

## 'CIFRE' PhD: Modus Operandi

### How is a 'CIFRE' Ph.D. organized?

'CIFRE' PhDs were created in 1981 and are administered by the French Association of Technical Research. They unite three partners in a single research project: a young PhD student, a research laboratory and an enterprise. The student, who is employed by the company on either a permanent contract or a three-year contract, splits his or her time between the enterprise and the laboratory. Candidates who do not come from a European Union member state need to obtain a full-time work permit. The CIFRE grantee's research leads to the defense of the thesis. For more details, visit the ANRT website: [ANRT](#)

### Our selection criteria:

- The CIFRE grants are aimed at students who have obtained a Master's degree in a member state of the European Union or in one of the associated countries according to the FP7<sup>1</sup>, and who wish to study a PhD in one of these countries.
- The scientific and academic assessment of your application will be made according to the following criteria:
  1. The candidate's academic excellence, judged on the high standard of his or her Master's results and the quality of previous course work.
  2. The pertinence of the subject, which must be capable of both generating quality scientific research and bringing support to AXA's operating teams.
  3. The international scope of the host research laboratory
  4. The candidate's organizational skills
  5. The candidate's active interest in the world of industry.

### Our selection process:

Since the availability of CIFRE PhDs is closely linked to the research subjects identified by AXA's operating teams, we do not accept unsolicited applications. We do, however, propose subjects in the fields that we fund within research centers that are recognized for their academic excellence.

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<sup>1</sup> Switzerland, Israel, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Turkey, Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia, Albania and Montenegro  
[ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/third\\_country\\_agreements\\_en.pdf](ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/third_country_agreements_en.pdf)