



Council
of the National Science Centre
KR.0003. 18.2018

RESOLUTION N° 18/2018
BY THE COUNCIL OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE CENTRE
of 8th March 2018
on the terms of conducting call for proposals PRELUDIUM 15

Pursuant to art. 18 point 4 of the act of 30th April 2010 on the National Science Centre (Journal of Laws of 2016, item 1071, as amended), the Council of the National Science Centre sets the terms of conducting the **PRELUDIUM 15 call for proposals of research projects by researchers at the beginning of their career in research, who do not hold a doctorate degree.**

1. Eligible applicants

- 1.1. The call is addressed to researchers at the beginning of their career in research, who do not hold a doctorate degree.¹
- 1.2. Applications for funding of research projects may be submitted by entities set out in art. 10 of the act of 30th April on the principles of funding science (Journal of Laws of 2018, item 87), hereinafter referred to as applicants.²

2. Eligible proposals

Under the call proposals may be submitted for funding of research projects:

- 1) which constitute basic research within the meaning of art. 2 point 3a of the act of 30th April on the principles of funding science in any of the disciplines specified by the National Science Centre's panels, as adopted by the Resolution no 102/2016 of 10th November 2016 by the Council of the National Science Centre;
- 2) which last 12, 24 or 36 months;³
- 3) in which the funding does not exceed:

¹ This condition must be met on the final day of submitting proposals under the call, i.e. on 15th June 2018.

² Applications for funding of research projects may be submitted by:

- 1) academic or research organisations;
- 2) research consortia;
- 3) research networks and organisational units within institutions of higher education that do not constitute their basic organisational units;
- 4) science and technology facilities;
- 5) research centres of the Polish Academy of Sciences;
- 5a) academic research centres shared by higher education institutions;
- 6) scientific libraries
- 7) enterprises with the status of a research and development centre as defined in the Act of 30th May 2008 on certain forms of support for innovation activities;
- 8) other legal entities established in the territory of the Republic of Poland;
- 9) natural persons;
- 10) enterprises conducting research in a different form than those specified in points 1-8.

If the applicant is a natural person, the host institution may not be a composite entity or an entity for which the funding of the research project constitutes state aid.

³ In the case of entities applying for state aid the start date of a research project is 1st April 2019.



- a) PLN 70 K, for projects whose duration is 12 months,
- b) PLN 140 K, for projects whose duration is 24 months,
- c) PLN 210 K, for projects whose duration is 36 months;
- 4) in which the number of investigators does not exceed three, and the person holding a habilitation (*doktor habilitowany*) degree or the title of full professor acts solely as the supervisor¹ of the principal investigator (PI);
- 5) in which the PI supervisor is not a beneficiary of the funding for the completion of the research project;⁴
- 6) in which the planned cost of research equipment does not exceed 30% of the funding requested for the completion of the research project;
- 7) which take into account the “Regulations on the mode of granting financial resources for the completion of tasks funded by the National Science Centre (Narodowe Centrum Nauki, NCN) as regards research projects, post-doctoral internships and doctoral scholarships,” as adopted by the resolution of the Council of the NCN no 16/2018 of 8th 2018, hereinafter referred to as “Regulations.”

3. Submission of proposals

- 3.1. Information required in the proposal and documents attached to the application for funding a research project under call for proposals PRELUDIUM 15 are set out in the **annex** to this resolution.
- 3.2. An applicant not receiving any operating support grant from the budget for science should support their application with information concerning:⁵
 - 1) research conducted over the period of 2 years before submitting the proposal, together with a list of publications affiliated with the entity;
 - 2) research equipment and other instrumentation/facilities crucial to scientific research.
- 3.3. Application for funding of a research project together with required attachments must be submitted no later than 15th June 2018 in electronic form via the OSF (Obsługa Strumieni Finansowania) system at www.osf.opi.org.pl.
- 3.4. The application must be supported with a confirmation of submitting the proposal bearing a qualified electronic signature or a scan of the document signed in the signatory's own hand.

4. Evaluation of proposals

- 4.1. Merit-based evaluation is open only to research proposals evaluated positively at the stage of eligibility check.
- 4.2. Research proposals are evaluated in accordance with the Regulations.
- 4.3. In the process of merit-based evaluation of research proposals the following is given particular consideration:
 - 1) fulfilling the criterion of basic research within the meaning of art. 2 point 3 a) of the act of 30th April on the principles of funding science;

⁴ PI supervisor may in no way benefit from the funding granted for the completion of the research project. In particular, the funding of the project may not be used to finance the costs of the PI supervisor's remuneration and their business trips, including participation in conferences or seminars.

⁵ The applicant who is a natural person enters data of the entity in which they intend to carry out the research project.



- 2) the scientific achievements of the principal investigator and the supervisor, including publications in academic press/ journals;
- 3) quality of the planned research or project tasks;
- 4) innovative nature of the research problem addressed;
- 5) project's impact on the advancement of the scientific field/discipline;
- 6) relevance of the planned costs to the subject and scope of the research;
- 7) assessment of the feasibility of the project's completion;
- 8) due diligence in project preparation.

5. Call procedure and call results

- 5.1. The call procedures are to be concluded and its results published by 15th December 2018.
- 5.2. The results of the call are published in the OSF system and dispatched by way of a decision of the Director of the National Science Centre to the address of the electronic mail account known as Elektroniczna Skrzynka Podawcza ESP, as indicated in the application, or to the address of the applicant's ePUAP account. If the applicant has not indicated an address of ePUAP account, a message is sent to the principal investigator's email address, as indicated in the application, containing the electronic address whereby the applicant may download the Director's decision.
- 5.3. If the decision is not collected, the decision of the Director of the National Science Centre is considered to have been delivered within 14 days of the date of its being made available.
- 5.4. In the event of breach of the call procedure or other formal infringements, the applicant may appeal from the decision of the Director of the National Science Centre to the Committee of Appeals of the Council of the National Science Centre within 14 days of the decision's delivery.
- 5.5. Committee of Appeals of the Council of the National Science Centre passes judgement in the case of the appeal no later than 3 months of lodging the appeal.

6. Mode of funding

- 6.1. Financial resources for the completion of the research tasks specified in the proposal recommended for funding are granted by decision of the Director of the NCN.
- 6.2. Financial resources are granted to the research project's host institution, pursuant to a funding agreement concluded between the National Science Centre, the host institution and the principal investigator.
- 6.3. If the research project recommended for funding has been submitted by a natural person not employed by any of the entities referred to in art. 10 points 1-8 & 10 of the act of 30th April on the principles of funding science, the Director of the National Science Centre issues a funding commitment. Financial resources are granted to the entity employing the person. The condition for concluding the funding agreement is employing the person by one of the entities referred to in art. 10 points 1-8 & 10 of the abovementioned act, with the exception of composite entities⁶ and entities for which the funding for the research project constitutes state aid.

⁶ The following are all considered as composite entities: research consortium, research networks, science and technology facilities, research centres of the Polish Academy of Sciences and academic research centres shared by higher education institutions, with the exception of academic research centres operating as units within single higher education institution. Composite entities are represented by a leader indicated in the application or a composite entity agreement. The leader makes declarations on behalf of the composite entity.



- 6.4. If financial resources are granted to applicants established as enterprises⁷, the provisions of the directive of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 9th September 2015 on the terms and mode of granting State aid via the National Science Centre (Journal of Laws of 2015, item 1381) shall apply.
- 6.5. The applicant is obliged, within the period indicated in the decision on awarding funding for the completion of a research project, to submit to the National Science Centre a draft version of the funding agreement, including its work plan and breakdown of costs, and to perform other actions ordered in the decision. Failure to comply with the provisions of the decision within the indicated period is tantamount with resignation from concluding the funding agreement.

7. Call budget

The Council of the National Science Centre establishes the amount of financial resources allocated for the completion of research projects under the call for proposals PRELUDIUM 15 **as PLN 30 million.**

The English version of this Resolution does not constitute a sworn translation and has been prepared as an auxiliary document for your convenience. In case of any doubts as to the interpretation of its provisions, the Polish version shall prevail.

⁷ An enterprise is considered to be any entity engaged in an economic activity, irrespective of its legal form. This includes, in particular, self-employed persons and family businesses engaged in craft or other activities, and partnerships or associations regularly engaged in an economic activity, in accordance with the directive of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 9th September 2015 on the terms and mode of granting State aid via the National Science Centre (Journal of Laws of 2015, item 1381) in reference to Article 1 of ANNEX I to the Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty Text Journal EU L 187 of 26 September 2014, p. 1)