



PROGRAMME Knowledge Transfer Partnership – Call III

The objective of the programme is to enhance interaction among businesses and research and knowledge-dissemination organisation and greater openness of universities to cooperation with the business sector.

SCHEDULE

Receipt of applications for support:

- 14. 7. 2017 – 13. 10. 2017

SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

The supported activity is establishment of partnership between a small and medium-sized enterprise and a research and knowledge-dissemination organisation ("knowledge organisation") for the purpose of transfer of knowledge, related technologies and skills to which the enterprise does not have access. Knowledge transfer is carried out with the participation of a graduate of the Master's or doctoral studies directly in the premises of the enterprise under the supervision of a selected expert centre.

The project must focus on at least one of the following activities and must be of strategic importance for further development of the enterprise:

- Improvement of production processes.
- Development/innovation of new products and services or process innovation in the development and introduction of new products and services.
- Improvement of business processes including the process of product certification.

APPLICANT

The applicant/ beneficiary may be a business entity that:

- is a small or medium-sized enterprise or a research and knowledge-dissemination organisation (i.e. entities meeting the definition of a research and knowledge-dissemination organisation under par. 1.3(ee) of the Communication from the Commission — Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation (2014/C 198/01).
- For the purposes of this Call, a small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) is understood as an entrepreneur meeting the conditions set out in Recommendation 2003/361/EC.
- is registered, according to the applicant's sworn declaration, as an income tax payer in any of the EU member states, and has been so continuously for at least two closed tax periods preceding the date of filing the application for support; the applicant notes that it will have to have an

establishment or a branch established in the Czech Republic at the moment of receiving the support;

- is not, based on its sworn declaration, in arrears to selected institutions in the country of its registration, or in the country where its branch is registered, and to providers of support from projects co-financed from the EU budget;
- does not have any outstanding liabilities, according to its sworn declaration, based on its employees' wage and salary claims;
- The applicant is the business entity that is a small or medium-sized enterprise and the Grant Decision is issued for such applicant. The research and knowledge-dissemination organisation is the recipient of the support, which will receive the grant through the business entity as an intermediary and based on conditions set out in the concluded partnership contract between the business entity and the research and knowledge-dissemination organisation.

SECTORAL DEFINITION

- The aid shall support projects with outputs affecting the sectors defined by CZ-NACE C 10, 11, 13 – 33, E 38.32, J 58, 59, 60, 62, 63. Sections CZ-NACE M 71.2, 72, 73.2, 74.1 S 95.1 may be supported as secondary outputs of the project.
- The aid shall not be provided to projects with outputs affecting any of the below stated sectors:
 - production, processing and marketing of products listed in Annex I to the Treaty,
 - agriculture, forestry, fishing, aquaculture in accordance with Council Regulation (EC) No 1379/2013.

KEY CONDITIONS OF THE CALL

- The project must be implemented in the Czech Republic outside the City of Prague, the location of the establishment of the enterprise where the project is to be implemented is decisive.
- The applicant must clearly demonstrate ownership or other rights to buildings and land plots, where the project will be implemented.
- The project must include all mandatory elements listed in the Call for submission.
- The project does not expect any aid for activities linked to the quantities exported (export subsidies), aid for the establishment and operation of a distribution network abroad or for other current expenditure linked to the export activity (customs duties, insurance, etc.) or any aid contingent upon the use of domestic goods instead of imported goods.
- The project has not started before the date of filing the application.
- The project must not violate EU horizontal policies and their basic principles such as equal opportunities for men and women, non-discrimination and sustainable development.
- The objectives of the project must comply with the objectives of the aid programme and of the Call.
- Compliance of the project with the National Research and Innovation Strategy for Smart Specialisation of the Czech Republic will be verified as part of the project appraisal in terms of meeting the evaluation criteria defined in this Call.
- All profit from knowledge transfer carried out by the research and knowledge-dissemination organisation must be reinvested in the principal activity of the organisation.

- Each applicant (each Id. No.) shall be entitled to submit max. 2 projects (i.e. 2 active grant applications where the applicant is marked as the beneficiary. Knowledge Organisations may participate in several partnership based on their own capacities.
- The enterprise and the Knowledge Organisation must not be interconnected economically or personally.

ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE

- For small and medium-sized enterprises: hardware and networks, machinery and equipment, software and data, wages and contributions, travel costs, material.
- For a Knowledge Organisation: wages and contributions, travel costs, workshops and seminars, services of experts, access to information, databases.
- Moreover, knowledge organisations may submit indirect (overhead) expenditure at a flat rate of up to 15% of budget item Wages and contributions (does not include wages and contributions of the SME). Eligible expenditure for indirect expenditure is: personnel costs of administration staff, cost of use of university facilities, accounting, phone fees, network deliveries, consumables, cost of organisation of workshops, mandatory publicity.

THE FORM AND AMOUNT OF AID

- The project subsidy shall be provided at the minimum amount of CZK 500 thousand and up to the maximum amount of CZK 5 million.
- The aid intensity is maximum 70% of the eligible expenditure for all types of applicants.
- The SME must provide to the partner organisation a financial contribution of at least 30% of the eligible expenditure of the partner organisation associated with the project, either from its own resources or through external financing, and in a form which does not include any state aid.
- In the case of SMEs, grant will be provided only in the de minimis regime.