



Research Time Criteria of the Amsterdam School of Economics Research Institute

May 2026

Introduction

The criteria for research time allocation of the Amsterdam School of Economics Research Institute (ASE-RI) are aligned with the Research Fellowship criteria of the Tinbergen Institute (TI), as formulated in the TI Fellowship Charter 2025-2028 (see, in particular, Appendix I and II of that charter). These emphasize quality rather than quantity of publications, by considering the Article Influence Scores (AIS) of the best five publications in a five-year backward-looking window.

ASE staff members meeting these criteria qualify for up to 0.5 fte research time, or 50 per cent of the appointment if that is smaller than 1.0 fte. This research time will be allocated only if the staff member has an appointment with a formal research task and is member of one of the ASE-RI research programmes (ASMF, EE&D, E&PE, HC, Mint, M&O and UvA-E). In the research time criteria outlined below, researchers are staff members who satisfy these two criteria (i.e. formal research task and member of a research programme).

Below research time criteria apply per the academic year 2026-2027 (starting September 2026).

Research Time Criteria

1. For the following categories of researchers, research time is fixed regardless of their publication output:
 - PhD students: 80% of their appointment
 - Postdocs: 80% of their appointment
 - Tenure track assistant professors: 50%¹
 - Researchers whose research time is fully externally funded²
2. Researchers who do not fall in any of the categories mentioned under 1. and who are TI Research Fellow, in principle qualify for research time equal to 50% of their appointment. They do so for the entire academic year in which their current TI Research Fellowship ends. Consequently, for the year in which a TI Research Fellowship starts, the research time equal to 50% of their appointment will apply in the following academic year. Prolongation of TI Research Fellowships will be based on the TI Fellowship Charter.

¹ This is the amount of research time compensated by ASE-RI and thus financed from the faculty wide budget for research time. As a school specific policy, in case of a six year tenure track, the ASE grants tenure trackers an additional 10% research time (so 60% overall) in the first three years of their appointment. This additional research time is financed by the section to which the tenure tracker belongs (and hence does not draw upon the faculty-wide research budget).

² For researchers whose research time is only partially externally funded, the criteria apply to determine the percentage of research time for the remaining (i.e. not externally funded) part of their appointment. The faculty wide rules regarding the overall amount of research time in the presence of external grants are documented in the “Aangescherpte facultaire regels voor matching van contractonderzoek” (following a DB decision of February 10, 2025).

3. All other researchers qualify for research time up to 50% of their appointment if they satisfy the following augmented version of the TI Fellowship criteria:

Equivalent to TI fellowship criteria (see TI fellowship Charter 2025-2028)

- a) Research time is allocated based on publication points, earned on at least 2 and at most 5 peer-reviewed publications in a five year backward looking window. For research time in the academic year y -($y+1$), publication points are computed for the both the immediate window ($y-5$) through ($y-1$) and the preceding one ($y-6$) through ($y-2$). The window with the highest publication points determines the amount of research time. A minimum of 5 publication points is required to obtain the maximum of 50% of the appointment research time.
- b) Publication points P are defined by the journal score S , multiplied by a factor equal to 1.25 for a solo-authored publication. For publications with co-authors, the multiplication factor equals 1 if there is one co-author, and $1 - 0.1 \cdot (N - 1)$ for $1 < N \leq 10$, where N is the number of co-authors. For publications with more than 10 co-authors, the factor equals 0.1 if the author is first or last author, and 0 otherwise.
- c) To obtain a positive journal score S , a journal article should be at least 6 pages long and a regular peer-reviewed publication (so no comment, reply, letter to the editor) in a journal on the TI journal list. The latter consists of all peer review journals in the subject categories “Economics”, “Business”, and “Business, Finance” that have an AIS. Additionally, the TI journal list also contains the following journals: Annals of Statistics, Biometrika, Information Systems Research, Journal of the American Statistical Association, and Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B - Statistical methodology.
- d) A motivated request can be made to the director of ASE-RI to also consider articles published in journals that are not on the TI journal list. Only a minority of all publication points can be collected from publications in journals outside the TI list.
- e) The journal score S for a particular year is defined by the average of the AIS over a 5 year backward looking window (for a publication in year y , the average is thus taken over $y-5$ through $y-1$). Years for which the AIS is not available are not included in computing the average.
- f) Special cases
 - i. In total at most two publication points can be awarded for (contributions to) books and citations, as follows:
 - ii. The score S of a book is 1, and the score of a chapter in an edited volume is 0.5. The book or volume has to be published by a high-quality academic publishing house. Textbooks and book editing do not yield points.
 - iii. Researchers over 60 years³ may request up to two publication points based on lifetime citations, provided they have at least two highly cited articles in journals listed on the TI journal list and submit a full citation report obtained from Researcher Search - Web of Science Researchers. As indicative guideline: overall more than 500 lifetime citations with at least two articles with over 100 citations.

³ In deviation from the TI-Fellowship Charter 2025-2028 where this age threshold is set at 55 years, the ASE research time criteria employ a higher threshold at 60 years. This to accommodate that the retirement age has increased considerably in the past decade and to align with a similar arrangement at ABS.

Augmented to TI fellowship criteria

4. The AIS of three leading journals in Actuarial Science (Insurance: Mathematics and Economics, ASTIN Bulletin, and Scandinavian Actuarial Journal) is set at 1.5. This is to compensate for the fact that Actuarial Science is a relatively small sub-discipline, which is not sufficiently corrected in the construction of the AIS.
5. Articles of less than 6 pages published in Nature or Science are taken into consideration (but are not part of the TI journal list).
6. Researchers with a part-time appointment of less than 0,5 fte need to earn 2,5 publication points or more.
7. The assessment period for publication points during pregnancy- and maternity leave will be automatically extended by one year for assistant professors (UD), associate professors (UHD) and professors in permanent employment. (There is no alternative via a lower threshold for publication points.) This policy only applies to pregnancy- and maternity leave and is not applicable to birth leave and partners. If a person has had a child within the applicable 5-year window at the time of the next research time calculation, the automatic extension will be applied. (PM: this is a pilot that will be assessed in 2030.)
8. In case a researcher has less than 5 publications points and does not qualify for a TI research fellowship, an individual assessment by the research director of ASE-RI will take place. If this does not change the outcome of the research time calculation, the researcher qualifies for research time financed by ASE-RI as follows:
 - 4-4.9 points = 0.4 fte or 40%
 - 3-3.9 points = 0.3 fte or 30%
 - 2-2.9 points = 0.2 fte or 20%
 - 0-1.9 points = 0.1 fte or 10%
9. Annually, the ASE-RI calculates the publication points based on 3. for all researchers, including those whose research time is guaranteed by 1. or 2. For those researchers, this information can be used to assess whether they will satisfy the TI Fellowship criteria in the future (e.g., after their tenure track period).