MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, YOUTH AND SPORTS

Bayerisch-Tschechische Hochschulagentur
Česko-bavorská vysokoškolská agentura

CALL FOR PROPOSALS
FOR JOINT CZECH-BAVARIAN RESEARCH PROJECTS
2018–2020

Application deadline: 31 August 2017
Maximum financial support: € 75,000 / 3 years / Czech-Bavarian project
(cumulative in Bavaria and Czech Republic)

This Call has been launched on the basis of the Joint Declaration of Intent on Scientific Cooperation between the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic and the Bavarian State Ministry for Education, Science and the Arts, signed on 3 July 2014 in Prague, and has been published in accordance with Act No 130/2002 Coll., on promoting research, experimental development and innovation from public funds and amending certain related acts (the Act on Promoting Research, Experimental Development and Innovation), as amended.

Objectives of the Call:

- Promoting the development of cross-border cooperation;
- Contributing to scientific progress in the Czech Republic and the Free State of Bavaria through the funding of joint projects;
- Providing young researchers from the countries above with the opportunity to cooperate internationally, thus developing their scientific careers.

Areas of cooperation

The Call is open for all scientific disciplines and thematic areas of basic and applied research. Medical science and healthcare projects, as well as materials sciences projects are particularly welcome.

Project implementation period

Projects with the maximum realisation period of 3 years, from January 2018 to December 2020, will be supported.

Who can apply?

Researchers (starting from Ph.D. level) from Bavarian state-run / church-aided and state-approved universities and universities of applied sciences can apply for a project contribution in Bavaria.[i]

Only research organisations under Article 1.3. ee) Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation (2014/C 198/01)[ii] can apply for institutional support in the Czech Republic. The support provider/granting authority reserves the right to request additional evidence of compliance with the criteria that the research organisation has to meet.

How to submit a project proposal?

Applicants themselves have to find a cooperating foreign partner. A proposal for a joint research project must be submitted in parallel by the Czech applicant in the Czech Republic and the Bavarian applicant in the Free State of Bavaria in compliance with the criteria defined by the support providers/granting authorities. The thematic and content focus of a joint research project submitted separately by the Czech members of the team carrying out the project in the Czech Republic and the Bavarian members of the team carrying out the project in Bavaria must be identical.

The proposal for a joint research project must always include, in both the Czech Republic and Bavaria, just a single project leader even if a greater number of cooperating institutions are involved in the project in the Czech Republic or Bavaria.[i/ii]

Applicants in the Czech Republic must deliver a complete proposal for a joint research project, including all annexes, in paper form, as well as in electronic form saved in common media (CD/USB) enclosed with the paper form of the project proposal, by a postal service operator as registered mail (postal stamp with **31 August 2017** as the latest possible date of submission) or by person until 31 August 2017, 2:00 p.m., to the address below:

Ministerstvo školství, mládeže a tělovýchovy
Odbor strategických programů a projektů – O33
Karmelitská 529/5
118 12 Praha 1 – Malá Strana

(the envelope must be labelled: „NEOTVÍRAT! VÝZVA ČESKO-BAVORSKO 2018-2020“)
More information for applicants from the Czech Republic is available in the Czech Guide for applicants from the Czech Republic.

Applicants in Bavaria must send a complete proposal for a joint research project, including all annexes, in electronic form, as well as in paper form, at the latest **by 31 August 2017** (postal date stamp) to the address below:
Bayerisch-Tschechische Hochschulagentur
BTHA / BAYHOST
Universität Regensburg
Universitätsstr. 31
93053 Regensburg
More information for applicants from Bavaria is available in the Annex Hinweise für bayerische Antragsteller.

Which activities can be funded?

Costs already funded from other financial resources are not eligible.

The purpose of this Call is to promote the bilateral cooperation of researchers between the participating countries in carrying out their joint science and technology projects. The support will be provided to cover eligible costs[i/ii], specifically expenses such as personnel costs (only for young researchers within 7 years after they successfully complete their tertiary education), mobility, other costs and services[i/ii], as well as indirect costs[ii] (only for applicants from the Czech Republic). Students may be included in the bilateral cooperation, Expenses for student exchange in the framework of the project might be covered as well.

What are the project's eligible costs?

The eligible costs of the projects represent such costs that are used for the sole purpose of achieving the objectives of the project, are necessary for the project implementation and comply with this Call.

Eligible costs must be adequate to the activities specified in the project proposal, must correspond to the prices usual in the place and at the time concerned, and their spending must be economical (cost minimisation while meeting the project objectives), effective (direct association with the project and necessity for the project implementation) and efficient (maximisation of the ratio between the project outputs and inputs).

More information for applicants from the Czech Republic is available in the Czech Guide for applicants.

More information for applicants from Bavaria is available in the Annex Hinweise für bayerische Antragsteller.

Financial limits

Maximum project contribution for applicants in the Czech Republic *(project contribution for one year)*	**€ 37,500.00** (€ 12,500.00 / year)
Maximum project contribution for applicants in Bavaria *(project contribution for one year)*	**€ 37,500.00** (€ 12,500.00 / year)
Maximum project contribution in the Czech Republic and Bavaria overall *(project contribution for one year)*	**€ 75,000.00** (€ 25,000.00 / year)

In Bavaria and in the Czech Republic, the co-financing of the project costs by the applicant or the project co-funding from other resources would be appreciated.

NOTICE:

Only joint projects not exceeding three years, prepared by at least one applicant from Bavaria and one applicant from the Czech Republic, may be funded.
Only projects complying with the guidelines in this Call may be funded.
The preparation of a technical report and a financial report is mandatory.

How will the applications be evaluated?

After the closing date of the Call specified below, the project proposals will be assessed, in compliance with the Call and with regard to the criteria specified below, by the Bavarian-Czech Academic Agency (BTHA) and the Bavarian Academic Centre for Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe (BAYHOST) in Bavaria, and submitted for peer-review to recognised national experts from various areas of research in the Czech Republic. These experts will evaluate each proposal according to the following criteria:

- scientific value of the submitted research project **(0-25 points)**
- feasibility of the joint research plan and adequacy of the scientific method **(0-15 points)**
- competence and expertise of the team carrying out the project **(0-20 points)**

- expected value added as a result of the multilateral research cooperation **(0-15 points)**
- potential for further international cooperation in the future **(0-25 points)**

Following the results of national evaluations, the projects to be supported will be selected jointly – through consultations between the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and BTHA. The results of the meetings concerning the selection of the projects will most likely be announced in December 2017.

Project monitoring and reports

- The final technical report and financial report must be submitted by all project partners to the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and to the BTHA - at the latest within 4 weeks after the project ends.
- The report must include project outputs compared to the objectives and aims of the project proposal.

Further reporting obligations for applicant from Czech republic are set in the Czech Guide for applicants.
The Czech version of the evaluation report form will be available on the website of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports at:
http://www.msmt.cz/vyzkum-a-vyvoj-2/cesko-bavorska-spoluprace-ve-vav.

The report form for Bavarian applicants will be published at www.btha.de.

Intellectual property

Researchers from each country must take appropriate steps to protect and share the intellectual property that may arise from their joint projects.

Closing date for application submissions

The applications must be submitted at the latest by **31 August 2017 (postal date stamp or personal delivery)**.

Applications received after that date will not be forwarded for further evaluation.

Please note that neither the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports nor the BTHA shall be held liable for any projects that have not been accepted. Proposers are encouraged to ensure that the applications from their research partners are also submitted to MEYS or BTHA in time.

Where to obtain more information?

Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
Department of Strategic Programmes and Projects
R&D&I Programme Management Unit
Mgr. Terezie Valová
Ministerial Counsel
Ministerstvo školství, mládeže a tělovýchovy
Karmelitská 529/5, Malá Strana
CZ-118 12 Praha 1
Office:
Jankovcova 933/63, Holešovice
CZ-170 00 Praha 7
Phone: 234 812 915
Terezie.Valova@msmt.cz
www.msmt.cz

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sekretariat@btha.de
www.btha.de

[i] See the Annex ***Hinweise für bayerische Antragsteller.***
[ii] See the ***Czech Guide for applicants.***