

## REGULATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

France Sclérose en Plaques Foundation welcomes any basic and clinical research applications focused on Multiple Sclerosis, including for example: immunologic basis of MS, myelin biology, axonal degeneration, restoration of myelin and axonal integrity, susceptibility to MS, epidemiology, virology, infectious disease processes that may trigger disease activity, imaging technology, identification and use of surrogate markers, clinical research and therapeutics, and so on.

### IMPORTANT DATES

- **March 31:** deadline for the online submission
- **1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of July and the following Wednesday:** selection of the projects
- **August:** publication of the final list of laureates
- **August to October:** signature of the agreements
- **From November:** Start of the contracts

### ELIGIBILITY

#### For research grants:

1. Research projects taking place outside of France can be funded by Fondation France Sclérose En Plaques provided they are integrated in a multicenter project, including at least one French team with a **major role in the project**.
2. A principal investigator (PI) can only submit one project to the Fondation France Sclérose en Plaques **BUT** he/she can be a collaborator in another submitted project.
3. Funding will be granted for one year.
4. A principal investigator (PI) can submit a project every year (no limitation on the number of years).
5. Funding is for laboratory expenses, equipment, access to a technology platform... Funding for a technician or paramedical staff can be requested, but the amount for the salary cannot exceed 1/3 of the total requested amount.  
**The budget must not be used for indirect costs or overhead costs (defined as costs associated with Institution's ongoing operating expenses such as facilities and basic utilities, the purchase and repair of office equipment, administration fees, etc.).**
6. Candidature to another research call should be clearly indicated and the links between the projects explained
7. A fixed amount will be awarded: 50 000 € maximum per project.

#### For fellowships:

1. France Sclérose En Plaques support covers salary (38 000 € for a PhD fellowship; 60 000 € for a postdoctoral fellowship)
2. The support is for 1 year
3. The candidate to a fellowship cannot be granted for more than 3 years

4. The candidate should be less than 40 years old on March 31.
5. French nationality is not required
6. It is not possible to combine France Sclérose en Plaques fellowship with the fellowship of another structure.
7. A principal investigator (PI) can only submit one project as a coordinator for grant or for fellowship

**PhD students** can apply for fellowships only for their last thesis year (3rd or 4th year) and only if

1. The PhD student is a student in a French university.
2. The absence of funding for the entire PhD work (3 years) is clearly justified
3. A 4<sup>th</sup> year is necessary for the completion of the PhD and is authorized by the French University. A letter from the University is requested.

➔ **Complete the file “Fellowship” and only this one.**

**Note:** a special attention will be given to PhD students.

**Postdoctoral researchers** can apply for fellowships only under the following situations:

1. the postdoctoral training is carried out in a different laboratory from the PhD lab. However, a "junction fellowship" may be granted for a period of one year (non-renewable) to complete the project initiated during the PhD fellowship in the same lab. This request must be clearly justified.
2. the applicant resides in France: funding can be granted for the first year and possibly renewed,
3. the applicant applies for a foreign laboratory: funding can be granted only for the first year providing that the PhD has been performed in France

➔ **You can complete both files “Fellowship” or “Grant + fellowship”.**

**REMINDER:** In respect with the French law, the duration of fixed-term contracts in public laboratories cannot exceed 6 consecutive years (for postdoctoral fellowship). If you have already completed 5 years, a letter from the employment institute is requested.

**NOTE:** The fellowship granted by France Sclérose en Plaques Foundation in “YEAR N” will have to start before **February 1<sup>st</sup> “YEAR N+1”**

## EVALUATION

Scientific excellence is the sole criterion on the basis of which grants, and fellowships are awarded.

Selection of the projects is based on the project originality, feasibility, **the relevance to multiple sclerosis and associated disorders**, the pertinence and the relevance of the methodology, the

quality of the management (ability of the applicant to manage the project and a team), and benefit for people with MS or related disease.

## HOW TO APPLY?

France Sclérose En Plaques proposes **3 types of research supports**

- 1- "Application for **fellowship**" to fund a doctoral or post-doctoral candidate in studies related to MS or associated disorders.
- 2- "Application for research **grant**" to fund a project,
- 3- "Application for research **grant + fellowship**" to support a project **AND** a post-doctoral fellow for **working on this project**. Beware! If you ask for a grant and a fellowship associated to the grant, you must send **ONLY** this file.

➔ **If you ask for a last year's thesis, you CANNOT apply for an associated grant.**

## Application procedure

The project file can be loaded from the France Sclérose En Plaques Foundation website:

<https://www.arsep.org/fr/220-calls-for-proposals.html>

Online submission: <https://www.arsep.org/fr/220-calls-for-proposals.html> no later than **MARCH 31**. The application form on the website must be completed by the principal investigator (coordinator).

**NOTE:** before completing the information on the website, please read with attention "Guidelines on how to complete the online applications".

The project file should be signed by the PI. For collaborators, please use the document "Signature of collaborators" and attach it with the project file or send it by email to [scientific@francesep.org](mailto:scientific@francesep.org).

No extensions on the deadline will be permitted and no proposals will be considered after this date. Any non-compliant or incomplete (unsigned version, missing or non-conforming parts, etc.) will be considered inadmissible.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Applications must be written in English. More than 2/3 of the reviews are sent to experts outside of France.
- Indicate 2 to 3 names of expected reviewers **BUT** Any researcher or clinician having collaborated with a participant of the project within the 5 years preceding this request should be excluded
- Do not forget to specify your abbreviations
- For clinical studies: pay attention to your control groups, the number of individuals and justify your statistics, numbers, ...
- Travel or meetings expenses must be limited.
- The budget is for laboratory expenses and must not be used for indirect costs or overhead costs (defined as costs associated with Institution's ongoing operating expenses such as facilities and basic utilities, the purchase and repair of office equipment, administration fees, etc. see section 5.3. of the internal regulations of FRANCE SCLÉROSE EN PLAQUES Foundation).

- France Sclérose en Plaques foundation cannot manage the funding granted. A partnership agreement will be signed between the foundation and your managing institute. Beware: agreements can only be signed between France Sclérose En Plaques Foundation and public research institutes



**The project file and all related documents must be written in English**

## **RAPPEL DE L'ENGAGEMENT DES CHERCHEURS ENVERS LA FONDATION** **FRANCE SCLÉROSE EN PLAQUES**

La Fondation France Sclérose En Plaques, soutient vos travaux de recherche grâce aux dons privés qu'elle reçoit : particuliers, mécènes, entreprises.

La collecte de fonds est difficile. C'est pourquoi, il nous paraît indispensable de faire savoir à tous nos donateurs que leur générosité a contribué de manière significative à l'obtention de résultats importants dans la recherche sur la sclérose en plaques et les maladies apparentées.

La Fondation France Sclérose En Plaques finance vos travaux de recherche, car elle croit en vos qualités de chercheurs et en votre potentiel scientifique. Son objectif est de continuer cette mission qui est de soutenir encore et toujours, un nombre grandissant de projets de recherche.

Le **soutien croissant de la Fondation** ne pourra se faire sans **la croissance de sa notoriété**. Pour cette raison, la Fondation sera très attentive au fait que ses actions soient visibles auprès de la communauté scientifique, des médias et des donateurs. Nous comptons sur vous pour que le soutien de la Fondation France Sclérose En Plaques soit cité chaque fois qu'elle est associée à des avancées de la recherche sur la sclérose en plaques et les maladies apparentées.

Comme cela est prévu dans les conventions établies entre la Fondation et les instituts de recherche dont vous dépendez, ainsi que dans les lettres d'acceptation que vous avez signées, **nous vous rappelons que vous vous êtes engagés à citer le nom de la Fondation France Sclérose En Plaques et/ou à placer son logo, dans toutes les publications, communications orales et affichées qui seront réalisées grâce à ce soutien financier.**

L'absence de visibilité de la Fondation France Sclérose En Plaques dans les résultats de vos projets de recherche est très préjudiciable à nos efforts de collecte et de ce fait à notre soutien dans vos travaux de recherche.

## **REMINDER OF THE COMMITMENT OF THE RESEARCHERS TO THE FRANCE** **SCLÉROSE EN PLAQUES FOUNDATION**

France Sclérose En Plaques Foundation supports your research through private donations she receives, including individuals, sponsors and companies.

Fundraising is difficult. Therefore, the Foundation thinks that it is absolutely necessary to inform our donors that their generosity has contributed significantly to the achievement of important results in research on multiple sclerosis and associated disorders.

France Sclérose En Plaques Foundation supports financially your research works because she believes in your researchers' qualities and in your research scientific potential. Her objective is to continue this mission which is to support still and always a growing number of research projects.

**The increasing support of the Foundation** cannot be made without **the growth of her fame**. For this reason, the Foundation will be very attentive to the fact that her actions are visible for scientific community, media and donors. We reckon on you to communicate and to cite the France Sclérose En Plaques foundation whenever she is associated with advances in multiple sclerosis and associated disorders research.

As it is notified in the agreements established between the Foundation and the research institutes on which you depend, as well as in the letters of acceptance that you have signed, we remind you that **you made a commitment to quote the name of France Sclérose En Plaques Foundation, and/or its logo, in all publications, oral communications and posters realized through this financial support.**

The absence of FRANCE SCLÉROSE EN PLAQUES Foundation visibility in the results of your research is very damaging to our efforts to collect funds and in fact to support your research works.

Brigitte Taittinger- Jouyet  
President of France Sclérose En  
Plaques Foundation

Jean Pelletier, Laure Michel, & Pierre-Olivier  
Couraud  
President and Vice-Presidents of the Scientific  
Committee of France Sclérose En Plaques  
Foundation