

## Christiane Nüsslein-Volhard Foundation

### Notes for authors of reference letters for the CNV-Foundation

It is the aim of the Foundation to fund highly qualified young women in Germany, whose scientific careers are threatened by the difficulties of balancing science and family life even though they possess an above-average talent in the sciences. The Foundation does not provide the applicant's means of subsistence. It provides a grant of 400 Euro per month to help to relieve excellent female PhD students and postdoctoral fellows with children from their domestic burdens.

While we do realise that less talented women also face similar difficulties the Foundation is not in a position to help all young scientists in this regard. The primary aim of the Foundation is to advance science. By assisting the best scientists to follow through with their career, we believe to be serving science in the best way. We therefore ask for a critical and candid evaluation along similar criteria as elite stipends (e.g.: Studienstiftung, EMBO, Schering Foundation, Boehringer-Ingelheim Fund).

We do not have a form for your reference, but the following questions may serve as a guide:

- How would you rank the applicant in comparison to other scientists (including males) you have observed in your laboratory and institute?
- How would you judge the originality, intelligence, and creativity of the applicant? Is she able to plan independently and implement a scientific project? To what degree is she dependent upon support from her surroundings and upon guidance?
- How would you estimate her motivation and commitment to pursue a scientific career?
- Will the support of the Foundation enable the applicant to spend more time for scientific research?

Please write your letter of recommendation no later than 30.11. of the application year.

To do so please enter our application portal via the link the applicant sent to you. There you can write your reference or upload it.

#### Board of Directors

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