

General info

The interviews are organized between 2026, May 11nd and 20th.

Candidates who have passed the preselection receive a personal invitation, with the specific date and time of the scheduled interview.

The interviews take place at Building D, Agoralaan, Diepenbeek.

Applicants are required to be physically present for the interview. In some cases (e.g., staying abroad, travel issues, ...) a remote interview can be set up. This needs to be well motivated by the candidate and approved by BOF.

Interview format

The pitch and interview language is English.

The interview consists of three parts:

- a) Max. 5 minutes presentation by the candidate ('elevator pitch')
- b) About 10 minutes interactive discussion with the expert panel
- c) Evaluation by the panel (without the candidate)

The interview

Elevator pitch

The interview starts with a max. 5 minutes presentation ("elevator pitch"). Explain to the panel members what your research is about, why it is relevant and why you are the right person to do it.

You may use a presentation during your pitch, where multiple slides and animations are allowed. The file format should be a PDF. No specific presentation template is provided. We advise not to use external links, inserting movies or special effects. There's no time to mend technical issues potentially resulting from their use. During your pitch, we will display and share the slides with you and the panel members. You'll be handed a pointer to go through the slides.

Interactive discussion

The presentation is followed by a discussion with the panel members (about 10 minutes), who will seek to assess your (potential) competence and the scientific value of your project. Questions asked may be specific as well as rather generic.

The experts will thoroughly test your knowledge, skills and critical mindset, so do not get discouraged as you are challenged with difficult or unexpected questions.

Evaluation

The interview is followed by a discussion between the expert panel members, who will make a selection and ranking of the candidates.

All candidates will be informed as soon as a decision is made by the Research Council of June.