

## AXA Post-Doctoral Fellowships 2016-2017

AXA Research Fund (<http://www.axa-research.org/>)

Protecting its clients and the community from risks is at the core of AXA's purpose. Convinced that researching today will help better protecting tomorrow, the AXA Group has created the AXA Research Fund. Its mission is to fund basic science dedicated to developing a better understanding of global risks. Research eligible for funding by the Fund must fall within the scope of one of the themes identified by the AXA Scientific Board:

### *Environmental Risks*

- Climate change.
- Natural hazards & disaster risk reduction.
- Urbanization & Resilience, Transport and Road Safety.
- Sustainable Food and Water Management.

### *Life Risks*

- Ageing, dependency and long-term care.
- Chronic diseases.
- Well-being and prevention.
- Public Health & healthcare systems.

### *Socio-economic Risks*

- Insurance and its influence on the Macroeconomic environment.
- Geopolitics and the dynamics of international relations.
- Sustainability of public & private welfare systems.
- Future of financial markets (low interest rate environment, climate economics...).

### *"The Fourth Industrial Revolution"*

- The technological revolution's Social & economic impact (Medical digitization, Health innovation, Energy transition, Finance, Internet of Things, Social Networks...).
- Tools and novel approaches to scientific modelling (Bioinformatics, Data Science...).
- Data privacy & Cybersecurity, ethics, values & regulation.
- Artificial intelligence & learning.
- Human behaviors and cyber-physical interactions.

## AXA Post-Doctoral Fellowships 2016-2017 procedure

In 2017 the AXA Research Fund will be offering up to 25 Post-Doctoral Fellowships to outstanding researchers. Each grant can be up to 130 000€ at most and for a duration of 18 to 24 months.

### *Eligible candidates*

Applicants:

- May not have a permanent academic position;
- Must have been awarded his/her first PhD (or equivalent doctoral degree) before the beginning of the Post-Doctoral grant and within the 3 years preceding the deadline for the submission of their research proposal. This eligibility period may be extended up to 6 years in the event of documented career breaks: - Maternity / Paternity leave, Long-term illness, clinical qualification or national service.

### *Eligible projects*

Projects eligible for funding by the Fund must:

- fall in the scope of the eligible thematic focus as listed above;
- concern a free standing independent research project involving full-time work for the duration of the fellowship (with an exceptional acceptance of up to 20% time dedicated to teaching);
- address academic research;
- deal with research that conforms to the AXA Group Compliance and Ethics Guide<sup>1</sup>.

### *Selection criteria*

The proposals will be assessed on the following points:

#### Scientific excellence and innovativeness

- Definition and structuration of the scientific case
- Progress beyond the state of the art
- Innovative nature of the concept proposed

#### Quality of the research environment & feasibility

- Work plan and planning
- Appropriateness of the methodology
- Host environment and supervisor
- Appropriateness of the budget

#### Impact of the research

- Better understanding of important hazards and risks
- Impact of the research on society/communities

#### Applicant's profile

- Academic excellence and a proven track record in accordance with the stage of the candidate's career
- Demonstrated expertise relevant to the research proposed
- Personal commitment
- Potential for independence of research
- Communication skills

### *The application process*

The application process entails:

1. selection of the host institution and number of candidates(1-2) that can be proposed by the Fund;
2. an internal UM selection of candidate(s) for the allocated slot(s) based on the CV and summary of the proposal by November 7, 12h;
3. application of the proposal by the candidate(s) by December 6, 2016.

If you would like to be selected to apply for an AXA Post-Doctoral Fellowship, send [Femke Buiter](#) the following documents by November 7, 12h:

- a Detailed CV (2 pages max + ½ page of your most relevant publications)
- a career statement (1 page max, detailing the link between the PhD thesis and the postdoctoral project, the justification of the choice of the host institution, how the AXA Fellowship can contribute to achieving these objectives and their international exposure)

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.axa.com/en/newsroom/publications/compliance-ethics-guide>

- an extended synopsis of the postdoctoral project (2 pages max) containing: the setup of your project and paragraphs on the innovative aspects of your proposal, your research plan and the impact of your research.

You will be notified on the selection decision by November 11 at the latest.

*The AXA selection process*

The selection process by the Fund will entail an academic review by remote referees. The candidates will receive the reviews if the referees in order to write a rebuttal (February 2017).

There will furthermore be a public engagement interview in order to evaluate the capacity to share and popularize their research with non-academics (April 2017).

A Peer review Panel will examine the proposals, reviews and rebuttal and provide a recommendation to the AXA Scientific Board. Final results will be made public on April 24, 2017.

For more information on the call and the application, see the [Application Guidelines](#) and/or contact your funding advisor.