

French version: [click here](#).

## 1. SITUATION

There will be no PDR Call in 2016. As from 2017, however, PDR granted in the end of the year x will start in January of the year x+1, while they currently do start from October of the year x+1.

In other words, the suppression of the PDR Call in 2016 coupled with this new schedule should not significantly affect the work of the research teams: projects hypothetically granted under Call 2016 would have started in October 2017, while the Call 2017 will enable new projects to start in January 2018, with a 3-month delay given the new calendar. Nevertheless, the adoption of this new schedule enables to reduce the time between the submission of applications and the start of funded project to six months, whereas the current period is of 15 months.<sup>1</sup>

## 2. SCHEDULE

**Opening** of the call on the web-based application of the F.R.S.-FNRS '[SEMAPHORE](#)' for online submission: **FRIDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016**

**Deadlines** are detailed in the table below.

INSTRUMENTS		CREDITS ET PROJECTS CALL 2016			
		DEADLINE TO ACCESS THE ELECTRONIC FORM	DEADLINE FOR THE ELECTRONIC VALIDATION <sup>2</sup>		
			MAIN PROMOTER	CO-PROMOTER(S) <sup>3</sup>	RECTOR
<a href="#">Research Credit</a>	CDR	Wednesday July 6 <sup>th</sup> At 2 p.m. (GMT + 1)	Thursday July 7 <sup>th</sup> At 2 p.m. (GMT + 1)	Thursday July 14 <sup>th</sup> At 2 p.m. (GMT + 1)	Monday July 25 <sup>th</sup> At 2 p.m. (GMT + 1)
<a href="#">Equipment</a>	EQP				
<a href="#">Incentive Grant for Scientific Research</a>	MIS				
<a href="#">Interuniversity Institute for Nuclear Sciences<sup>4</sup></a>	IISN				

<sup>1</sup> Excerpt from the [Newsletter of June 2015](#) published on the F.R.S.-FNRS website.

<sup>2</sup> Any application is subject to a procedure which entails 2 or 3 successive electronic validations on the dates mentioned in the above table:

- The validation by the main promoter and responsible proponent accountable to the F.R.S.-FNRS administration: It ensures that the application file is complete.
- The validation by potential co-promoters (Single or Cross-university EQP and IISN): It accounts as an electronic signature.
- The validation by the research unit (Board of Education) of each institution involved in the project: each institution will be required to validate the application form following the validation by the promoters.

<sup>3</sup> Only EQP and IISN instruments provide for the participation of co-promoters.

<sup>4</sup> All "Interuniversity Institute for Nuclear Sciences" (IISN-ND or AV/PR) IISN projects may be submitted after the [questionnaire "PROJET IISN"](#) has been duly completed and sent to [semaphore@frs-fnrs.be](mailto:semaphore@frs-fnrs.be) (specifying in the subject line: PROJET IISN). The main promoter will be given access to '[SEMAPHORE](#)' after the administrative department of the F.R.S.-FNRS has verified the validity of the application.

Funding decision will be taken by the decision-making bodies of the F.R.S.-FNRS at the end of the calendar year. Starting dates for each instrument are the following:

INSTRUMENTS	STARTING DATE
CDR, EQP, MIS, IISN	1 <sup>st</sup> January 2017

### 3. ELIGIBILITY

At the latest by 15<sup>th</sup> November of the year when submitting the application the main promoter or co-promoter applicant as part of the CDR/EQP/IISN instruments must be:

- Either a Research Associate, a Senior Research Associate or a Research Director of the F.R.S.-FNRS and assuming the function and duties of such position.
- Or a researcher permanently appointed or on probation, but holding a position equivalent to a permanent appointment.

If the main promoter or co-promoter applicant who is appointed permanently and **accesses pension / becomes professor emeritus after the validation deadline** fixed for the academic authorities (rectors) and before the end of the funding scheme in case of granting, the submission of the **application shall be subject to the prior approval of the Head of institution** where the research will be carried out.

The main promoter or co-promoter applicant permanently appointed **who will access pension / become professor emeritus by the validation deadline** fixed for the academic authorities (rectors) **is not eligible**.

### 4. INSTRUMENTS UNDER CALL 2016

Rules and regulations related to eligible expenses have been defined to meet the specific needs of wide-ranging scientific fields.

- a. **Research Credit (CDR - Crédit de recherche)**: a funding instrument for operating costs and small equipment intended for an individual researcher (or her/his team). This instrument not only ensures the funding of basic fundamental research and exploratory research, but also promotes the development of new research subjects and researchers.
- b. **Equipment (EQP)**: a funding instrument for equipment. Application can be built around a specific project or general research themes of a group.
- c. **Incentive Grant for Scientific Research (MIS - Mandat d'impulsion scientifique)**: a funding instrument for specific research projects intended for young researchers with the aim of encouraging their autonomy.

These instruments are summarised in the table below. The eligible expenses<sup>5</sup> are detailed in the regulatory provisions.

	Limits k€/an	Duration	Nature
Research Credit <b>CDR</b>	5 - 30	2 years <sup>6</sup>	Operating costs, support operating costs, small equipment, conferences...
Equipment <b>EQP</b>	30 - 200	2 years	For a project or research themes
Incentive grant for Scientific Research <b>MIS</b>	≤150	2 years	Operating costs, equipment, personnel

<sup>5</sup> The evaluation criteria include the adequacy between the requested budget and the submitted research project. The Scientific Commission may reduce the requested budget up to a maximum of 15%. In case the adequacy of the requested budget with regard to the research programme is not justified and appears to require a reduction of more than 15%, the research programme will not be deemed fundable.

<sup>6</sup> For CDR, the allocated grants can be used over a 3-year period.

## 5. CONTENT OF A PROPOSAL

Applicants will have the choice to write their proposal either in French or in English. For some fields, using English can broaden the number of experts likely to take part in the evaluations.

It is recommended to applicants who wish to have their application file assessed by [Scientific Commissions](#) dedicated to SEN (Exact and Natural Sciences) and SVS (Health and Life Sciences) domains to submit their application in English<sup>7</sup> (F.R.S.-FNRS-BOT decision of 26<sup>th</sup> April 2016).

The F.R.S.-FNRS insists on **strict compliance of the number of pages** allowed for documents that shall be enclosed with the application form and stresses again the sovereign consideration of the Scientific Commissions in case the file would exceed the applicable page limit.

The application file contains the main sections described in the table below.

<b>PRE-FORM</b>	<p>➤ <b>CDR/EQP/MIS/IISN</b> (For administrative use only)</p>		
<b>FULL FORM</b>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="379 757 568 1283"> <p><b>PART 1 :</b> <b>PROJECT AND PROMOTER(S)</b></p> </td> <td data-bbox="568 757 1366 1283"> <p>➤ <b>CDR/EQP/IISN</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Application reference</li> <li>2. Selection: Scientific Commission<sup>8</sup> and Descriptor fields<sup>9</sup></li> <li>3. Bibliometric indicators + Curriculum vitae and Publications List<sup>10</sup> (PDF files)</li> <li>4. Scientific proposal &amp; Ethical aspects<sup>11</sup> (PDF files)</li> <li>5. Promoter(s)<sup>1</sup> Statement</li> </ol> <p>➤ <b>MIS</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Application reference</li> <li>2. Selection: Scientific Commission and Descriptor fields<sup>9</sup></li> <li>3. Bibliometric indicators + Curriculum vitae and Publications list<sup>10</sup> (PDF files)</li> <li>4. Scientific proposal &amp; Ethical aspects<sup>11</sup> (PDF files)</li> <li>5. Foreign experts (contact details)</li> <li>6. Promoter(s)<sup>1</sup> Statement</li> </ol> </td> </tr> </table>	<p><b>PART 1 :</b> <b>PROJECT AND PROMOTER(S)</b></p>	<p>➤ <b>CDR/EQP/IISN</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Application reference</li> <li>2. Selection: Scientific Commission<sup>8</sup> and Descriptor fields<sup>9</sup></li> <li>3. Bibliometric indicators + Curriculum vitae and Publications List<sup>10</sup> (PDF files)</li> <li>4. Scientific proposal &amp; Ethical aspects<sup>11</sup> (PDF files)</li> <li>5. Promoter(s)<sup>1</sup> Statement</li> </ol> <p>➤ <b>MIS</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Application reference</li> <li>2. Selection: Scientific Commission and Descriptor fields<sup>9</sup></li> <li>3. Bibliometric indicators + Curriculum vitae and Publications list<sup>10</sup> (PDF files)</li> <li>4. Scientific proposal &amp; Ethical aspects<sup>11</sup> (PDF files)</li> <li>5. Foreign experts (contact details)</li> <li>6. Promoter(s)<sup>1</sup> Statement</li> </ol>
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<sup>7</sup> Should the application file be submitted in French, the F.R.S.-FNRS may require the applicant to provide a translation in English for the purpose of conducting the [ex-ante evaluation](#).

<sup>8</sup> Not applicable for the IISN instrument.

<sup>9</sup> If applicants select only one descriptor field relevant to the Scientific Commission selected, they shall justify the selection of the Scientific Commission in the application form.

<sup>10</sup> Since the Credits and Projects Call 2013:

The promoters who have been working for 2 years at least in institutions that have set up an institutional repository (IR) must absolutely submit their publications list in a PDF format, directly created from this repository, and choose the appropriate F.R.S.-FNRS format (F.R.S.-FNRS-BOT decision of 16<sup>th</sup> December 2011, confirmed in December 2012).

<sup>11</sup> Documents regarding “Aspects éthiques/Ethical aspects” must be sent to the F.R.S.-FNRS by **31<sup>st</sup> Octobre 2016 at the latest**:

- [Code éthique/Ethics code](#) for scientific research in Belgium, other texts regarding the medical ethics
- Questionnaire [Éthique médicale/Medical ethics](#)
- Questionnaire [Animaux d'expérience/Experimental animals](#)

	<p><b>PART 2 :</b></p> <p><b>BUDGET</b></p>	<p>➤ <b>CDR/EQP</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Justification of the resources requested</li> <li>2. Requested budget</li> <li>3. Documents to enclose</li> <li>4. Promoter(s)' Statement</li> </ol> <p>➤ <b>MIS/IISN</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Justification of the resources requested</li> <li>2. Requested budget: Personnel</li> <li>3. Requested budget: Operating costs</li> <li>4. Requested budget: Equipment</li> <li>5. Documents to enclose</li> <li>6. Promoter(s)' Statement</li> </ol>
	<p><b>PART 3 :</b></p> <p><b>PREVIOUS FUNDING</b></p>	<p>➤ <b>CDR/ EQP/MIS</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Relation with previous funding applications (requested or granted)</li> </ol>

<p><b>SCIENTIFIC SECTION</b></p> <p><b>PLEASE USE THE TEMPLATE PROVIDED FOR THAT PURPOSE</b></p>	<p>➤ <b>CDR</b> <a href="#">CDR template</a></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Brief report on previous works</li> <li>2. Description of the project</li> <li>3. Publications and environment of the promoter</li> </ol> <p>➤ <b>EQP</b> <a href="#">EQP template</a></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Brief report on previous works</li> <li>2. Description of the project</li> <li>3. Publications and environment of the main promoter</li> <li>4. Publications of the co-promoters (if any)</li> <li>5. Interactions and distribution of the tasks among the main promoter and the co-promoters (if any)</li> </ol> <p>➤ <b>MIS</b> <a href="#">MIS template</a></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Brief report on previous works</li> <li>2. Description of the project</li> <li>3. Arguments of the MIS project</li> <li>4. Promoter's publications related to the project</li> </ol> <p>➤ <b>IISN</b> <a href="#">IISN template</a></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Brief report on previous works</li> <li>2. Description of the project</li> <li>3. Publications and environment of the main promoter</li> <li>4. Publications of the co-promoters (if any)</li> <li>5. Interactions and distribution of the tasks among the main promoter and the co-promoters (if any)</li> <li>6. Laboratory staff</li> </ol>
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## 6. SPECIFIC REMARKS

For any requested staff unit the promoter shall contact the relevant department of her/his university in order to establish an estimation of the personnel cost based on the seniority scale. Amounts cannot be changed after application submission.

“Technician and Short-term Postdoctoral Researcher” categories are limited to an annual amount, calculated in proportion to the worked days. Limitations in force in 2017 are the following:

➤ Technician	€54,800- (full time) - €27,800- (part time)
➤ Short-term Postdoctoral Researcher	€48,600,-

**As for the MIS**, since the F.R.S.-FNRS is the employer of the Postdoctoral researcher, the promoter shall take into account the annual cost provided by the Fund. Amounts in 2017:

➤ Postdoctoral Researcher	€75,300- (full time) - €37,800- (part time)
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## 7. OPEN ACCESS POLICY

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The Board of Trustees of the F.R.S.-FNRS has decided to endorse the principle of Open access to publicly funded research. This support has led to the implementation of an institutional mandate providing Open access to publications from F.R.S.-FNRS funded research projects and researchers under the "Open Access Green Road" business model.

This [mandate](#) specifies the conditions under which the F.R.S.-FNRS grant recipients shall store, when possible, all the funded research results of which they are authors or co-authors in their institution's repository.

### Reminder to the research community:

Any scientific publication which has benefited from a grant from the FNRS shall mention the source of the funding as follows: "This work was supported by the Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique - FNRS under Grant(s) n° [ID number]". The same procedure applies to open access publications.

DOCUMENTS, GUIDES, AND RULES AND REGULATIONS AVAILABLE AT

<http://www.fnrs.be/index.php/appels-reglements>