



Call for proposals for co-financing of 3-year doctoral contracts

Launched by France's President Emmanuel Macron, the Make Our Planet Great Again initiative has met with worldwide enthusiasm, generating expressions of interest from a large number of highly qualified students and researchers.

Within the framework of the initiative, France's ministries of Europe and foreign affairs (MEAE) and of higher education, research, and innovation (MESRI) have implemented a program of support for foreign doctoral candidates wishing to complete a PhD in France on a topic related to earth systems, climate change and sustainability, or the energy transition. Under the program, approximately 20 doctoral candidates will receive €50,000 in co-financing over three years for a PhD commencing between September and December 2018.

The program is managed by Campus France. Institutions wishing to participate in recruiting and supporting doctoral candidates are invited to apply online at <http://makeourplanetgreatagain.campusfrance.org>.

Who may apply?

This call is open to French institutions of higher education and research, not to students at the first phase. The selected institutions will receive a co-financing subsidy of €50,000, payable over three years, to recruit and support a doctoral candidate under a work contract.

Research themes

Three broad research themes are prioritized: earth systems, climate change and sustainability, and the energy transition. A complete list of eligible themes can be found at <https://www.campusfrance.org/en/priority-research-topics>

Selection of doctoral candidates

Doctoral candidates will be selected by the supported French institutions. To be eligible, students must possess a master's degree or be enrolled in a master-level program, must not be French nationals, and must not have resided in France after April 1, 2016. Candidates may be of any age. The doctoral contract must take effect no later than December 31, 2018.

Financing

Participating French institutions must agree to host the doctoral candidate under a three-year employment contract. The minimum gross monthly remuneration under the contract shall be €1,758. Participating institutions shall receive an annual subsidy of €16,666.

Selection process

Consistent with the aims and requirements of this call for proposals, Campus France will convene experts and an international jury whose members represent the priority fields for the purpose of selecting participating institutions and assessing the research proposals put forward by those institutions.

Process for selection of topics and recruitment of doctoral candidates

The French institution shall propose one or more PhD topics and apply online for co-financing of the associated research at <http://makeourplanetgreatagain.campusfrance.org>. Once a proposed topic is accepted, the institution shall issue a letter of commitment to co-finance a doctoral candidate to pursue the topic. The institution shall then proceed to recruit candidates through an international call for applications that will simultaneously be relayed by Campus France to students having expressed their interest at www.makeourplanetgreatagain.fr. The institution shall then propose a ranked list of three candidates for each approved research topic. The international jury will review and approve the lists submitted by the institution.



Timeline

Week of February 26, 2018: Pre-launch phase of application process

March 12, 2018: Institutional application period opens

March 30, 2018 at 23:59 CET: Institutional application period ends

Week of May 28, 2018: Successful institutions are notified

June 4–22, 2018: List of approved dissertation topics is published; student application period opens

June 25–July 6, 2018: Institutions identify and rank up to three doctoral candidates per research topic

Week of July 23, 2018: Successful candidates are notified

Beginning September 2018: Candidates report to participating institutions



A complete list of research themes and other useful information is available at <http://makeourplanetgreatagain.campusfrance.org>.

Have a question?

For a personal response, write us at mopga@campusfrance.org. We will do our best to answer your question promptly.

Want to be kept informed of calls for proposals under the Make Our Planet Great Again initiative?

If you would like to be included on our e-mail list, send a message to infomopga@campusfrance.org. Your e-mail address will be automatically added to our distribution list.

