



Cooperation China - Talent and Training (TTChina)

Subsidy round 2011

Content

1	Introduction	3
	1.1 Background	3
	1.2 Available budget	3
	1.3 Validity of the brochure	4
2	Aim	5
3	Guidelines for applicants	6
	3.1 Who can apply	6
	3.2 What can be applied for	6
	3.3 When can applications be submitted	6
	3.4 Drawing up an application	6
	3.5 Specific conditions	7
	3.6 Submitting an application	7
4	Assessment procedure	9
	4.1 Procedure	9
	4.2 Criteria	10
5	Other information	12
	5.1 Contact	12
	Annex 1	13
	Annex 2	16

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

In 2009 the Innovation Platform of the Netherlands launched an initiative aimed at increasing the quality and quantity of PhD research in the Netherlands. In order to achieve this overarching objective, this initiative seeks to attract excellent PhD candidates, both from the Netherlands and abroad, to carry out PhD research in the Netherlands. The taskforce responsible for implementing this action selected China as the first country to start a dedicated pilot action for attracting top talent from Chinese universities and research institutes, called Talent & Training China-Netherlands (hereinafter: T&T China-Netherlands).

China is a country with a large scientific potential and has an increasingly important role in global science. Last year China and the Netherlands jointly celebrated the 30 years anniversary of Sino-Dutch research collaboration. During the past three decades our two countries built a sustainable partnership in undertaking collaborative research on the basis of reciprocity and mutual benefit. With a view to further strengthening the sustainability of this partnership, both sides attach great importance to the active engagement of young researchers. The Innovation Platform therefore felt that this initiative should start with a first action in close collaboration with our partner in China, the China Scholarship Council (hereinafter: CSC). To this effect an MoU was signed between NWO, KNAW and CSC in September 2009. The matchmaking in the Netherlands has been made possible through financial support of the Netherlands' Ministry of Education, Culture and Science.

In 2010 the first phase of T&T China-Netherlands resulted in the selection of 15 Chinese PhD candidates, from the 47 submitted eligible applications. A group of 26 candidates visited the Netherlands to attend the match-making programme at the Graduate School of their choice.

The second phase of T&T China-Netherlands will be published early in the year to boost the number of applications. For this phase, to be executed in 2011, a number of up to 54 Chinese students will be selected to come to the Netherlands to carry out PhD research at one of the 27 selected Graduate Schools, representing a wide range of scientific areas. Besides the schools that participated already, those Graduate Schools that made it to the second stage in the NWO Graduate Programme can take part in T&T China Netherlands, to underline scientific quality and the quality of the training programme for PhD students. An important step in the selection procedure will be the 'match-making' event, where up to 110 Chinese candidates are invited to the Netherlands to get acquainted with the Graduate School of their choice. Eventually from this 110 candidates up to 54 candidates will be selected to carry out the research they proposed.

1.2 Available budget

The selection procedure is financed by the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science. Scholarships for the PhD research are provided for by the China Scholarship Council.

1.3 Validity of the brochure

The brochure is valid for the funding round with a deadline for submissions of 4 October 2011.

2 Aim

The main aim of the programme is to increase the quality and quantity of PhD research in the Netherlands.

Highly talented Chinese students are given the opportunity to carry out PhD research at a Graduate School offering a PhD programme of excellent quality.

Apart from the main goal, the programme will also strengthen the cooperation on science between China and the Netherlands.

3 Guidelines for applicants

3.1 Who can apply

The programme is exclusively intended for students enrolled in the last master year or first PhD year of one of the following universities and institutes:

- Project 211 universities
- Project 985 universities
- Graduate University of the Chinese Academy of Sciences
- Graduate University of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

Please see Annex 1 for the full list of universities in these categories.

Students that are enrolled in the last master year, third year or higher of either the 'fast track' (直博生) or the master-PhD combination track (硕博连读生) can apply for T&T China Netherlands, unless the Graduate School's regulation excludes this possibility (see Annex 2).

Students must meet all the CSC requirements which are described in Chinese on the following link:

<http://www.csc.edu.cn/Chuguo/db3e00be8d56456fa5ccd6b0decf4ba9.shtml>

Applications that do not meet these requirements cannot be considered for the selection procedure.

3.2 What can be applied for

A position as PhD candidate at one of 27 selected Dutch Graduate Schools, for a duration of maximum 48 months.

The CSC grant consists of a monthly amount for costs for living, including health insurance, to be granted by CSC for a duration of maximum 48 months, a return international airfare economy-class China- Netherlands, and the visa application fees.

3.3 When can applications be submitted

The application process is a two step procedure. First the application has to be submitted to NWO. Candidates are required to submit their application at NWO between 15 August and **4 October 2011 (11:59 PM CET)**.

After selection of the candidate by the Dutch Graduate Schools and NWO/KNAW an application has to be sent to the CSC. The CSC will decide whether a 4-year scholarship will be awarded. Candidates are required to apply for a CSC scholarship between 20 February and **20 March 2012**.

3.4 Drawing up an application

The NWO application consists of

- a research plan, including the choice for one Graduate School
- personal data of the candidate
- a curriculum vitae, incl. information on education,

- proof of proficiency in English (Toefl or IELTS Ibt test results)
- a letter of recommendation (from a professor of one of the universities mentioned under 3.1 at which the Master diploma will be obtained); for fast track/combo track students: including statement of master level
- diplomas and academic transcripts,
- a copy of the personal information page of passport (with visible picture and number)

With the application form four attachments are requested:

1. Letter of recommendation (from a professor of one of the universities mentioned under 3.1 at which the Master diploma will be obtained); for fast track/combo track students: including statement of master level
2. Copy of English proficiency test results (IELTS or TOEFL ibt)
3. Copy of master diploma, and statement of enrollment, and the most recent academic transcripts both in English and Chinese
4. Copy of the personal information page of your passport, with a clearly visible picture and number

Attachments can be added to your application before it is uploaded in the system. Together they make one submission document.

3.5 Specific conditions

For proof of English language proficiency only the internet-based TOEFL or IELTS tests are accepted. The required minimum scores are:

- Toefl IBt: 91
- Ielts IBt: 6,5

Note that in very exceptional cases this requirement can be waived. If you have obtained an equivalent English language proficiency, e.g. by studying in an English speaking environment, you can enter a request for waiver of the Ielts/Toefl requirement. Please attach this request with your application.

The applicant indicates for which Graduate School he or she is applying. If applicable, the programme within the Graduate School is also indicated. This choice of Graduate School and the scientific topic of the research plan have to match.

Diploma's, transcripts and language test results of selected applications will be checked by Nuffic/NESO (Netherlands Education Support Office Beijing), the Netherlands organization for international cooperation in higher education. This will be done after the match-making event. In case the check fails, the selection will be null and void.

Graduate Schools may ask Nuffic to validate the master level of the fast and combination track students based on the Letter of Recommendation and transcripts.

3.6 Submitting an application

Use of the Talent & Training application form is compulsory.

Sending in the application to NWO must be done electronically using the electronic Iris system (www.iris.nwo.nl). Please visit the Iris webpage for more information about the Iris system and to obtain an access code necessary to apply. For questions of a technical nature, you can contact the Iris helpdesk through the same website.

We recommend you to create your account and get acquainted to the system well before the deadline.

Please note that you will be asked to select an organisation if you want to register in Iris. As there are no Chinese institutions in the Iris system, applicants for T&T China Netherlands should select the Organisation called 'NWO-TTChina'.

When submitting an application an Iris fact sheet needs to be filled out. The basic information listed below should be entered in the Iris fact sheet.

Title of the proposal

A short and specific title of the proposal.

Concise summary

A short summary of the proposal, max. 300 words, including the choice of Graduate School and disciplinary cluster of the proposal.

Applicant

Personal information of the applicant.

4 Assessment procedure

4.1 Procedure

A first selection of all submitted applications will be made by a selection committee organised by NWO. Based on the scientific quality of the research outlines this committee will pre-select applicants, who will be put forward to the Graduate Schools for a priority ranking.

By December 2011 all applicants will be informed about the outcome of the first selection. Up to 110 candidates will be selected to receive an invitation for the match-making event in the Netherlands. All selected candidates have to accept this invitation by email upon receipt. The match-making event will take place from 16-20 January 2012 in the Netherlands. The selected candidates have to obtain their visa for the Netherlands by themselves before 9 January 2012.

4.1.1 Match making

Between 16 – 20 January 2012 a maximum number of 110 selected candidates will visit the Netherlands, to get acquainted with the Graduate School of their choice. **Applicants are required to be available for this trip. It is not possible to change the date or flight itinerary.** The candidates themselves are responsible for obtaining a visa in time. Return tickets from Beijing to Amsterdam will be arranged by NWO. Any additional domestic travel within China has to be arranged by the candidate themselves. The costs for additional transport within China will be reimbursed by NWO based on economy class fares. Under no circumstance the T&T China Netherlands programme can be held responsible for any form of compensation or arrangement in case the candidate is not able to make the flight that is provided for.

During the match-making event each candidate is given the opportunity to visit the Graduate School of his or her choice. Each Graduate School will set-up a two-day programme, including visits and interviews with representatives of the School. The Graduate School will decide which of the candidates meets their requirements best. For each position a maximum of two candidates will be interviewed.

The framework programme for the match-making event is as follows:

Sunday 15 January 2012:	Joint wave-off at the Dutch Embassy, in presence of CSC
Monday 16 January 2012:	Arrival, pick up at the airport and transfer to accommodation
Tuesday 17 January 2012:	Free day to settle in
Wednesday/Thursday 18/19 Jan	Two-day programme at the Graduate School
Friday 20 January 2012:	Return to airport and return flight

Once a Graduate School has selected a maximum of two candidates, NWO/KNAW together with the participating Graduate Schools will inform the candidates by sending a letter of invitation according to the pre-set CSC format. Additionally the Graduate School will provide the candidate with:

- A research plan signed by the proposed supervisor
- A CV of the proposed supervisor

The candidates are required to formally accept the invitation by the Graduate School and to submit an application for a scholarship at the CSC before 20 March 2012, taking into account the formal procedures for nomination at their home university.

4.1.2 CSC application

Each selected candidate has to apply for a scholarship with the China Scholarship Council. Please check the CSC website for complete and accurate information on the requirements and procedure.

CSC will take its final decision in May 2012 and the outcome will subsequently be communicated to candidates and Graduate Schools.

The main eligibility requirements for Chinese students who are going to apply for CSC scholarship to attend T&T programme are:

- a. By the time of application, students should be no more than 35 years old.
- b. Those that are coming from Chinese universities should be registered as full-time students by the time of application. Students are eligible in the last year of their master education, in the third year or higher of the master and PhD combination track and fast track if the Dutch Graduate Schools' regulation does not exclude this (check Annex 2), or in their first year of PhD study.
- c. Students must be officially recommended by the home institution when apply to CSC.
- d. Students should already have unconditional offer from the host institution by the time of application, including language requirement.
- e. Students who had been supported by the Chinese government to study abroad in the past five years are not eligible for applying.

4.2 Criteria

4.2.1 Quality-related assessment criteria of the research proposal

1. Scientific quality
2. Clear research question(s), effectiveness of the chosen approach and the ability to place the proposed research within a broader context, originality and creativity. Potential to make a significant contribution to society and to the advancement of science or technology.
3. Added value of the research taking place at the chosen Graduate School
4. Social and scientific importance of the research

4.2.2 The merits of the candidate

1. Proven English language proficiency (internet-based IELTS score: 6,5; or TOEFL iBT score of 91)
2. Excellent performance as a student, among the 10-15% of his/her peer group (on the evidence of marks obtained, prizes awarded etc.) and relevant academic experience (e.g. work experience placements, international activities, membership of committees)
3. Indications of a talent for academic research, motivation and persuasiveness

4.2.3 China Scholarship Council requirements

The candidate has to fulfil all requirements set by the China Scholarship Council, and thus be eligible for obtaining a scholarship for PhD studies abroad. See also under 4.1.2.

More information on this scholarship and its requirements can be found at:

Programme notice:

<http://www.csc.edu.cn/Chuguo/a3aa26c636f542f39cd030de223b7f54.shtml>

General regulation:

<http://www.csc.edu.cn/Chuguo/9743413e16b74ed0ae67a0d89840fa73.shtml>

5 Other information

5.1 Contact

If you have any further questions regarding the information in this brochure, you are welcome to contact NWO/KNAW or the CSC. However, the latest information on the Talent and Training programme can all be found on the website www.ttchina.nl.

For general questions regarding the T&T China Netherlands Call:
Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) / T&T Programme

- P.O. Box 93138
- 2509 AC The Hague
- tel. + 31 70-3440639
- email: TTChina@nwo.nl

For questions regarding the CSC scholarship, eligibility and participation of Chinese institutions:

China Scholarship Council (CSC)

- tel. + 86-10-66093934
- email: chenlin@csc.edu.cn

For general questions regarding the T&T China Netherlands programme:
Royal Netherlands Academy of Science and Arts (KNAW)

- tel. + 31 20 5510796
- email: Annemarie.Montulet@bureau.knaw.nl

Annex 1

Eligible students enrolled at the following universities can submit an application for the Talent & Training China Netherlands Programme:

1	安徽大学	Anhui University
2	北京航空航天大学	Beihang University
3	北京工业大学	Beijing University of Technology
4	北京交通大学	Beijing Jiaotong University
5	北京邮电大学	Beijing University of Posts & Telecommunications
6	北京外国语大学	Beijing Foreign Studies University
7	北京林业大学	Beijing Forestry University
8	北京语言大学	Beijing Language & Culture University
9	北京师范大学	Beijing Normal University
10	北京化工大学	Beijing University of Chemical Technology
11	北京中医药大学	Beijing University of Chinese Medicine
12	北京理工大学	Beijing University of Technology
13	华中师范大学	Central China Normal University
14	中央音乐学院	Central Conservatory of Music
15	中南大学	Central South University
16	中央财经大学	Central University of Finance and Economy
17	中央民族大学	Central University of Nationalities
18	长安大学	Chang'an University
19	中国农业大学	China Agricultural University
20	中国药科大学	China Pharmaceutical University
21	中国地质大学（北京）	China University of Geosciences (Beijing)
22	中国矿业大学（徐州）	China University of Mining & Technology
23	中国矿业大学（北京）	China University of Mining & Technology (Beijing)
24	中国石油大学（华东）	China University of Petroleum
25	中国石油大学（北京）	China University of Petroleum, Beijing
26	中国政法大学	China University of Political Science and Law
27	中国地质大学（武汉）	China University of Geosciences (Wuhan)
28	重庆大学	Chongqing University
29	中国传媒大学	Communication University of China (Beijing Broadcasting Institute)
30	大连海事大学	Dalian Maritime University
31	大连理工大学	Dalian University of Technology
32	东华大学	Donghua University
33	华东师范大学	East China Normal University
34	华东理工大学	East China University of Science & Technology
35	复旦大学	Fudan University
36	福州大学	Fuzhou University
37	广东外语外贸大学	Guangdong University of Foreign Studies
38	广西大学	Guangxi University
39	贵州大学	Guizhou University
40	哈尔滨工程大学	Harbin Engineering University
41	哈尔滨工业大学	Harbin Institute of Technology
42	河北工业大学	Hebei University of Technology
43	黑龙江大学	Heilongjiang University
44	渤海大学	Hohai University
45	华中科技大学	Huazhong University of Science and Technology

46	湖南师范大学	Hunan Normal University
47	湖南大学	Hunan University
48	内蒙古大学	Inner Mongolia University
49	吉林大学	Jilin University
50	暨南大学	Jinan University
51	兰州大学	Lanzhou University
52	辽宁大学	Liaoning University
53	南昌大学	Nanchang University
54	南京农业大学	Nanjing Agricultural University
55	南京师范大学	Nanjing Normal University
56	南京大学	Nanjing University
57	南京航空航天大学	Nanjing University of Aeronautics & Astronautics
58	南京理工大学	Nanjing University of Science & Technology
59	南开大学	Nankai University
60	宁夏大学	Ningxia University
61	东北农业大学	Northeast Agricultural University
62	东北师范大学	Northeast Normal University
63	东北财经大学	Northeast University of Finance
64	东北大学	Northeastern University
65	西北工业大学	Northwest Polytechnical University
66	西北大学	Northwest University
67	中国海洋大学	Ocean University of China
68	北京大学	Peking University
69	青海大学	Qinghai University
70	中国人民大学	Renmin University of China
71	陕西师范大学	Shaanxi Normal University
72	山东大学	Shandong University
73	上海外国语大学	Shanghai International Studies University
74	上海交通大学	Shanghai Jiao Tong University
75	上海大学	Shanghai University
76	上海财经大学	Shanghai University of Finance and Economics
77	石河子大学	Shihezi University
78	四川农业大学	Sichuan Agricultural University
79	四川大学	Sichuan University
80	华南师范大学	South China Normal University
81	华南理工大学	South China University of Technology
82	东南大学	Southeast University
83	江南大学	Southern Yangtze University
84	西南大学	Southwest University
85	西南交通大学	Southwest Jiaotong University
86	西南政法大学	Southwest University of Political Science & Law
87	西南财经大学	Southwest University of Finance and Economics
88	苏州大学	Suzhou University
89	太原理工大学	Taiyuan University of Technology
90	天津医科大学	Tianjin Medical University
91	天津大学	Tianjin University
92	西藏大学	Tibet University
93	同济大学	Tongji University
94	清华大学	Tsinghua University
95	电子科技大学	University of Electronic Science & Technology of China
96	对外经济贸易大学	University of International Business and Economics
97	北京科技大学	University of Science & Technology Beijing

98	中国科学技术大学	University of Science & Technology of China
99	武汉大学	Wuhan University
100	武汉理工大学	Wuhan University of Technology
101	厦门大学	Xiamen University
102	西安交通大学	Xi'an Jiaotong University
103	西安电子科技大学	Xidian University
104	新疆大学	Xinjiang University
105	延边大学	Yanbian University
106	云南大学	Yunnan University
107	浙江大学	Zhejiang University
108	郑州大学	Zhengzhou University
109	中南财经政法大学	Zhongnan University of Economics and Law
110	中山大学	Zhongshan University (Sun Yat-Sen University)
111	北京体育大学	Beijing Sport University
112	华北电力大学	North China Electric Power University
113	东北林业大学	Northeast Forestry University
114	第二军医大学	The Second Military Medical University
115	第四军医大学	The Fourth Military Medical University

Plus

1	中国科学院研究生院	Graduate University of Chinese Academy of Sciences
2	中国社会科学院研究生院	Graduate University of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

Annex 2

Candidates can apply for a PhD position at one of the following Dutch Graduate Schools:

N.B.: Graduate Schools marked with an * will only accept students with a master diploma (excluding fast and combination track students)

Social Science

Interuniversity Center for Social Science Theory and Methodology	Groningen
Research School of Economics and Business	Groningen
Graduate School of Social and Behavioural sciences	Utrecht
Beta Research School for Operations Management and Logistics	Eindhoven
Tilburg Graduate Law School	Tilburg
CentER Graduate Programme in Economics and Business	Tilburg
Erasmus Research Institute of Management	Rotterdam

Humanities

Posthumus Institute for Social and Economic History	Leiden
Leiden University Center for Linguistics	Leiden
Graduate School of Humanities: Linguistics	Utrecht
Graduate School of Archaeology	Leiden

Earth and Life Sciences

Experimental Plant Science	Wageningen
Netherlands Research School for Sedimentary Geology	Amsterdam
Nijmegen Center for Molecular Life Sciences	Nijmegen

Chemistry

Netherlands Institute for Catalysis Research	Utrecht
Graduate School for Molecules and Materials	Nijmegen

Physics

Research School Sub Atomic Physics	Nijmegen
Casimir Research School for Interdisciplinary Physics	Leiden/Delft

Physical sciences

Groningen Graduate School of Sciences	Groningen
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Medical Sciences

Graduate School of Medical Science	Groningen
Amsterdam Graduate School for Medical Sciences	Amsterdam
School for Cardiovascular Diseases (CARIM)	Maastricht
Graduate programme for Cancer Genomics and Developmental Biology	Utrecht
Netherlands Institute for Health Sciences: Clinical and Genetic Epidemiology	Rotterdam

Neuroscience

Donders Graduate School for Cognitive Neuroscience
Cognitive and Clinical Neuroscience*

Nijmegen
Maastricht

General science

Twente Graduate School (Behavioural research; Telematics and
Information Technology; Innovation and Governance Studies;
Energy and Resources; Nanotechnology)

Enschede