

Council
of the National Science Centre
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RESOLUTION NO 109/2018
BY THE COUNCIL OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE CENTRE

of 8 November 2018

on the terms of conducting the ETIUDA 7 call for proposals for doctoral scholarships

Pursuant to Article 18 (5) and Article 26 of the Act on the National Science Centre of 30 April 2010 (Journal of Laws of 2018, item 947, as amended), the Council of the National Science Centre lays down the terms of the **ETIUDA 7 call for proposals for doctoral scholarships**.

1. Eligible applicants

The call is addressed to individuals without a doctoral degree, hereinafter referred to as the “applicants”, who are successful in research and have embarked on a doctorate or will embark on a doctorate by 30 April 2019 in a Polish institution authorised to award doctoral degrees.

2. Terms of entry

The following proposals for funding of doctoral scholarships may be submitted under the call:

- a) if research carried out under a doctoral dissertation includes basic research within the meaning of Article 4 (2) (1) of the Act on Higher Education and Science of 20 July 2018 (Journal of Laws of 2018, item 1668) in any of the research disciplines listed as NCN panels pursuant to the NCN Council Resolution No 66/2018 5 July 2018;
- b) proposals in which the applicant provides a confirmation on having embarked on a doctorate or declaration of his/her intention to embark on a doctorate by 30 April 2019;
- c) proposals in which the applicant shall plan a foreign fellowship with a duration of 3 to 6 months at a foreign research institution of his/her choice, located in one of the countries listed **in Annex No 1** hereto and shall present a document in English confirming foreign mentor’s approval of the applicant’s fellowship; and
- d) proposals which take into account the terms laid down in the Regulations of awarding funding for the implementation of research tasks funded by the National Science Centre as regards research projects, post-doctoral fellowships and doctoral scholarships, pursuant to the NCN Council Regulation No 107/2018 of 8 November 2018, hereinafter referred to as the “Regulations.”

3. Terms of funding doctoral scholarships

3.1. Doctoral scholarships under the ETIUDA 7 call shall include funds:

- a) for scholarship:

- b) to cover the costs of the applicant staying at a foreign research institution hosting the foreign fellowship;
 - c) to cover the cost of travel of the candidate to the research institution hosting the foreign fellowship.
- 3.2. The scholarship shall amount to PLN 4,500 per month and shall be awarded for a period of preparation of a doctoral dissertation by the applicant, which shall be no less than 6 and no more than 12 months.
- 3.3 Flat-rate funds of PLN 12,000 per month, multiplied by the percentage correction rate set for a given country, according to the values set forth in the **Annex No 1** hereto, shall be allocated to cover the costs of the applicant staying at a foreign research institution;
- 3.4. Flat-rate funds of PLN 1,000 to PLN 10,000, depending on the distance between the applicant's place of residence on the proposal submission date and a foreign research institution, according to the rates set forth in **Annex No 2** hereto, to cover the cost of return travel of the applicant to the research institution hosting the foreign fellowship.
- 3.5. The fellowship at a foreign research institution specified by the applicant may be implemented during the applicant's scholarship programme or within 12 months thereafter.
- 3.6. A person who is awarded a doctoral scholarship shall earn a doctorate degree within 12 months¹ of completing the scholarship programme but not earlier than 6 months after the beginning of the scholarship programme.
- 3.7. Where the obligations referred to in points 3.5 and 3.6 are not met, the funding disbursed by the National Science Centre as the doctoral scholarship may have to be returned.
- 3.8. The start date for funding a doctoral scholarship is 1 October 2019.

4. Submission of proposals

- 4.1. The data required in the proposal for funding of doctoral scholarships under the ETIUDA 7 call and annexes thereto are laid down in **Annex No 3** hereto.
- 4.2. A complete proposal together with required Annexes, including a confirmation of submitting the proposal bearing a qualified electronic signature or the document's scan with the signature in the signatory's own handwriting must be sent in an electronic format by 15 March 2019 via the ZSUN/OSF (Zintegrowany System Usług dla Nauki /Obsługa Strumieni Finansowania) system at www.osf.opi.org.pl.

5. Evaluation of proposals

- 5.1. Merit-based evaluation is open only to complete proposals that meet the requirements laid down in the call announcement.
- 5.2. The proposals shall be considered pursuant to the Regulations.
- 5.3. In the evaluation of proposals for funding of doctoral scholarships, the following are considered:
- 1) whether or not the research fulfils the criterion of basic research referred to in point 2.a hereof,
 - 2) research achievements of the applicant, including:
 - a) publications in renowned academic press/ journals;

¹ Pursuant to Article 179 (4) of the Act of 3 July 2018 – Regulations Enacting the Act on Higher Education and Science, a doctorate embarked on and not completed by 31 December 2021 shall be discontinued or cancelled..

- b) awards resulting from research, scholarships, prizes and research experience gained at home and abroad, workshops and research training courses, participation in research projects;
- 3) quality of research, including the level of expertise of the research;
- 4) appropriate choice of the foreign fellowship location, including:
 - a) academic rank of the research institution hosting the fellowship;
 - b) appropriate choice of the research institution,
 - c) impact on the development of applicant's research career;
- 5) preparation of the proposal.

6. Funding decision

- 6.1. The call shall be concluded and its results announced on 13 September 2019.
- 6.2. The results of the call shall be published in the ZSUN/OSF system and dispatched electronically by way of a decision of the NCN Director.
- 6.3. Where an electronic document has not been collected, the decision of the NCN Director shall be deemed to have been delivered within 14 days of the date of being made available.
- 6.4. In the event of breach of the call procedure or other formal infringements, the applicant may appeal against the decision of the NCN Director with the Appeal Committee of the NCN Council within 14 days of the decision's delivery.
- 6.5. The Appeal Committee of the NCN Council shall decide on the appeal within 3 months of the date on which the appeal was lodged.

7. Funding procedure

- 7.1. The funds for the doctoral scholarship recommended for funding shall be awarded pursuant to a decision of the NCN Director.
- 7.2. In the case of persons who declare that they will embark on a doctorate by 30 June 2019, the doctoral scholarship shall only be awarded if the applicant delivers a confirmation of having embarked on a doctorate by 15 May 2019.
- 7.3. The funds shall be transferred to the entity in which the applicant has embarked or will embark on a doctorate, pursuant to an agreement between that entity and the NCN Director.
- 7.4. The above-mentioned entity shall disburse the doctoral scholarship to the applicant pursuant to an agreement between them. The agreement shall lay down the terms of payment of the doctoral scholarship as well as dates and terms of meeting the obligations arising under the doctoral scholarship.

6. Amount of funding

The Council of the National Science Centre establishes the amount of financial resources allocated for the doctoral scholarships under the ETIUDA 7 call for proposals as **PLN 20 million**.

prof. dr hab. Janusz Janeczek
Chair of the Council
of the National Science Centre