

FASoS Selection Procedure NWO MaGW programme *Research Talent 2017*

NWO Research Talent offers talented, upcoming researchers the opportunity to fulfill their ambitions of pursuing their scientific careers with a PhD research project. NWO published its call for proposals on its [website](#).

Main characteristics of the 2017 round are:

- The selection procedure is divided into two-stages, where in the first stage the **pre-proposal** is evaluated. In the second stage a **limited** amount of **full** proposals is reviewed;
- Candidates have to fulfill an admission requirement: the overall average grade of the completed bachelor study is at least the Dutch grade 7,5 (or a GPA of at least 3.37) and the overall average grade of the completed first year¹ of the master study is at least the Dutch grade 8,0 (or a GPA of at least 3.95). Dutch grades do not need to be converted.
- Only professors within [social and behavioral sciences](#) can submit pre-proposals in the 2016 round. If a professor is invited to submit a full proposal, it can be submitted by associate professors or assistant professors on behalf of the professor.
- The funding for the PhD project is for four years.

In order to select the best proposals, FASoS has organized an internal faculty selection procedure for submission of pre-proposals to NWO. Only **pre-proposals** who have been approved upon by the FASoS Faculty Board may be submitted to NWO. Candidates from FASoS who want to apply for NWO *Research Talent* should follow the selection procedure below. Please note that the Graduate School Admission Committee will discuss the eligibility of the submitted proposals and provides feedback to both candidates and professors. Based on the advice from the Graduate School the Faculty Board gives final approval on which proposals will be submitted to NWO. Next to selecting the candidates, the procedure aims that candidates will submit their best possible applications.

While the deadline for submission of pre-proposals at NWO is **27 September 2016**, the **faculty-internal deadline for pre-proposals is on 8 September 2016, 12:00h** (see below for details). A pre-proposal consists of:

- * a short project description (700 words) in NWO format .
- * CV and motivation of the candidate in NWO format .
- * a supervisor who submits on behalf of the PhD candidate.

Contact person for the faculty selection procedure:

- Research funding advisor – Merle Achten (merle.achten@maastrichtuniversity.nl)

Most important deadlines from the internal selection procedure are:

- **8 September, 2016, 12:00h:** FASoS deadline for submission of **draft** pre-proposals to the GS Admission Committee. Proposals should be sent to Laurie Baggen.
- **13 September, 2016:** eligibility advice from GS Admission Committee to Faculty Board.

¹ In case the candidate has concluded a master's of two years, the average is calculated over the entire study.

- **14 September, 2016:** decision on proposals by Faculty Board.
- **19 September, 2016:** feedback by GS Admission Committee to applicant.
- **19 September – 27 September 2016:** rewriting proposals.
- **27 September 2016:** Deadline for submission of final pre-proposals to NWO.
Proposals must be submitted by the PhD Supervisor.

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1. Writing applications (July-August, 2016)

Candidates and prospected supervisors write their pre-proposals. Applications have to:

- follow the guidelines / formats as made available by NWO
- consist of a pre-proposal (short project description + CV and motivation of the candidate + supervisor)
- candidates must have made use of the expertise of
 - the financial administrator
(s.winkens-gartener@maastrichtuniversity.nl)
 - the research funding advisor
(merle.achten@maastrichtuniversity.nl)

Note: The Research Panel does NOT need to be consulted, as feedback and coaching will be provided by the GS Admission Committee.

2. Submission of draft pre-proposals (8 September, 2016, 12:00h)

-Prospected supervisors and candidates submit their pre-proposal to Laurie Baggen (l.baggen@maastrichtuniversity.nl) on 8 September, 2016, before 12:00h.

3. Reviewing/pre-selecting pre-proposals (13 September, 2016)

-The GS Admission Committee prepares an “advice for eligibility (see explanation below)” for the candidates on the basis of the NWO criteria, i.e. based on:

- the CV and skills of the candidate
- the quality of the pre-proposal

- Eligible: the GS Admission Committee provides feedback to further develop the proposal.

- Non-eligible: the GS Admission Committee sees no possibilities to rework this proposal on time. It will thus advise the FB that the proposal should not be submitted to NWO.

4. Decision by Faculty Board

- Pre-proposals (same version as was sent to GS) will be sent to the Faculty Board on 13 September, 2016 together with the GS advice.

- Faculty Board decides on 14 September, 2016 which proposals can be submitted on behalf of the faculty.

5. Feedback by GS Admission Committee

- Candidates and proposed supervisors will be offered personal feedback on the proposals by one of the members of the GS Admission Committee by 19 September, 2016 the latest.

6. Submission to NWO (27 September 2016)

The supervisors themselves are responsible for submitting their proposals to NWO via the NWO [website](#). This is not done by the faculty.

7. Preparation NWO full proposals and interviews (January – March 2017)

Candidates selected and invited by NWO for submitting a full proposal – which also means an interview invitation – should inform the research funding advisor about the NWO decision. The FASoS graduate school board members, the (proposed) supervisor plus the research funding advisor will further support the preparation of the full proposal plus the interviews.