

Regulations of the Foundation for Polish Science's IDEAS FOR POLAND Programme

The Foundation for Polish Science is implementing its Ideas for Poland programme (hereafter referred to as the Programme) with the aim of encouraging outstanding young scientists from all over the world, winners in the European Research Council's Starting Grant competitions (hereafter referred to as the Starting Grant), to begin or continue work in Poland and carry out research programmes at Polish research units.

Under the programme, the Foundation for Polish Science awards research grants to Starting Grant recipients who choose Poland as the location for utilizing their grant. The programme is addressed to persons whose earlier scientific achievements and output testify to their scientific independence and offer a guarantee that the research will be of the highest world standard.

§ 1

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. The aim of the Programme is to encourage young scientists - winners in the European Research Council's Starting Grant competition - to work in Poland, by awarding them research grants by way of a competition.
2. A researcher may apply for the research grant immediately upon obtaining a Starting Grant or during its implementation, but no later than 24 months before the end of implementation.
3. The Programme is addressed to young researchers who fulfil the following conditions:
 - a. they have obtained a European Research Council Starting Grant,
 - b. they are active researchers and achieve significant scientific results,
 - c. they intend to head or already head a research team at a national school of higher learning or other institution whose statutory goals include research.
4. The research grant awarded under the Programme is composed of a scientific grant for the recipient and a subvention.
5. The research grant is awarded for a maximum of six years, but may not continue for more than two years from the end of the Starting Grant's implementation.

§ 2

COMPETITION RULES

1. The Programme is implemented in the form of an open competition covering all fields of science, and applications are accepted continually.
2. Persons applying for a research grant in the IDEAS FOR POLAND programme should register and submit their application by filling out the appropriate form available on the Foundation's website and adding the required attachments.
3. The list of attachments is provided in the *Rules for awarding scientific grants in the IDEAS FOR POLAND programme*.
4. An application may be withdrawn upon the applicant's request in writing at any stage of the competition procedure.
5. Applications submitted to the Foundation are subject to formal and merit evaluation.
6. To carry out the merit evaluation, the Foundation Board appoints independent reviewers whose names are kept confidential.
7. The criteria of the merit evaluation are set down in the *Rules for awarding scientific grants in the IDEAS FOR POLAND programme*.
8. The decision to award a grant is made by the Foundation Board based on the reviewers' evaluations.

9. The Foundation will inform candidates of the competition results in writing. A list of winners with information on their scientific achievements and research career will be published on the Foundation's website; such information may also be published through other media.

§ 3

GRANT IMPLEMENTATION RULES

1. Recipients under the Programme have the right to a scientific grant and a subvention awarded as a one-time grant in an amount set by the Foundation Board and made public.
2. Payment of the scientific grant part takes place on the basis of a grant agreement concluded between the Foundation and the recipient. The agreement specifies the terms of payment and grant implementation as well as the rights and obligations of the parties.
3. Payment of the subvention part takes place on the basis of an agreement concluded between the Foundation, the recipient and the research unit employing the recipient in Poland. The agreement specifies the terms of payment and implementation of the subvention as well as the rights and obligations of the parties.
4. The funding transferred in the subvention part remains at the sole disposal of the programme recipient.
5. Recipients are obligated to utilize the funding awarded by the Foundation in the subvention part in an economical way, taking advantage of all means to reduce costs.
6. Recipients under the programme have the right to take part in other competitions organized by the Foundation. However, they may not receive a grant or other form of remuneration from two Foundation programmes at the same time. In such a case, the recipient must decide which programme will finance the recipient's own staff costs.
7. During performance of the agreements, recipients must comply with binding legal regulations, and in particular obtain any permits required by the appropriate official bodies.
8. The research unit in Poland employing the recipient is obligated to respect the recipient's autonomy in accordance with the terms of that person's Starting Grant and to ensure proper conditions for conducting research in accordance with the scope presented in the application to the present programme as well as providing access to research apparatus.
9. The Foundation reserves the right to change its decision and to demand reimbursement of transferred funding in cases of violation of the terms of utilizing the grant as specified in the agreement, and in particular when the funding received is not used for the specified purpose or when the recipient fails to meet his or her obligations within the time specified.

§ 4

CONCLUDING PROVISIONS

1. The regulations were adopted by the Foundation Board on 1 April 2009.
2. Any changes to the present regulations may be made under the same procedure as they were adopted.
3. The present regulations come into force on the date when the Minister of Science and Higher Education issues a decision approving the rules for awarding scientific grants in the present programme.