

Terms and Conditions of the VU Fellowship Programme

1. Aims and objectives of the VU Fellowship Programme

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (further: Vrije Universiteit) aims to further strengthen its position as a leading European University offering high-quality education with an international orientation. To this end, the University implements a proactive recruitment policy for international students, in particular for the Master's programmes. Within this framework, scholarships are made available by the VU Fellowship Programme (VUFP) in order to encourage talented students to enroll in a Master's programme at Vrije Universiteit.

2. Rights and obligations

- 2.1. These Rules & Regulations apply to all VUFP Scholarship holders.
- 2.2. Vrije Universiteit accepts no liability for the consequences of illness, accidents, etc., nor any other risks that the acceptance of a VUFP Scholarship may entail for the scholarship holder.
- 2.3. The scholarship holder may not be holding another scholarship of, or receive funding from, Vrije Universiteit or another organization that would give any overlapping benefits without Vrije Universiteit's prior written approval. Failure to notify Vrije Universiteit will lead to termination of the VUFP Scholarship. The only exception to this is the Holland Scholarship Programme.
- 2.4. The scholarship consists of the allowance mentioned in the award letter. Scholarship holders must cover any other costs themselves.

3. Duration of the scholarship

- 3.1. Vrije Universiteit can terminate the scholarship at any time during the scholarship period if the University considers it evident that the scholarship holder will not be able to successfully complete the programme or course. Vrije Universiteit will be in regular contact with the faculties to obtain information about the scholarship holder's progress. In case of termination, articles 6.2, 6.3 and 6.4 of these Terms and Conditions apply.
- 3.2. Vrije Universiteit has the right to terminate the scholarship if the scholarship holder hasn't obtained 100% of the ECTS per semester (half-year). Vrije Universiteit will be in regular contact with the faculties to obtain information about the scholarship holder's progress. The VUFP Committee may decide otherwise in case of extraordinary circumstances. In case of termination, articles 6.2, 6.3 and 6.4 of these Terms and Conditions apply.
- 3.3. Vrije Universiteit has the right to terminate the scholarship at any time if the information on the scholarship holder's application form is false or misleading. In case of termination the

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3.4. The scholarship is made available only for the period stated in the scholarship letter. In case of two-year programmes, the scholarship holder needs to obtain at least 100% of all ECTS of the first year to have the scholarship extended for their second year.

4. During the scholarship

4.1. Scholarship holders must complete the programme for which they were granted scholarships to the best of their ability. They must be prepared at any time to provide the VUFP Scholarship Office with information concerning the progress of their programme, and to cooperate fully in any form of programme evaluation carried out by Vrije Universiteit including attending any meetings organized by the Scholarship Office for scholarship holders.

4.2. The scholarship is granted for the programme for which its holder submitted the application. Requests for a change of study programme under the VU Fellowship Programme will only be considered by the University in exceptional cases and must meet the following criteria.

- The request is accompanied by an explanation.
- The requested programme is taught at Vrije Universiteit.
- The application for the change of programme is made no later than six weeks after the starting date of the original programme.

Vrije Universiteit can terminate the scholarship if the scholarship holder changes programme without prior written consent of the University or after the University declines the request.

4.3. You must report immediately to the VUFP committee (vufp@vu.nl), in writing, any circumstances that are going to prevent you from successfully continuing or completing your programme, for example:

- if you leave the programme c.q. university before completing your degree because you have discontinued your studies;
- if you leave the programme before completing your degree and switch to another programme;
- if you leave the programme c.q. university before completing your degree because of illness;
- any changes in nationality.

On receiving your report, the VUFP committee may consult the Faculty. The VUFP committee may then decide to adjust or to cancel the amount of the scholarship awarded. The amount already paid to you may be reclaimed if you have failed to comply with the Faculty's requirements (see below).

4.4. Deferral of scholarships is not possible.

5. Scholarship allowance

5.1. For the VUFP Scholarship the allowance is meant for tuition fee. Tuition fees will be deducted from the scholarship and be paid directly by VU International Office to the Student Administration department.

5.2. The scholarship does not provide for the costs of bringing any scholarship holder's friends,

acquaintances or family members to the Netherlands nor is it intended to support them, nor will they be given assistance by Vrije Universiteit in any way to obtain residence permits.

6. Termination of the scholarship

6.1. The scholarship can be terminated immediately if the scholarship holder:

- Provides/provided wrong, false or incomplete information.
 - Has disturbed order at Vrije Universiteit and faces action in accordance with Article 7.57h of the Higher Education and Research Act.
 - Fails to observe the Terms and Conditions of the VU Fellowship Programme or refuses to act in accordance with oral or written instructions issued to them by Vrije Universiteit in connection with the scholarship.
 - Falls short of the requirements of the study programme.
 - Voluntarily withdraws from the programme, or is obliged to withdraw through his or her own fault.
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- Changes his or her study programme without prior written consent of Vrije Universiteit.
 - Defies the conditions outlined in Article 5.
 - Terminates his or her registration as a student.

6.2. If the scholarship is terminated on the grounds mentioned in Article 6.1, the scholarship holder can be required to return any payments made by Vrije Universiteit.

6.3. If the scholarship is terminated, its holder is not entitled to the remainder of the scholarship.

6.4. If the scholarship is terminated or expires, Article 3.1 of these Terms and Conditions applies.

Vrije Universiteit is not liable or responsible for the scholarship holder on expiry of the period mentioned in Article 3.1 of these Terms and Conditions.