

French version: [click here](#).

## 1. SCHEDULE

**Publication** of the call: **TUESDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> MARCH 2021**.

**Opening** of the call on the web-based application of the F.R.S.-FNRS [e-space](#) for the online submission: **TUESDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2021**.

INSTRUMENT	LARGE EQUIPMENT CALL 2021		
	ELECTRONIC VALIDATION DEADLINES <sup>1</sup> ON E-SPACE		
	MAIN PROMOTER	CO-PROMOTERS	RECTOR
<a href="#">Large Equipment GEQ</a>	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July at 2 p.m.	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July at 2 p.m.	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> July at 2 p.m.

Funding decision will be made by the Board of Trustees of the F.R.S.-FNRS at the end of the calendar year. GEQ projects will start on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022.

## 2. GEQ INSTRUMENT CHARACTERISTICS

DURATION	CHARACTERISTICS	CO-PROMOTER PARTICIPATION
2 years	Single or Cross-university GEQ	<b>Yes</b>

A GEQ application enables to apply for funding for the purchase of equipment or an experimental device.

The budget requested shall be **over € 200,000- and equal to or lower than € 500,000-**. In case the total cost of a piece of equipment is higher than € 500.000- and additional funding is needed, the budget requested must represent at least 60% of the remaining equipment cost to be covered.

The F.R.S.-FNRS will cover from 60% to 100% of the budget requested for the equipment in accordance with the decision of the Board of Trustees and within the limits of its budget.

The technical and dedicated facilities strictly necessary for the installation of the equipment are not included in the cost thereof, nor can be considered as a co-financing contribution from the university of the promoter.

## 3. SPECIFIC REMARKS

### 3.1 Ethical aspects

As from 2018, in order to reduce the Ethics Committees workload and to make the administrative procedures more flexible for applicants, the researchers concerned by ethical questions will be required to submit their questionnaire as well as the opinion of the Ethics

<sup>1</sup> All times are Brussels local time.

Committee to the F.R.S.-FNRS only in case the submitted grant is awarded. Effective granting will be subject to a favourable opinion of the Committee.

### 3.2 Open access policy

The F.R.S.-FNRS endorses the principle of Open access to publicly funded research. This support has led to the implementation of an institutional mandate providing Open access to publications from F.R.S.-FNRS funded research projects and researchers under the "Open Access Green Road" business model.

The [Regulation](#) specifies the conditions under which the F.R.S.-FNRS grant recipients shall store, when possible, all the funded research results of which they are authors or co-authors in their institution's repository.

### 3.3 Reminder to the research community

Any scientific publication resulting partially or fully from the funding of the GEQ instrument shall mention the source of the funding as follows: "*This work was supported by the Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique - FNRS under Grant(s) n° [funding number]*".

## 4. CONTENT OF A PROPOSAL

---

Applicants will have the choice of writing their proposal either in French or in English. For some fields, using English can broaden the number of experts likely to take part in the evaluations.

The F.R.S.-FNRS insists on **strict compliance with the instructions given for each part of the proposal** (number of pages allowed for documents to be enclosed with the application form...) and stresses again the sovereign consideration of the Scientific Commissions assessing the application file.

**NOTICE: no further change or modification** can be made in the proposal after the validation deadline set for the main promoter.

The application file contains the main sections described in the table below:

<b>FORM</b>
<b>FRAMEWORK AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>References of the application (for the funded proposals, these data are released and made public on the <a href="#">F.R.S.-FNRS website</a>).<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Title</b>, in French and English (max. 200 characters each, including spaces) and,</li><li>- <b>Summary</b>, in French and English (max. 2000 characters each, including spaces).</li></ul></li><li>Selection of descriptors fields</li><li>Bibliometric indicators</li><li>Curriculum vitae (max. 5 pages) + Publications list<sup>2</sup> of each promoter/co-promoter</li><li>Scientific Section (see template on next page)</li><li>Work Plan (see template on next page)</li><li>Ethical aspects</li></ol>
<b>BUDGET</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Equipment requested (name and model)</li><li>• Characteristics of the equipment requested (choice in terms of technicality and performance)</li><li>• Equipment cost (total cost in euros VAT included)</li><li>• Financial participation charged to the F.R.S.-FNRS</li><li>• Price offers</li></ul>

---

<sup>2</sup> Promoters who have been working for 2 years at least in institutions of the French-speaking Community of Belgium (CFB) that have set up an institutional repository (IR) must submit their publications list in a PDF format, directly created from this repository, and choose the appropriate F.R.S.-FNRS format.

➤ **Template [Scientific Section](#)**

1. Thematic research justifying the request
2. Information about the main promoter (Expert skill, most significant publications, main research achievements, team composition)
3. Information about the co-promoters (Expert skill...)

➤ **Template [Work plan](#)**

1. Institutional work plan
2. Work plan
3. Return on investment

## 5. SELECTION PROCEDURE (EX-ANTE EVALUATION)

The Board of Trustees of the F.R.S.-FNRS has adopted the principle of a **two-step procedure**:

➤ **Step 1: individual evaluations**

Each proposal is evaluated by several remote individual experts, according to an evaluation grid known to the applicants (see "evaluation criteria").

➤ **Step 2: a dedicated Scientific Commission**

Each proposal is assigned to a rapporteur who will prepare a draft evaluation report based on the individual evaluations of the first step. The draft report will be discussed, amended and validated by the Scientific Commission and then be transferred to the main promoter and co-promoters (if any) after the Board of Trustees of the F.R.S.-FNRS has made a decision.

The fields covered by the individual experts are defined according to [a list of descriptor fields](#). This list includes ERC descriptor fields completed with F.R.S.-FNRS keywords, which reflect the specificities of research in the French-speaking Community of Belgium.

Applicants will have to choose from 2 to 6 descriptor fields in order of importance and they may complete this selection by adding unrestricted keywords (if necessary). The F.R.S.-FNRS will base the selection of 1st-step experts on those pieces of information along with the summary of the project.

If necessary, applicants may indicate up to 3 experts they do not wish to have as reviewers and provide a justification.

## 6. EVALUATION CRITERIA – EVALUATION REPORT

The applicant is free to read the [evaluation guide](#) intended for experts in order to have a better understanding of the proposal's evaluation.

Criteria that will be taken into account for the evaluation of GEQ applications are the following, by order of importance:

### CRITERIA

#### Qualities of the promoter(s) and potential equipment users:

- CV and publications
- International recognition
- Main research achievements

## CRITERIA

### Qualities of the research programme(s):

- Feasibility
- Methodology and relevance
- Originality
- Collaborations

### Requested equipment features:

- Choice in terms of technicality and performance
- The need, potential double use
- Usage (utilisation rate)
- Capability and Capacity (expertise, infrastructure)
- Correspondence between the price offer and the requested equipment

ALL DOCUMENTS, GUIDES, RULES AND REGULATIONS AND PRIVACY POLICY ARE AVAILABLE AT [HTTPS://WWW.FRS-FNRS.BE/EN/REGLEMENTS-GUIDES](https://www.frs-fnrs.be/en/reglements-guides) AND [HTTPS://WWW.FRS-FNRS.BE/CHARTE-VIE-PRIVEE](https://www.frs-fnrs.be/charte-vie-privee)