



Euroopa Liit  
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Regionaalarengu Fond



Eesti  
tuleviku heaks

## National Eligibility Criteria for Estonian Applicants Requesting Funding from Mobilitas Pluss Programme in ERA-NET Calls

Estonian Research Council (hereafter the Council) funds basic and applied research. Applied research is only funded as far as it does not refer to product development with commercial value and for marketing purposes.

A grant or research support is the allocation of funds by the Council for a specified purpose to carry out research work and the grant shall be awarded within an open competition.

Funding will come from the Mobilitas Pluss programme, which is partly financed by the European Regional Development Fund. The project must comply with the rules set in the [Mobilitas Pluss decree](#) No. 1.1-2/15/481 of the Minister of Education and Research of 30 December 2015.

### 1. Participants of the project

**1.1 The Host Institution** (the final recipient) is the applicant of the grant, to which the grant will be allocated. The Host Institution must be registered and located in Estonia. The Host Institution must present a commitment letter with the application that the project can be carried out within their premises and the Host Institution will enter into an employment relationship with the principal investigator during the project.

**1.2 The Principal Investigator** is the researcher who is appointed to be responsible for the use of the grant for its specific purpose and for the productive realisation of the project.

The principal investigator:

- Must have an updated public profile in the Estonian Research Information System (ETIS).
- Must be a holder of the doctoral degree of Estonia or an equivalent academic degree (both awarded by the deadline of submission of the grant application, at the latest).
- Is either in an employment relationship with the Host Institution, or must present a commitment letter by the Host Institution that s/he will be employed by the institution during the realisation of the grant project, should the project proposal be successful.

- Must have published within the last five years prior to the proposal submission deadline at least three publications which comply with the requirements of clauses 1.1 of the classification of publications of the ETIS, or at least five publications which comply with the requirements of clauses 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 and 3.1 of the ETIS classification. International patents are equalised with publications of clause 1.1. Monographs (ETIS clause 2.1) are equalised with three publications mentioned in clause 1.1 if the number of authors is three or less. If the applicant has been on parental leave or in the compulsory military service, has suffered from a serious illness within these last five years or has other serious grounds, the deadline of the publication requirement will be extended by the respective time.

**1.3 Senior research staff of the project** participates in the substantial performance of the project. They possess master's degree or a respective qualification.

## 2. Grant Agreement

The Council shall enter into a grant agreement with the Host Institution.

## 3. Budget

The budget of proposal should consist of **research expenses** and **indirect costs**.

### 3.1 Research expenses

Research expenses consist of personnel costs, travel costs, other direct costs and subcontracting costs. The research expenses must be relevant to carry out the project and respectively identifiable. All eligible costs are set in the [Mobilitas Pluss decree](#).

**Remuneration** may only be paid out of the grant according to the time the staff participates in the grant project and their total salary cost.<sup>1</sup> Scholarships are not eligible.

**Travel costs** cover expenses for transport, accommodation and daily allowances.

**Other direct costs** are:

- Consumables related to the project;
- Costs for publishing and dissemination of project results
- Costs for organising meetings, seminars or conferences;
- Fees for participating in scientific forums and conferences;
- All other costs which are clearly required for the implementation of the project, are respectively identifiable and comply with the eligible costs as defined in the [Mobilitas Pluss decree](#).

**Subcontracting costs** should cover only additional or complementary tasks (e.g. costs for translation, analyses, etc.) to third parties. Core project research tasks should not be subcontracted. Subcontracting costs may not exceed 10% of the total costs.

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<sup>1</sup> Comprising basic monthly salary plus social security charges and other statutory costs.

Only costs which have been made between the start date and the end date of the project (not later than 31.12.2022) are eligible.

### **3.2 Indirect costs**

Indirect costs of the project amount to 15% of eligible **direct personnel costs** and should cover general expenses of the Host Institution and the Council. Two thirds (2/3) of the indirect costs will go to the Host Institution and one third (1/3) will be kept by the Council for checking the compliance of the costs with the rules of the European Structural Funds.

Costs for equipment and services intended for public use (copying machine or printer publicly used, phone bills, copying service, etc.) must be covered from the indirect costs.

Participants' personal expenses or expenses not directly related to the project are not eligible.

### **3.3 Double funding**

Double funding of activities is not acceptable. If the project or parts of the project are already being funded from other sources or the Host Institution is currently applying for other funding for the same project, the Host Institution is required to provide this information.

## **4. Research involving human subjects or animal tests**

If human research or animal tests are intended in the project, a positive resolution by the human research ethics committee or the animal testing permits committee must be submitted to the Council by the time of commencement of the human research or animal testing.

## **5. Private enterprises**

In case the applicant is a private enterprise, the [state aid form](#) must be filled in. The enterprise can not have any tax arrears on the proposal submission date.