

Fellowships Eligibility criteria

To assess whether you are eligible for a Junior or Senior Diabetes Fonds Fellowship, please read the criteria below.

Junior Fellowship

- Applicants of all nationalities can apply for a Fellowship. However, the proposed research must take place in The Netherlands for more than 50% of the duration and resources.
- There is no age limit for a Junior Fellowship.
- The applicant must have obtained a PhD, or submit an official declaration (no later than November 1, 2025) by the manuscript committee that the manuscript of the thesis has been approved.
- The applicant has obtained their PhD no later than 3 years prior to the deadline of the call for submission of a Letter of Intent (PhD graduation date on or after 10th February 2022).
- For applicants who have completed two PhDs the graduation date of the second PhD is leading as the eligibility date.
- Only in the case of care responsibilities, pregnancy, illness or training to become a clinical specialist, it is possible to receive an extension to the number of years after the PhD graduation. See below for specifics.

Senior Fellowships

- Applicants of all nationalities can apply for a Fellowship. However, the proposed research must take place in The Netherlands for more than 50% of the duration and resources.
- There is no age limit for a Senior Fellowship.
- The applicant needs to have a PhD. The applicant has obtained their PhD no later than 8 years and not earlier than 3 years prior to the deadline of the call for submission of a Letter of Intent (PhD graduation date on or after 10th February 2017 and before 10th February 2022).
- For applicants who have completed two PhDs the graduation date of the second PhD is leading as the eligibility date.
- Only in the case of care responsibilities, pregnancy, illness or training to become a clinical specialist, it is possible to receive an extension to the number of years after the PhD graduation. See below for specifics.

Extension limit

The **maximum accumulated extension** of the submission limit is **six years** for both a Junior and Senior Fellowship. In case multiple conditions for an extension apply, the total sum of the extension cannot exceed six years. An applicant who wishes to request an extension must always contact the Fellowships Program coordinator (research@diabetesfonds.nl) timely before the Letter of Intent is submitted. Request for an extension after submission of the Letter of Intent are not taken into account. Even in the case of an extension of the submission limit, the standard deadlines for submitting an application, stated in the call, still fully apply.

An extension can be granted on the following grounds:

1 | Pregnancy and childcare responsibilities

Parents can obtain an extension if they have childcare responsibilities. It does not matter whether the child was born before or after the date of the thesis defence.

Biological mothers receive an 18-month extension per child. This extension is a compensation for the time that the pregnancy, birth and care of the child involve and includes any parental leave and/or the average reduction in the size of the formal working hours.

Other parents (fathers and non-biological mothers) with a child that is part of their household receive a 6-month extension per child. This extension is a compensation for the time that the pregnancy, birth and care of the child involve and includes any parental leave and/or average reduction in the formal working hours.

2 | Care leave

An appeal based on care responsibilities only applies to candidates for whom there is or was a demonstrable registered period of care leave. In the case of care leave for first-degree blood or other relatives (other than own children), a formal reduction in the working hours is compensated. The formal reduction in working hours should be demonstrated by means of an overview of the leave registration from the HRM department of your employer, and according to this overview, the applicant needs to specify the total length of extension.

3 | Illness

In the case of long-term illness, the formal reduction in working hours is compensated. The formal reduction in working hours should be demonstrated by means of an overview of the leave registration from the HRM department of your employer, and according to this overview, the applicant needs to specify the total length of extension.

4 | Training to become a clinical specialist

Applicants who have completed their training to become a clinical specialist are also eligible for an extension of the submission limit. Applicants can apply for an extension on ground of a completed training, or for a training which will end before 1st July 2026 (6 months after the written notification of the granting of the Fellowship).

The total accumulated time since the PhD graduation devoted to a training course to become a clinical specialist may be summed and added as an extension. If the training and scientific research were realised at the same time, then only the training time counts towards the extension.