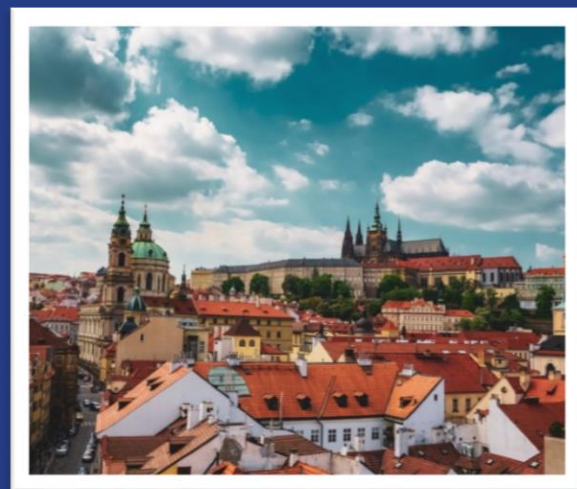
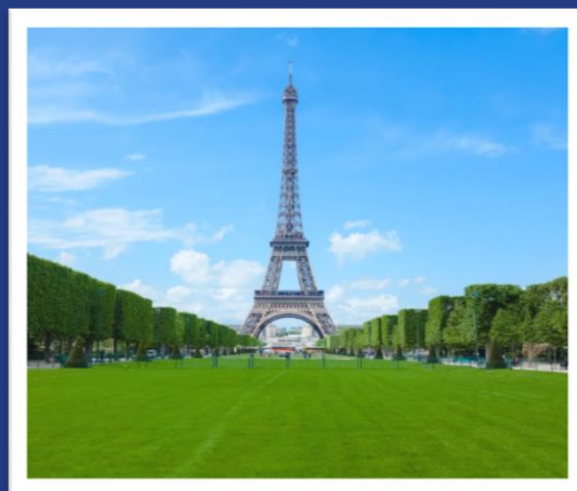


Barrande fellowship program

Application guidelines for a cotutelle grant



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Presentation

The French Institute in Prague and the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MSMT) are launching together a new mobility program for both PhD students in the Czech Republic applying to go study in France, and PhD students in France applying to go study in the Czech Republic. This mobility program funds either cotutelles or short research stays.

NB: This new Barrande Fellowship program is an extension of the already-existing Barrande mobility program organized by the French Institute, which allowed for Czech PhD students to do a research stay in France.

The same rules and conditions apply for both types of mobilities:

- We offer a stipend to fund the months spent abroad (1000€/month)
- Students need to be registered either in a Czech University (for mobilities to France) or in a French University (mobilities to the Czech Republic)
- All scientific fields are represented, including but not only:
 - **Life and natural sciences**
 - **Exact sciences and engineering**
 - **Economical and juridical sciences**
 - **Medicine**

This scheme, called “Cotutelle” in French, is a mechanism that promotes mobility among doctoral candidates while encouraging scientific cooperation between French and foreign research teams. Candidates conduct their research under the oversight of, and with guidance from, a PhD adviser from each of the 2 countries involved in the program. Working jointly, both advisers provide a full measure of supervision for the candidate. The candidate conducts his research alternatively in France and in the Czech Republic, under the terms of the agreement governing the program, the “Convention de cotutelle”, **during 3 years maximum.**

The Cotutelle agreement is co-signed by the Czech university and the French university. Candidates should launch the process for this document as soon as possible as it is a requirement to receive our grant. The student commits to providing this signed agreement before the first departure to France.

Eligibility

The Barrande Fellowship Program is open to all students registered at a Czech university, for a research stay in France, and to all students registered at a French university for a research stay in the Czech Republic. Students enrolled in the program need to have higher education diploma (Ing. or Mgr.) before their research stay abroad.

It is necessary to be enrolled both in the Czech and the French university.

Notes on language requirements

Our program is open to all English speakers as long as the French or Czech supervisor hosting the mobility agrees for the research stay to be performed in the English language.

Supervisor in the foreign country

The candidate to a Barrande fellowship should initiate the contact with a supervisor in the foreign university where he would like to do the cotutelle. If he doesn't have contact with the foreign institution, we advise the candidate to first contact his current supervisor in the country of residence to ask about existing French-Czech collaborations.

Indeed, many collaborations already exist between Czech and French teams. If there are none in the candidate's research theme and the candidate yet manages to establish an agreement with the foreign team, the jury shall be very appreciative of the efforts.

The candidates registered at Czech universities who need information on French universities and their activities can consult this link:

<https://doctorat.campusfrance.org/phd/dschools/main>

① **In France**, in order to register as a Phd student, it is necessary to hold either a Master in Research or get an equivalence of this diploma. Such equivalence is delivered by the French University. Candidates to a Barrande fellowship should ask their French supervisor about the procedure to get this equivalence.

① **In the Czech Republic**: Access to a doctoral study program is conditional on graduating from a master study program. Holders of the academic degree *Mgr.*, *Mg.A.* or *Ing.* are eligible to enroll in a doctoral study program.

Content of a Barrande Fellowship

The Barrande Fellowship program offers funding to the PhD students doing a cotutelle between France and the Czech Republic. **For 3 years, the student spends 5 months in the foreign country and receives a monthly stipend (1000 € in France / 25 000 CZK in Czech Republic) for each research stay abroad. Stays abroad should start on October 1st or November 1st.**

At the end of the cotutelle, the students receive a double-diploma from both the French and the Czech University.

Practical details

➔ Transportation from France to the Czech Republic and transportation from the Czech Republic to France are at the expense of the grant beneficiaries.

For Students registered in the Czech Republic doing a mobility to France:

Students can ask for the help of Campus France to find housing. In this case, the length of their stay in the Campus France housing cannot exceed the dates for which the grant is given.

If the students want to look for housing without the help of Campus France, they can ask them for a small housing stipend, upon presentation of the signed contract and rent receipts, and in the case when the housing is not a house subsidized residency.

In addition, students can ask for a state help: “Aide pour le Logement (APL)”. The request should be made once in France, at the Caisse d’Allocation Familiale (in the city where the stay takes place). The calculation for the amount of the grant is based on the rent and the financial resources of the beneficiary.

For Students registered in France doing a mobility to the Czech Republic:

Inexpensive accommodation at student dormitories is offered as well as the possibility to take meals at student catering facilities. Scholarship-holders have to apply for accommodation at student dormitories at receiving Faculties as soon as possible before their arrival. Students accommodated at university dormitories reimburse the related lodging expenses themselves.

Application Package

- **CV (2 pages max)** in English, including the contact information of the candidate (address, phone number and email)
- **Cover letter (2 pages max)** in English, precisng the professional project of the candidate. You should also explain your reasons for choosing your field of study and conducting part of the project in the French lab.
- **Description of the project (2 pages max)** in English, explaining the research project of the candidate. This document should include the **dates for each of the 3 stays abroad¹**, as well as names and contact information of the Czech and French supervisors.
- **A letter from the supervisor at the home university**, explaining that he agrees to share the direction of the doctorate with the host at the foreign university. This letter should be written in English and state the precise dates of stay in the foreign institution.
- **A letter from the supervisor at the foreign university**, explaining that he agrees to share the direction of the doctorate with the supervisor at the home university and that he commits to welcome and supervise the PhD student in his research unit, during the three 5-months stays. The dates of the 3 stays should be given.
 - ➔ The invitation can state that the student is invited by the foreign institution under the condition that he gets the equivalence of his Master diploma acquired in the home institution.
- **A transcript of the most recent grades** obtained during the university curriculum (last two years of studies)

¹ Stays abroad should start in October or November

How to apply

- 1) Students have to download this [scholarship application form](#) from the DZS website.
- 2) On the form, they will find a link to sign up electronically: this is mandatory for all applicants.
- 3) They have to print the form, fill in the required information, and sign it.
- 4) Finally, they send the scan of the signed form along with the application package to this address: aia@dzs.cz and sciences.prague@gmail.com in copy.

All documents should be mailed together before February 14th, 18:00.
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Instructions

The materials should be mailed in PDF version, following those guidelines:

➔ They should be in a compressed folder titled **LAST NAME first name – Cotutelle – Category**

➔ There are 3 categories for which we will organize 3 separate selection committees:

- Life Sciences and Medicine (LSM),
- Exact sciences and engineering (ESE),
- Social and Human Sciences and Economy (SHSE).

Please indicate the initials of your category in the title of your folder.

Example: SMITH John – Cotutelle – LSM

➔ Each file in the folder should be named using the following template: **LAST NAME first name – Material type**

Example: SMITH John – CV

Selection of applicants

- 1) After the closing date for applications on February 14th, the French Institute in Prague and the MSMT will preselect the files and inform all candidates of their decision.
 - 2) Selected candidates will be asked to present their study project in March or early April (see below for exact dates) in front of a Czech-French jury, made up of university teachers and researchers as well as representatives from the MSMT and the French embassy.
- ➔ Candidates currently studying in France will be able to present their mobility project on skype.
- ➔ Candidates who are selected will be asked to present at a given day and time. They will have **10 minutes to present their project**, and their PPT presentation should not exceed 7 slides (excluding the title and the acknowledgements slides). **The presentation will be followed by a 10 minutes Q&A with the jury.**

The principal criteria for selection are:

- Scientific and innovative value of the project
- Quality of preparation and presentation to the jury
- Importance and relevance of the mobility project in the student's thesis

With this grant program, Czech and French students experience a research stay abroad, and learn new skills which they will be able to enhance when back in their home country. They become key actors of French-Czech bilateral relations.

Calendar

Friday, February 14th, 2020	Closing of the call for applications
Monday, March 30th, 2020	Jury Exact sciences and Engineering (ESE)
Tuesday, March 31st, 2020	Jury Life Sciences and Medicine (LSM)
Wednesday, April 1st, 2020	Jury Social and Human Sciences; economy (SHSE)
Mid-April 2020	Results

For more precise information, please contact:

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