

# CNPq-TWAS FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAMME

## 2012 CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Guidelines on how to register your Lattes <i>Curriculum Vitae</i> – ( <a href="#">click here</a> )	
Lattes <i>Curriculum Vitae</i>	<a href="http://lattes.cnpq.br/english/index.htm">http://lattes.cnpq.br/english/index.htm</a>
Guidelines on how to submit your online application form – ( <a href="#">click here</a> )	
Online application form	<a href="http://carloschagas.cnpq.br/english/index.html">http://carloschagas.cnpq.br/english/index.html</a>
List of eligible institutions/programmes in Brazil – ( <a href="#">click here</a> )	
Submission period: Applications must be submitted between  April 13th, 2012 (Friday) and July 19th, 2012 (Thursday) by 6 PM in Brasilia time zone (GMT -04:00).	

**BEFORE STARTING TO FILL OUT YOUR ONLINE APPLICATION FORM, IT IS ESSENTIAL TO READ THE WHOLE CALL FOR APPLICATIONS CAREFULLY.**

### **I.OBJECTIVE OF THE CALL**

Young scientists from developing countries (other than Brazil) are invited to apply to the 2012 CNPq-TWAS Fellowships programme. The fellowships offered by the CNPq-TWAS Fellowships programme allow scientists from developing countries to study or to do research in Natural Sciences in Brazil and then to return home to continue their careers.

The Brazilian National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq), Brasilia, Brazil – [www.cnpq.br](http://www.cnpq.br) – is a foundation linked to the Brazilian Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation. CNPq is one of the major public institutions supporting science, technology and innovation in Brazil and contributes directly to the training of researchers in the various fields of knowledge.

TWAS, the academy of sciences for the developing world – [www.twas.org](http://www.twas.org) – is an autonomous international organization founded in Trieste, Italy, in 1983. Its principal aim is to promote scientific capacity and excellence for sustainable development in the South.

### **II.WHO CAN APPLY**

Applications for the 2012 CNPq-TWAS Fellowships Programme are open only to young scientists from developing countries, other than Brazil.

Brazilian scientists or students are not eligible for this call, but are eligible to apply for fellowships under all the other TWAS Fellowships programmes. For additional information in this regard, including eligibility criteria and application forms, please visit: <http://www.twas.org> under Programmes > Exchange > Fellowships.

### III. TYPES OF FELLOWSHIPS, DURATION AND STIPENDS

The 2012 CNPq-TWAS Fellowships programme offers the following types of fellowships:

**A. Full-time doctorate fellowships:** CNPq-TWAS Fellowships are tenable at research institutions in Brazil for a period of up to 48 months and are awarded to students from developing countries (other than Brazil) enabling them to pursue studies that lead towards a PhD degree in Natural Sciences.

- Visa Expenses (paid by TWAS)
- Air tickets from (and to) the candidate's home country (paid by TWAS);
- Initial start up sum (paid by TWAS)
- Monthly stipend: R\$1.800,00 Brazilian reais (paid by CNPq);
- Research-related expenses R\$394,00 Brazilian reais (paid by CNPq).
- Excess luggage costs upon completion of the fellowship, only for periods exceeding twelve (12) months of stay in Brazil (paid by TWAS)

**B. *Sandwich* doctorate fellowships:** CNPq-TWAS Sandwich Doctorate Fellowships are tenable at research institutions in Brazil for a minimum period of 6 months, renewable for up to 6 months (maximum total of 12 months) and are awarded to students from developing countries (other than Brazil) enabling them to develop part of their PhD course in the Natural Sciences in Brazil. Under the *sandwich* programme, applicants *must* be registered for a PhD degree in their home country.

- Visa Expenses (paid by TWAS);
- Air tickets from (and to) the candidate's home country (paid by TWAS);
- Initial start up sum (paid by TWAS)
- Monthly stipend: R\$2.000,00 Brazilian reais (paid by CNPq)

**C. Postdoctoral fellowships:** CNPq-TWAS Postdoctoral Fellowships are tenable at research institutions in Brazil for a minimum period of 6 months to a maximum period of 12 months. They are awarded to scientists from developing countries (other than Brazil) enabling them to pursue postdoctoral research in the Natural Sciences.

- Visa Expenses (paid by TWAS)
- Air tickets from (and to) the candidate's home country (paid by TWAS);
- Living expenses: R\$3.200,00 Brazilian reais (paid by CNPq) – one-time payment done along with the first monthly stipend;

- Initial start up sum (paid by TWAS)
- Monthly stipend: R\$3.200,00 Brazilian reais (paid by CNPq);
- Research-related expenses R\$400,00 Brazilian reais (paid by CNPq).

Note that these values can be changed during the selection process and during the fellowship.

#### **IV. GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE 2012 CNPq-TWAS FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAMME**

A. The language of instruction of the courses in Brazil is Portuguese, and the candidates for a doctorate fellowship are expected to have good command of it already in the first year. Note that some host institutions may require a certain level of proficiency in order to allow the continuation of the fellowship.

B. Women scientists are especially encouraged to apply.

C. Applicants already holding a visa for permanent or temporary residency in Brazil or in a developed country are NOT eligible.

D. Successful candidates will be notified by December 2012. All specific awardees' obligations and rights will be thoroughly explained in the award letter. E. CNPq will provide a standard monthly allowance, which should be used to cover living costs, such as accommodation, food and health insurance. The monthly stipend will not be convertible into foreign currency.

F. International travel (return economy class by the shortest route) and visa expenses will be covered by TWAS. The programme envisages only one journey to the host country. TWAS will also provide a lump sum to cover initial expenses in Brazil.

G. Information about living conditions, such as possibilities of accommodation, transportation, and any other issues related to the candidate's stay in Brazil must be obtained locally, directly from the host institution. Neither TWAS nor CNPq can provide this information.

H. The Fellowships do not include provisions for accompanying family members. Awarded candidates are expected to be financially responsible for them.

I. Awarded Fellowships must be taken according to the acceptance letter issued by the host institution. The arrival of the awarded applicants for full-time doctorate and *sandwich* doctorate courses must be scheduled preferably for the beginning of the academic semesters in Brazilian institutions, in early March each year, or in early August, if the course admits entrance in the second semester.

J. Successful applicants must not take up other assignments during the period of their Fellowships.

K. Candidates are expected to return to their home countries on completion of the fellowships.

L. CNPq and TWAS shall be entitled a repayment of all or part of any funds paid to an applicant hereunder, in the event that the applicant intentionally or negligently fails to fulfil any or all of the present

conditions. The applicant agrees to pay any reasonable legal and/or collection costs incurred by CNPq and TWAS to obtain the repayment.

M. These are the general eligibility conditions for all fellowships offered in this call:

1. Applicants must be permanent residents in a developing country other than Brazil. Brazilians and foreigners already living in Brazil for study and/or work reasons cannot apply for this call, although they are eligible for other fellowship programmes offered by TWAS in different countries.
2. Applicants already holding a visa for permanent or temporary residency in Brazil or in a developed country are NOT eligible.
3. Applicants are expected to dedicate themselves to study and research in Brazil. Therefore, applications for part-time fellowships will be considered ineligible.
4. Applicants must include all required information and documents to the online application form, in the submission period of this call. Any application submitted by anyone else (e.g. host supervisor) will not be accepted.
5. All documents must be written in English (including the ones issued by the host supervisor and institution).
6. CNPq-TWAS Fellowships are tenable only at Brazilian research institutions that have been ranked at levels 5, 6 or 7 by the Brazilian Federal Agency for Support and Evaluation of Graduate Education (CAPES). Click [here](#) for the complete list of these eligible institutions/programmes or refer to the worksheet that you can download from [www.twas.org](http://www.twas.org) > Programmes > Exchange > Fellowships > (type of fellowship) > CNPq.
7. Applicants must submit a research plan in Natural Sciences. The areas considered for this call are: Agricultural Sciences; Structural, Cell & Molecular Biology; Biological Systems and Organisms; Medical & Health Sciences, including Neurosciences; Chemical Sciences; Engineering Sciences; Astronomy, Space & Earth Sciences; Mathematical Sciences and Physics.
8. Applicants must submit an official Acceptance Letter (**file**) by the host institution in Brazil. The acceptance letter must show a starting date in the year following the application (e.g. for 2012 applications the acceptance letter must show the starting date as 2013). \*\* If a private institution accepted the candidate this letter must also state that the candidate will be exempted from the payment of all fees.
9. Applicants may apply for only one TWAS Fellowship per year. For example, applicants to the TWAS-CNPq programme cannot also apply to TWAS Fellowship programmes with other partners in the same year, including those provided through CAS, CEMB, CSIR, DBT, IACS, ICCBS, S.N. Bose, USM, TWAS Fellowships for Research and Advanced Training and the OWSD Postgraduate Training Fellowships for Women Scientists in Sub-Saharan Africa and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) at Centres of Excellence in the South.

## V. SPECIFIC ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

### A. Full-time doctorate fellowships - GD

### **A.1) Eligibility criteria – GD**

Applicants for full-time doctorate fellowships shall:

1. Be at most 35 (thirty-five) years old on December 31 of the year of application to the CNPq-TWAS programme;
2. Hold a university degree (minimum qualification is a Master's degree) by the date of the application;
3. Have good command of Portuguese and/or Spanish and/or English.
4. Applicants already holding a visa for permanent or temporary residency in Brazil or in a developed country are NOT eligible.

### **A.2) Required documents - GD**

Applicants for *full-time* doctorate fellowships should submit the following documents:

1. The TWAS Application form - GD (**file**) completely filled out signed and scanned;
2. *Lattes Curriculum* , the CNPq standard online Curriculum Vitae available at <http://lattes.cnpq.br/english/index.htm> , filled out and submitted before the submission of the online application form.
3. A detailed research plan, according to the **file** provided;
4. Undergraduate's transcripts and degree certificate;
5. Master's transcripts and degree certificate;
6. Curriculum Vitae, including a list of publications;
7. Official letter of acceptance signed by the head of the host department according to the sample provided (**file**) ; Acceptance letters signed by the supervisor will not be considered as valid.
8. Two reference letters (signed, on headed paper and dated as 2012);
9. Certificate of proficiency in Portuguese or in Spanish or in English. If one of these languages is the candidate's mother tongue, a short declaration confirming this should be provided.
10. A copy of the passport showing personal and validity details or national ID card (with photograph), in case the applicant does not have a valid passport by the application period.

## **B) Sandwich doctorate fellowships – SW**

### **B.1) Eligibility criteria - SW**

Applicants for sandwich doctorate fellowships shall:

1. Be at most 35 (thirty-five) years old on December 31 of the year of application to the CNPq-TWAS programme;
2. Hold a university degree (minimum qualification is a Master's degree) by the date of the application;
3. Be officially registered as a PhD student in his/her home country for at least 12 months before presenting his/her candidacy to the sandwich doctorate fellowship scheme, to be attested in the statement from the head/director of the applicants' home institution;
4. Have good command of Portuguese and/or Spanish and/or English.
5. Applicants already holding a visa for permanent or temporary residency in Brazil or in a developed country are NOT eligible.

## **B.2) Required documents - SW**

Applicants for sandwich doctorate fellowships should submit the following documents:

1. The TWAS Application form - SW (**file**) - completely filled out, signed and scanned;
2. *Lattes Curriculum* , the CNPq standard online Curriculum Vitae available at <http://lattes.cnpq.br/english/index.htm> , filled out and submitted before the submission of the online application form.
3. A detailed research plan, according to the **file** provided;
4. Undergraduate's transcripts and degree certificate;
5. Master's transcripts and degree certificate;
6. Curriculum Vitae, including a list of publications;
7. Official letter of acceptance signed by the head of the host department according to the sample provided (**file**) . Acceptance letters signed by the supervisor will not be considered as valid.
8. Two reference letters (signed, on headed paper and dated as 2012);
9. Certificate of proficiency in Portuguese or in Spanish or in English. If one of these languages is the candidate's mother tongue, a short declaration confirming this should be provided.
10. Registration and no objection Certificate signed by the responsible person in the applicants' home institute, according to the **model provided**;
11. Supporting statement from the head/director of the applicant's home institute;
12. Supporting letter of PhD supervisor of the applicant's home institute;
13. A copy of the passport showing personal and validity details or national ID card (with photograph), in case the applicant does not have a valid passport by the application period.

## **C) Postdoctoral fellowships - PDJ**

### **C.1) Eligibility criteria - PDJ**

Applicants for postdoctoral fellowships shall:

1. Be at most 45 (forty-five) years old on December 31 of the year of application to the CNPq-TWAS programme;
2. Hold a university degree (minimum qualification is a PhD degree) by the date of the application;
3. Be a regular employee in a developing country (other than Brazil) and hold a research assignment there;
4. Have good command of English and/or Portuguese and/or Spanish.
5. Applicants already holding a visa for permanent or temporary residency in Brazil or in a developed country are NOT eligible.

### **C.2) Required documents - PDJ**

Applicants for postdoctoral fellowships should submit the following documents:

1. The TWAS Application form - PDJ (**file**) completely filled out signed and scanned;
2. Lattes Curriculum, the CNPq standard online Curriculum Vitae available at <http://lattes.cnpq.br/english/index.htm> , filled out and submitted before the submission of the online application form;
3. A detailed research plan, according to the **file** provided;
4. Undergraduate's transcripts and degree certificate;
5. Master's transcripts and degree certificate;
6. PhD's transcripts and degree certificate;
7. Curriculum Vitae, including a list of publications;
8. Official letter of acceptance signed by the head of the host department according to the sample provided (**file**) ; Acceptance letters signed by the supervisor will not be considered as valid.
9. Supporting statement from the head/director of the applicant's employer (signed, on headed paper and dated 2012);
10. Two reference letters (signed and on headed paper and dated 2012);
11. Certificate of proficiency in Portuguese or in Spanish or in English. If one of these languages is the candidate's mother tongue, a short declaration confirming this should be provided.



12. A copy of the passport showing personal and validity details or national ID card (with photograph), in case the applicant does not have a valid passport by the application period.

## VI. HOW TO APPLY

A. A personal *Lattes Curriculum* must be created by correctly filling out the fields “personal data”, “address”, “education” and “publications” including the information of the last three years (at least). In order to do so, visit the site:

<http://lattes.cnpq.br/english/index.htm>.

### GUIDELINES ON HOW TO REGISTER YOUR LATTES CV ([click here](#))

B. Applications must be submitted and sent exclusively via Internet, through the online application form, available on the *Carlos Chagas Platform* at the following address: <http://carloschagas.cnpq.br/english/>

### GUIDELINES ON HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR ONLINE APPLICATION FORM ([click here](#))

C. All the required documents must be either correctly saved or printed and scanned, and then attached to the online application form, in the appropriate fields, according to the instructions contained therein. Have the files ready for upload, in “doc”, “pdf”, “rtf” or “post script”. Each file must not exceed 500 Kb. In case you need to use images in order to illustrate your argumentation, these must not compromise the file size limit.

D. It is possible to save your form and fill it out progressively. However, the form will be considered valid only after being submitted to CNPq.

E. Applications must be submitted by July 19th (Thursday), 2012, by 6 PM in Brasilia time zone (GMT - 04:00) at the latest.

F. It is strongly recommended not to leave the submission of your online application form to the last day, which may cause its non-reception due to temporary system overloads. CNPq does not take responsibility by applications not received due to technical problems. Please note that CNPq will not accept neither applications nor complementary documents submitted by any other means.

G. Immediately after submitting the online application, applicants will receive an electronic confirmation of receipt.

H. CNPq's electronic system will accept only one application / project per candidate. If the same candidate submits a second application, it shall be considered a substitute of the previous one. Only the last application received will be evaluated.

I. Any queries concerning this call for applications should be exclusively directed by e-mail to: [twas.ascin@cnpq.br](mailto:twas.ascin@cnpq.br).

J. Incomplete applications, applications sent after the deadline or applications submitted by anyone other than the applicant will not be accepted.

## VII. EVALUATION PROCESS

A. Applications will be pre-evaluated by CNPq and TWAS regarding the fulfilment of:

1. The general eligibility conditions stated in item IV.L above;
2. The specific eligibility criteria for the respective fellowship types, as stated in items V.A.1), V.B.1) or V.C.1).

B. CNPq and TWAS will evaluate the applications through a competitive process with the advice of Natural Science specialists according to the following criteria:

1. Scientific quality of the research plan;
2. Coherence and adequacy of the activity plan and schedule with the research goals;
3. Relevance of the studies for the development of the research area in the candidate's home country;
4. Academic performance of the candidate;
5. Scientific production of the candidate.

Each of the above criteria will receive a score from 1 to 5. The final score will be the result of the average of the five aforementioned criteria.

C. The committee of specialists will then prioritise the recommended applications according to three criteria:

1. Scientific merit;
2. Regional distribution with respect to participating countries, and
3. Distribution with respect to scientific areas.

## VIII. CHECKLIST OF REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

	REQUIRED DOCUMENTS	FULL-TIME PhD	<i>SANDWICH</i> PhD	Post-Doc
1.	TWAS Application form - GD ( <a href="#">file</a> ) (signed and scanned)	x		
2.	TWAS Application form - SW ( <a href="#">file</a> )		x	

	(signed and scanned)			
3.	TWAS Application form - PDJ ( <a href="#">file</a> ) (signed and scanned)			x
4.	<i>Lattes Curriculum</i> correctly filled out	x	x	x
5.	Detailed research plan ( <a href="#">file</a> )	x	x	x
6.	Undergraduate's transcripts and degree certificate;	x	x	x
7.	Master's transcripts and degree certificate;	x	x	x
8.	PhD's transcripts and degree certificate;			x
9.	Curriculum Vitae, including a list of publications	x	x	x
10.	<b>Official acceptance</b> letter ( <a href="#">file</a> ) from the chosen Brazilian host institution.  * If a private institution accepted the candidate this letter must also state that the candidate will be exempted from the payment of all fees.	x	x	x
11.	Two reference letters (signed and dated 2012);	x	x	x
12.	Certificate of proficiency in Portuguese, or in Spanish, or in English. If one of theses is the candidate's mother tongue a short declaration confirming this should be provided.	x	x	x
13.	A copy of the passport showing	x	x	x

	personal and validity details or national ID card (with photograph), in case the applicant does not have a valid passport by the application period.			
14.	Signed registration and no objection certificate ( <b>file</b> )		<b>x</b>	
15.	Supporting statement from the head/director of the applicant's HOME institute (signed, on headed paper and dated 2012);		<b>x</b>	
16.	Supporting letter of PhD supervisor of the applicant's HOME institute (signed, on headed paper and dated 2012);		<b>x</b>	
17.	Supporting statement from the head/director of the applicant's employer (signed, on headed paper and dated 2012);			<b>x</b>