

RESOLUTION NO 84/2022

of 25 July 2022

BY THE COUNCIL OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE CENTRE

on the terms and conditions of the scholarship programme of the National Science Centre for students and researchers from Ukraine without a PhD degree, carried out within the framework of the Basic Research Programme under the 3rd edition of the EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021

Pursuant to Article 18 (13), in conjunction with Article 20 (1) (6) of the Act on the National Science Centre of 30 April 2010 (consolidated text in Journal of Laws of 2019, item 1384, hereinafter: the “NCN Act”), in view of the legal framework of the Basic Research Programme, the Council of the National Science Centre hereby lays down the terms and conditions of the NCN special scholarship programme for students and researchers from Ukraine without a PhD degree, hereinafter referred to as the “programme”, approved by the partner of the Basic Research Programme - the Research Council of Norway.

I. Objectives of the programme

The programme is addressed to students and researchers from Ukraine without a PhD degree, who have taken or will take refuge in Poland due to Russia's aggression against Ukraine. The objective of the programme is to provide financial support to students and researchers by allowing them to continue MSc and PhD studies, work on their MSc thesis and PhD dissertations or pursue any other education at the Polish research institutions.

II. Applicants

§ 1. Funding proposals, hereinafter: “proposals” may be submitted to the programme by entities specified in Article 27 (1) (1) (3) - (6) of the NCN Act, hereinafter: the “applicants”.

§ 2. Proposals may be submitted by applicants for which project funding shall not constitute state aid.

§ 3. Applicants must not be under receivership, in liquidation or subject to bankruptcy proceedings.

III. Programme Participation Terms

§ 4. The programme is open to students and researchers without a PhD degree on the closing date of the call for proposals who left Ukraine on 24 February 2022 or after, or is intending to leave Ukraine, and:

- a) has been a student at a Ukrainian university in the academic year 2021/2022; or
- b) pursued doctoral studies (*aspirantura*) in Ukraine in the academic year 2021/2022; or
- c) has been employed in a research institution in Ukraine in the academic year 2021/2022.



§ 5. The programme may be implemented remotely from Ukraine, for no more than half of the requested programme period.

§ 6. The programme must start before 1 March 2023.

§ 7. The NCN scholarship programme shall be open to proposals in which the applicants:

- a) provide for NCN funding for students/researchers for a period of 6 to 12 months, totalling PLN 5,000 per month, including a scholarship and the cost of hosting a researcher;
- b) provide for an NCN scholarship for a student/researcher referred to in §7 (a) of PLN 3,500 to PLN 5,000 per month, whereas the applicant may increase the scholarship amount from its own funds;
- c) provide for the cost of hosting a student/researcher paid by the NCN, as referred to in §7 (a), including the cost of education (including language courses), cost of activities related to the development of a PhD dissertation, cost of psychological and legal support in connection with the training, in the amount of up to PLN 1,500 per month, whereas the applicant may increase the scholarship amount from its own resources;
- d) identify a mentor employed by the applicant who carries out research in the same or similar discipline represented by the student/researcher and is not a beneficiary of funding under the programme;
- e) submit a student's/researcher's CV and mentor's CV;
- f) demonstrate how to integrate the student/researcher with the applicant's research community during the programme (e.g. how to engage the student/researcher in the research projects carried out at the research institution) and provide information on the cooperation to date (if any); present the advantages of using the knowledge and skills acquired in the course of the programme in the further research career to reintegrate the scholarship recipient into the Ukrainian academic system after the programme;
- g) justify why the programme should be carried out remotely from Ukraine, as referred to in § 5. (if applicable).

IV. Proposal Submission Restrictions

§ 8. A student/researcher may receive scholarship funding under the programme only once.

§ 9. A student/researcher may be identified in only one proposal submitted under the programme.

V. Proposal Submission (Date and Method)

§ 10. Proposals shall be drafted in accordance with the proposal template attached hereto as **Annex 1**.

§ 11. Proposal signed electronically by an authorised representative of the applicant shall be submitted via ePUAP to the Electronic Delivery Submission of the National Science Centre (/ncn/SkrytkaESP).

§ 12. Proposals shall be submitted one month from the launch date of the call for proposals specified in the call text.



VI. Evaluation Criteria and Method

§ 13. Proposals shall be subject to an eligibility check and merit-based evaluation.

§ 14. The eligibility check and merit-based evaluation shall be performed by the NCN Coordinators based on the information in the proposal.

§ 15. The eligibility check shall include checking the proposal for completeness and compliance with all programme requirements.

§ 16. The merit-based evaluation shall be open only to proposals approved as eligible.

§ 17. The merit-based evaluation shall consist of a single stage.

§ 18. The following shall be taken into account in the merit-based evaluation:

- a) student's/researcher's qualifications and achievements;
- b) work plan integrating the student/researcher with the applicant's research community during the programme and description of the planned student's/researcher's reintegration into the Ukrainian academic system;
- c) applicant's collaboration with the student/researcher to date (*if applicable*);
- d) relevance of the planned costs.

§ 19. The merit-based evaluation shall be carried out in accordance with the following principles:

- a) each proposal shall be evaluated by the NCN coordinator in charge of the discipline specified in the proposal pursuant to the evaluation criteria laid down in **Annex 3** hereto;
- b) in well-justified cases, the NCN coordinator may consult an NCN Council member;
- c) based on the evaluation by the NCN coordinators, proposals shall be recommended for a list of evaluated proposals;
- d) the list shall then be submitted to the NCN Director;
- e) the NCN Director shall take a funding decision pursuant to the list of evaluated proposals.

VII. Conclusion of the programme

§ 20. The funding decision shall be delivered within one month of the end date of the call for proposals in the programme.

§ 21. The award of funding shall be communicated to the applicant in writing as soon as possible.

The NCN Council shall allocate funding of EUR 250,537¹ for the programme, as approved by the decision of the Joint Committee for Bilateral Fund of 13 May 2022.

Prof. Jacek Kuźnicki
President of the NCN Council

¹ The PLN equivalent shall be calculated on the date the NCN Director approves the list of funded proposals according to the monthly EUR exchange rate set by the European Commission, but no higher than 1,2 million PLN.