

Reform EOS programme

The EOS programme has been reformed in 2019-2020.

In the light of this, we would like to inform you about the key elements of this reform, as well as the timeline of the new EOS call in 2021. Please also consult [the new EOS regulations](#).

1. Extended evaluation procedure: pre-proposal and full proposal

Step 1: pre-proposal

The spokesperson-coordinator of an EOS research project must submit in a first phase a **pre-proposal** composed of two sections. Section one focusses on **the scientific content**. Section two contains the **project partners composing the consortium**.

Based on these pre-proposals, experts from one of the three EOS sub-panels (Life Sciences, Exact Sciences or Social Sciences and Humanities) will make a first solid selection of research consortia that will be allowed to write down and submit a full proposal. The spokesperson-coordinator is responsible for selecting the EOS sub-panel in which the proposal fits best.

Step 2: full proposal

In a first step, all full proposals will be subject to an evaluation by in principle 4 remote on-topic experts (international peer review). During a rebuttal phase, the spokesperson-coordinators can have a closer look into and comment on these external peer review reports. In a second phase, the international external peer review reports and the rebuttal will be provided to the final EOS panel for evaluation and a final ranking.

2. Simplification rules consortium composition

In the reformed programme, an EOS consortium must be composed of **minimum two** (instead of three) and maximum six research groups from TYPE I institutions. This change will provide the researchers with **more freedom** to compose their consortium and will in addition allow **bilateral Flemish-Walloon projects** as well.

No changes have been made to the following rules (that were already applicable in call 2017):

- Each consortium must include at least one research group from a TYPE I-FL institution and one from a TYPE I-FR institution;
- In addition to the number of research groups from TYPE I institutions, each consortium may also contain up to two research groups belonging to TYPE II, III, and IV institutions.

3. Deletion minimum total budget EOS research project

The lower limit of the total yearly project budget is no longer fixed (before it was minimally €450.000 per year). However, the yearly budget for each research group from a TYPE I institution is still fixed at minimally €120.000. For more budgetary details, please consult [the new EOS regulations](#).

4. Update EOS regulations

[The new EOS regulations](#) were updated (based on the reforms) and were brought in line with the current regulations of the FWO and F.R.S.-FNRS regarding regular project funding. In the new EOS regulations you can find for example the eligibility criteria for participating institutions and researchers.

Timeline call 2021

More details regarding the timeline will be made available when the new EOS call is launched. Please find below the most important deadlines and dates:

- 27th of November 2020: launch of the new EOS call (webinar: information will be made available soon)
- 23rd of February 2021: deadline pre-proposals
- End-April 2021: EOS sub-panels
 - After these panel meetings, the spokesperson-coordinators will be informed about the result of this first selection step and if they are allowed to submit a full proposal or not.
- 7th of July 2021: deadline full proposals
- Mid-October 2021: rebuttal phase
- End-November 2021: Final EOS panel
- November-December 2021: ratification by FWO and F.R.S.-FNRS boards of trustees
- 1st of January 2022: start of the new EOS projects
- January 2022: feedback procedure

In case you have any further questions concerning the EOS programme, see [the general EOS webpage](#) , the EOS webpage of the F.R.S.-FNRS or mail to eos.helpdesk@frs-fnrs.be.