

FASoS Call for SEO and ART hours

FASoS opens a call for its faculty staff to apply for:

- a budget for additional research time (ART) to start or finish a project or prepare a funding proposal (what used to be called sabbatical hours at FASoS);
- a budget for SEO additional research time to prepare/rework and submit/resubmit a funding proposal in Horizon 2020 (including ITN, ERC and Societal Challenges); and to prepare a Marie Curie visiting fellow application (incoming, under specific conditions also outgoing).

SEO thus has a specific focus on supporting grant applications of a certain kind; ART funds have no such restrictions. For this reason, projects that do not fall under SEO's focus should apply for ART, while others should opt for SEO. It is impossible to apply for both schemes with the same project; however, it is possible to apply for both schemes with different projects.

SEO funds may be used as¹

- buy-out and optional external consultant support² to rework and resubmit grant proposals that were evaluated well above the threshold (track 2)³;
- buy-out and preparation costs for new Horizon2020 applications (track 3);
- buy-out and preparation costs for an ERC application (track 4).
- to prepare Marie Curie visiting fellow applications (track 5).

ART applications may be used as buy-outs from teaching to:

- finalize a research project (e.g. a high profile publication, special issue);
- commence a new research project;
- prepare/rework and submit/resubmit a funding proposal in any scheme that is not covered by SEO (e.g. Veni, Vidi). This may include the costs to pay an external consultant for advice. In that case, the costs will have to be "converted" into solver hours. If the funding scheme is covered by SEO, you cannot apply for ART funds for an application in this scheme;
- setting up pilot studies

FASoS SEO and ART hours - How to apply ?

First step: discuss your plans and get the explicit support of your head of department (ART) or research programme director (SEO).

Next: you need to submit your ART or SEO (track 2-4) application to the research policy officer Lidwien Hollanders (l.hollanders@maastrichtuniversity.nl) **by 12 March 2018:**

- an updated CV
- a proposal (3-5 pages, maximum) how you want to spend your additional research hours, which includes:
 - the goal of your additional research hours;

¹ Next to the existing 5 tracks (Track 1 = reward for the researcher(s) who was/were successful in Horizon 2020 (or ITNs) and thanks to whom we receive the SEO funds (the funding advisor, Merle Achten is in charge here)), OTO can decide to use major means beyond the 5 existing tracks if there is a good reason to do so. OTO will review such applications and advise the Faculty Board in its decision.

² The Faculty Board can grant subsidies of preparation costs (e.g. interview training) up to € 1,500 without further consultation of the OTO and the Head of the Departments at any time during the academic year on the basis of a short application.

³ 'Well above threshold': For H2020 Marie Curie (both ITN as well as individual fellowships) proposals 85 points or higher; H2020 ERC proposals: score A; H2020 LEIT or SC proposals 13 points or higher.

- a statement that demonstrates the match with the focus point of your respective research programme;
- a time plan;
- a description of the planned results (e.g. article, research application);
- an indication of necessary amount of solver hours and, if applicable, costs for external consultant support.

For SEO track 5 applications you need to submit:

- CV of the candidate;
- an invitation letter by either the department chair, the research programme director, or research centre director with explicit support of the application. The letter also clarifies who will be the responsible mentor at FASoS during her/his stay at FASoS;
- a short outline of the candidate's tasks during her/his stay at FASoS;
- a budget (including workspace costs (400 per month), travel, accommodation) of max. 2.500 Euro)

Decision procedure and criteria

For ART: based on the applications Head of Departments will have received from the research policy officer, they will prepare a proposal on how to spend ART hours in their respective department. The ultimate decision will be taken in a combined meeting described below for SEO. This will help to make sure that faculty funds are spent in an optimal way.

For SEO, tracks 2-4 will be taken in a combined meeting that brings together:

- the dean
- the associate dean for research
- the heads of department
- the research group directors

This meeting is scheduled at April 10.

The criteria for deciding on granting additional research hours are:

- Quality of the proposal (goal that you set yourself; evidence that the support will improve the quality of your planned output; feasibility of plan);
- Match with one of the focus points of your respective research programme;
- Clear plan how your teaching or administrative obligations will be replaced;
- In case of a funding proposal: the chances for success.

For SEO, track 5 applications, OTO will write an advice to FB regarding all proposed applications. The advice + proposals shall be submitted to the Faculty Board for approval.

The Research Institute of FASoS keeps track of ART and SEO hours arrangements that are being made and whether the goals that were agreed on are reached. As researcher, you need to write a short report at the latest six months after the end of the period for which you receive SEO/ART funding. In this report, please describe how you have used these funds and if you have achieved your goals. Please send this report to the research policy officer (Lidwien Hollanders, l.hollanders@maastrichtuniversity.nl).