

What are the ramifications of your type of employment, scholarship, or other funding situation as a PhD-researcher?

The below table contains a partial overview of the differences between the various statutes of PhD-researchers at UGent.

	Statutory staff member of UGent (AAP: assistant)	Employment contract with UGent	PhD-scholarship from UGent /FWO/IWT, or funding from IMEC/VIB/iMinds	External scholarship, or unfunded
<i>Which UGent services can I contact when I have a problem with my supervisor?</i>	You can contact UGent's ombudspersons: http://www.ugent.be/doctorschools/en/quality/ombudspersons.htm			
<i>Can my supervisor order me to perform tasks unrelated to my doctoral dissertation?</i>	Yes, as per your annual task description form. However, 50% of your time is reserved for your doctoral research.	Yes, and you have no guarantees that you will be able to conduct doctoral research.	No, your doctoral research is your only responsibility.	
<i>Am I entitled to research funding, e.g. for conference participation?</i>	Check out the Faculty Mobility Fund (opportunities and conditions are faculty specific): http://www.ugent.be/en/research/funding/mobilityfund.htm			
	You are not guaranteed entitlements, but funding may be available from: department credit, project funding, supervisor's budgets, ... Consult your supervisor.		You are entitled to the funds specified in your scholarship for these types of expenses.	External scholarship: there may be funding for these activities/ Unfunded: No
<i>Am I entitled to employee benefits, e.g. commuting expenses, ...?</i>	Yes.		PhD-scholarship from UGent, see: http://www.ugent.be/en/work/phd/bursaryabc.htm / Others: yes, with some conditions.	No. You are generally only entitled to student benefits.
<i>Am I entitled to unemployment benefits after the end of my time at UGent?</i>	Yes. The same rules that apply to other employees, apply to you.			External scholarship: yes, depending on the country in question/ Unfunded: No.
<i>Can I join the union?</i>	Yes. Fill out the form on our website: http://acod.ugent.be/?q=node/352			Yes. You can join the student branch: http://www.abvvjongeren.be/art/pid/15327/Word-nu-gratis-Magik%3F-lid-.htm (in Dutch)
<i>Trade union contributions?</i>	Yes. The contribution is €16 a month if you are at least half time, or € 9 if you are less than half time.			No. You can join the student branch for free.
<i>Can I get a refund?</i>	Yes. You can receive a "syndicale premie" of €90 a year, depending on your total contributions last year.			No.
<i>What can the union do for me?</i>	We can advise you on your situation as a researcher at UGent.			
	We can defend your interests if, as an employee, you have a conflict with your employer, both within UGent procedures, and in court.		We can defend your interests in disputes with UGent/your supervisor concerning your working conditions.	