



# Innovation vouchers - Protection of industrial property rights - Call III

The main goal of the Innovation Vouchers call is to strengthen the innovation performance of domestic companies and increase their competitiveness on the market.

## TIMETABLE

### Receipt of grant applications:

- 19.03.2024 - 31.12.2025

## SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

Ensuring protection of industrial property rights in the Czech Republic and abroad through:

- publication of invention applications,
- registration of utility models,
- registration of designs,
- registration of trademarks.

## THE APPLICANT

- is a **natural person or legal entity** pursuing business, that has been assigned a **Czech ID number** and is **authorized to do business**<sup>1</sup>.
- is authorized to run a business activity corresponding to an **economic activity**<sup>2</sup> not listed in the Call Annex entitled Unsupported CZ – NACE categories.
- provided **the data to the extent required in Section 14, paragraph 3, letter e) of Act No 218/2000 Coll.**, the Act on Budgetary Rules and amending certain related acts, as amended:

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<sup>1</sup> This is a trade license or license to do business according to other legal regulations (unless otherwise stated in the Rules for Applicants and Beneficiaries of OP TAC - specific part).

<sup>2</sup> In the application in IS KP21+, the applicant indicated the CZ-NACE in which the project is implemented, which corresponds to the activity recorded in the public registers. The registered CZ-NACE must not be listed in the Call Annex titled "Unsupported CZ-NACE".

- in IS KP21+, it entered information on the identification of persons acting on behalf of the applicant, indicating whether they act as its statutory body or whether these persons act on the basis of a granted power of attorney,
  - has registered the real owners of the legal entity in accordance with Act No 37/2021 Coll., on the registration of real owners (fulfilment of the condition will be verified by IB),
  - in IS KP21+, it entered information on the identification of the entities in which it has a share and the amount of this share.
- According to its sworn statement, it **is not in liquidation**.
  - According to its sworn statement, it has been registered as an income tax payer in the Czech Republic, continuously for at least two tax periods<sup>3</sup> preceding the date of submission of the grant application.

## TERRITORIAL FOCUS

- Target territory: The territory of the Czech Republic, except NUTS 2 Prague
- The territorial eligibility is not assessed based on the registered office of the applicant (beneficiary) but based on the actual place of project implementation, i.e. the territory where the physical implementation takes place and the project expenses are incurred.

## MAIN CONDITIONS OF THE CALL

- The project must not violate horizontal EU policies and their basic principles. In particular, the project must comply:
  - with principles of non-discrimination (primarily non-discrimination based on race, gender, religion, ethnic origin, disability, age or sexual orientation),
  - with the principles of sustainable development,
  - with the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.
- The project objectives shall be in line with the objectives of the operational programme and the Call.
- Grant applications of applicants who have submitted a similar active project (in any PP status) under OP PIC will not be approved in the phase of appraisal of formal requirements and eligibility, unless the applicant has withdrawn from the project. A similar project is a project that has the same place of implementation (up to the level of the municipality), similar activities and a similar amount of budget and its structure. The aim of the above-mentioned measure is to prevent blocking of budget funds by the fact that the still unfinished project proposals from OP EIC are submitted again in an identical wording, or slightly modified, in OP TAC. The applicant must choose whether it can realistically complete the project in OP EIC, or whether it will end the administration of this project and submit the project proposal in OP TAC.

## ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE

- Patent agent services<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> This is a tax period according to Section 16b for natural persons / Section 21a for legal entities of Act No 586/1992 Coll., on income taxes.

<sup>4</sup> In accordance with Section 2 and related sections of Act No 417/2004 Coll., the Act on Patent Agents and amending the Act on Measures to Protect Industrial Property.

## FORM AND AMOUNT OF AID

- The aid is provided in the form of a grant.
- The grant for the project is provided in the amount of at least CZK 50 000<sup>5</sup> and up to a maximum of CZK 500 000.
- The aid will be paid in accordance with the "Rules for the co-financing of the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, the Cohesion Fund, the Just Transition Fund, the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund, the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Internal Security Fund and the Instrument for financial support for border management and visas for the 2021-2027 programming period<sup>6</sup>" and will be reimbursed **retrospectively after the end of the project** or its stage (if the project is staged in accordance with the Rules for applicants and beneficiaries - general part) provided that the conditions of the Decision are met.
- The beneficiary is obliged to ensure the financing of expenses for the implementation of the project, including VAT.
- The aid may not be provided for the same project expenses for which other aid from public sources has already been or will be provided, including an aid from Union funds that are centrally managed by bodies, agencies, joint ventures and other Union entities and that are not directly or indirectly under control of member states.
- The aid may not be provided to a beneficiary who has an unpaid obligation arising from a recovery order issued after a previous decision of the Commission declaring that the aid received from a provider from the Czech Republic is illegal and incompatible with the internal market.

Type of entity	EU share <sup>7</sup>
Small and medium-sized enterprise	75%
Research and knowledge dissemination organisation	75%

<sup>5</sup> Valid at the stage of approval by the selection committee.

<sup>6</sup> Document of the Ministry of Finance approved by the Government of the Czech Republic in Resolution No 354 of 12 April 2021.

<sup>7</sup>The remaining part of the funding will be covered from the beneficiary's resources.