

On the basis of Article 7 of the Act on the Founding of "Ad futura, Science and Education Foundation of the Republic of Slovenia, Public Fund" (*Uradni list RS*, Nos.: 63/01, 78/01, 59/03), Ad futura hereby issues a

PUBLIC CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR RESEARCH WORK BY RESEARCHERS FROM ABROAD WHO ARE EITHER SLOVENE OR FOREIGN CITIZENS to a total value of SIT 47,000,000.00

1. Subject of the Call for Applications

The subject of this Call for Applications is a grant or subsidy to cover the living expenses of researchers who are either Slovene or foreign citizens for a period of three (3) to twelve (12) months of research work in the Republic of Slovenia.

The Call for Applications will open the day after it has been published in the *Uradni list* and will remain open until 31 October 2005, or until the funds have been exhausted.

Ad futura will co-finance the living expenses of the recipients of the funds to the amount of SIT 170,000.00 a month.

2. Conditions

Research organisations that fulfil the following conditions may apply:

- they are entered in the register of research organisations at the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport
- the applications are for researchers from abroad who are participating in projects and programmes that are already financed or co-financed by the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, by the Ministry of the Economy or by the EU framework programmes.

Priority will be given to projects important for technological development.

Organisations that wish to include young foreign researchers in research work as part of their master's or doctoral programme do not qualify for a grant or subsidy.

Conditions that must be fulfilled by the candidates:

- Slovene citizens must have worked in the area of research and development abroad for at least 3 years;
- candidates must have completed their doctorate. If a candidate has achieved exceptional results in his professional or scientific field, he or she may also have a master's degree;
- recipients of funds in accordance with the Call for Applications for subsidising the living expenses of researchers from abroad doing research work in the Republic of Slovenia to the total amount of SIT 48,000,000 (*Uradni list RS*, 127/2003) do not qualify for a grant or subsidy, except for those who received funds for a period of three (3) months only.

3. Criteria for the assessment of applications

The criteria for granting a subsidy are:

- the scientific success of the project leader,
- the scientific success or the knowledge and experience of the foreign researcher.

The foreign researcher must contribute new knowledge, research methods or techniques, thus contributing towards the more successful realisation of the goals set by the project.

4. Application and documentation required

An application must contain a fully completed and signed application form plus:

- a photocopy of the valid passport belonging to the foreign researcher (the page with personal data and the page with the residence permit for the duration of the research work)
- a certificate of permanent or temporary residence or a certificate from an employer that shows that the Slovene researcher has been working abroad for more than 3 years.

5. Processing applications

Applications will be dealt with on an on-going basis, while the allocation of funds is carried out by special evaluators. The outcome of the call and the selection of candidates will be issued in the form of a decision. Decisions are executable when they become final, i.e. after the expiry of the deadline for appeals, which is 15 days. Subsequent to this, the applicants will receive a financing agreement for signature, following which Ad futura will transfer the approved sum to their business account.

After the research work for which a subsidy was granted has been completed, applicants must submit written confirmation of the obligations carried out by the researcher in question.

6. Deadline and how applications should be submitted

Applicants should send the application form, together with all the required documents, to Ad futura, Kotnikova 34, 1000 Ljubljana (adding: za 10.razpis), as well as sending the completed application form only to the following e-mail address: raziskovalci@ad-futura.si. The period of collecting applications starts the day after this Call for Applications is published in the *Uradni list RS* and lasts until and including 31 October 2005, or until the funds have been exhausted.

The documentation will be deemed to have been submitted in time if:

- it is sent by ordinary post so that it is delivered to Ad futura on the day of the deadline at the latest,
- it is sent by registered mail on the day of the deadline at the latest, whereby the date on the postal stamp is taken into account,
- it is handed, during office hours, to an official person at the Ad futura seat on the day of the deadline at the latest.

7. Accessibility of documentation related to this Call for Applications

The application form can be obtained from the Ad futura web site or at the Ad futura seat during office hours, which are from Monday to Friday, 12.00 till 15.00. Additional information can be obtained in person or on the telephone during office hours, and by e-mail.

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