



# KONINKLIJKE NEDERLANDSE AKADEMIE VAN WETENSCHAPPEN

## Guidelines for the Academy Ecology Fund 2019

### General Information

The Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) administers the Academy Ecology Fund. The assets of the Academy Ecology Fund (formerly: the Schure-Beijerinck-Popping Fund) consist of the estates of Ms. G. Beijerinck-Popping and Ms. Dr. P.S.J. Schure.

The purpose of the Academy Ecology Fund is to support fieldwork in the Netherlands and abroad, and research abroad by young ecologists working in the Netherlands. An annual maximum of € 80.000 is available for the Academy Ecology Grants.

These guidelines describe the set-up of the Academy Ecology Grant and its eligibility criteria and are applicable for the applications round 2019.

### Terms and conditions

- Young researchers may submit an application themselves, accompanied by a letter of recommendation from their research supervisor. "Young researchers" should be interpreted to mean: researchers who have graduated and who are studying for their PhD or researchers who received their PhD no more than four years ago.
- Applications by or on behalf of Bachelor's or Master's degree students are not eligible.
- Senior researchers may submit an application for a portion of their fieldwork or for research carried out by young researchers (see definition above).
- The Fund will cover part of the cost of collecting ecological data in the field.
- The Fund will cover part of the cost of ecological research conducted at foreign institutes.
- The Fund cannot be used to cover salaries or conference registration fees.
- The Academy will not consider applications retroactively.
- The Fund cannot be used to cover the cost of what can be categorized as the proposed researcher's or relevant institute's standard equipment or normal work program.
- The size of the grant will be established on a case-by-case basis, but will generally be between €3.000 and €9.000.

### Assessment and decision-making with regard to Academy Ecology Fund grant

- The Academy committee will assess and make all decisions concerning applications.
- Applications will compete with one another and be assessed on their scientific quality. In other words, they will be assessed on the applicant's scientific merits and on the scientific quality of the research proposal.
- It is important to clarify the research question and scientific methods, and show the value of the research compared to existing research. The project also needs to be of value to the scientific development of the young researcher.
- Funding is intended primarily for fundamental research. Projects seeking a fundamental solution to practical problems are also eligible.
- The budget estimate should indicate the total costs involved in the research project and how the costs are distributed between the various cost items. Also, it should be made clear why the project is not being financed from the regular budget of the institute/university.
- Senior researchers who submit an application for a portion of their fieldwork or for research carried out by a young researcher need to budget the costs for the young researcher explicitly.
- If the total amount of all applications exceeds the available funding budget, applications may be rejected or partial grants may be awarded.
- The processing time for applications is two months.



## Submission

- Deadline for submissions is 15 December 2018.
- Applicants must apply by submitting the digital application form to the contact person below. Download the digital application form from [www.knaw.nl/ecologie](http://www.knaw.nl/ecologie)
- An application is submitted as soon as the applicant has received a confirmation of receipt from the KNAW.

## Finalisation and information

- Any deviations from the approved application must be explained in writing and submitted to the Academy in advance for its approval.
- You must submit a short report (including the financial accounts) of the research project to the Academy within three months of the end of the project. You must use the form that can be downloaded from [www.knaw.nl/ecologie](http://www.knaw.nl/ecologie). If you have not complied with the obligation to submit the final report within three months of the end of the research project or working visit, the grant amount may be reduced to zero and you may be required to repay any advance furnished.
- If the Academy has sufficient reason to believe that the grantee and/or third parties contracted by the grantee violated standards of scientific practice when applying for, carrying out and/or reporting on the research project, it may require repayment of the grant. The right to require repayment will remain valid for up to five years after the award is made. The relevant standards are set out in Dutch and international documents found on the list of basic documents concerning “National and international scientific research norms”; the list is on the web page of the Netherlands Board for Scientific Integrity (LOWI), [www.lowi.nl](http://www.lowi.nl).
- The authors of any publication that results directly from an Academy Ecology Fund Grant must acknowledge the financial support received.
- For questions and/or comments, please contact Dianne van Avendonk (e-mail [Dianne.van.avendonk@knaw.nl](mailto:Dianne.van.avendonk@knaw.nl) telephone : +31 20 551 0763).