount and the net amount of the grant already awarded.

Deadline and procedure for submitting applications

Applications, consisting of an **ad hoc form and its attachments**, **must be compiled by the ULB thesis supervisor and e-mailed**, at the latest by 1 March of each year, to the following address:

virginie.scheffer@ulb.ac.be

Eligibility criteria of PhD students for whom such grants are being applied for

- The PhD student must be a national of one of the developing countries listed at the end of this document;
- ULB diplomas must be recognised in the country of origin;
- The applicant who applies has to hold at least a diploma of Master's degree;
- The thesis must be written under the joint supervision (*co-tutelle*), or where this is not possible, under the co-supervision (*co-direction*) of a university in the country of origin.

Composition of an application for an initial grant:

Compiled and submitted by the supervisor, the application must contain the following:

- The completed application form;
- The ad hoc data sheet filled in by the PhD student ;
- Curriculum vitae of the PhD student;
- An e-mail from the co-supervisor in the developing country confirming his assent to jointly / co-supervise the thesis;
- If it's not the first year of the thesis :
 - The thesis' state of progress,
 - The last report of the supervisory committee, this report must be dated from the current academic year
- A presentation of the research unit and its activities in the field of development cooperation;
- The full contact data of two reference people:
ATTENTION! : The applicant for the grant and/or the supervisor must send copies of the presentation of the thesis and the applicant's CV to these two reference people, requesting them to send their opinion about the project and about the applicant in a separate and confidential e-mail to Virginie Scheffer before the application deadline.

Composition of the application for renewing the grant:

The application must contain:

Sent by the PhD student:

- The completed form (including the details of the thesis' state of progress);

Sent by the ULB supervisor:

- An in-depth assessment on the state of progress of the thesis and on the work handed in so far;
- The last report of the supervisory committee;
- If the PhD student is beginning the last year of the thesis, the supervisor will confirm the thesis can be defended by the end of the last stay in Belgium;

Sent by the South country supervisor:

- An in-depth assessment on the state of progress of the thesis and on the work handed in so far.

These documents are to be e-mailed IN ONE ATTACHMENT **by the ULB Thesis Supervisor (*directeur de thèse*)**, at the latest by 1 March of each year, to the following address: virginie.scheffer@ulb.ac.be

SELECTION CRITERIA:

- a. the scientific quality of the research project;
- b. the relevance of the research project to development issues (how can the proposed project help in responding to an overall problem in a specific context?);
- c. how the proposed project fits in with the strategy of the research unit (the one hosting the student) with regard to its development cooperation work;
- d. how well the proposed research project matches the applicant's profile;
- e. the chances of the student returning to his country of origin and his future integration there.

List of eligible countries for ULB grants for students from developing countries		
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	