

Motivational Scholarship in the PhD Degree Programme Ecological and Evolutionary Biology

The scholarship scheme described below is provided by the Department of Botany and Zoology as additional financial support for doctoral students to that provided by Masaryk University for full-time doctoral students.

First year: candidates present their research topic in a 10-minute PowerPoint presentation in English, followed by a brief discussion. The committee evaluates the candidates in a secret ballot. The best candidates will receive an additional scholarship of 5000 CZK (approx. 200 EUR) monthly. Typically, about 50-80% of the top candidates are supported. The number varies from year to year depending on the quality of the candidates and the availability of funds.

This competition is held in June and if there are any new applications submitted between May and November also in January. It is obligatory for all candidates as it is the main part of the admission process.

Second year: first-year students give a 10-minute PowerPoint presentation in English summarizing their topic and achievements so far. The committee evaluates the candidates in a secret ballot. The best students receive an additional scholarship of 3000 CZK (approx. 120 EUR) monthly for one year.

The presentation is obligatory for all students who received the scholarship for the first year. Those who were not successful in the first year are also encouraged to participate. The presentations take place in June after the PhD candidates' presentations. Students accepted for the study in January are invited the next year in January after the PhD candidates' presentations or if there is no admission organized that year in January they will present during the next round in June.

Third and fourth year: starting from the 5th semester, we expect students to pass the state exam and spend at least two months (cumulatively) of internship in a university or research institution abroad. Once any of these achievements is made, students receive an additional 2000 CZK (approx. 80 EUR) per month for the remainder of the standard study period. These additional scholarships are additive, i.e. students who made both the state exam and internship receive 4000 CZK monthly.

For the entire standard period of study: all students receive an additional scholarship awarded based on their achievements (e.g., manuscripts submitted, papers published, active participation in conferences, awards, etc.). Twice a year, they are asked to complete a spreadsheet of defined accomplishments (checked by supervisors). The amount of money varies greatly depending on performance and also the budget; but can be up to several tens of thousands of CZK per year.

This scholarship scheme is valid since 2019,
updated in December 2024.