Reference Documents:
Law No. 1/2011 regarding national education, with subsequent amendments and completions
Charter of George Emil Palade University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Science, and Technology of Târgu Mureș
Law No. 206/2004 regarding good conduct in scientific research, technological development and innovation, with subsequent amendments and completions
Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct for George Emil Palade University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Science, and Technology of Târgu Mureș
Code of Students’ Rights and Responsibilities of George Emil Palade University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Science, and Technology of Târgu Mureș
Law No. 500/2002 on public finances

METHODOLOGY FOR FINANCING GRANTS FOR INITIATION IN SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH WITHIN JUNIOR RESEARCHER ACADEMY

Regulation Code: UMFST-REG-106
Edition 01

Drafted by: Assoc. prof. Peter Olah PhD.
Vice-rector for Scientific Research and Innovation
Date: September 10, 2020

Approved: Administrative Board
Date: September 21, 2020

Effective date: September 22, 2020
Date of withdrawal:
Chapter I. General Provisions/The Purpose of Methodology

Art. 1. The present methodology establishes the way the Internal competition for granting financing for initiation in scientific research within Junior Researcher Academy (MFGI JRA) is performed, organised by George Emil Palade University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Science, and Technology of Târgu Mureș (hereinafter UMFST G.E. Palade Tg. Mureș).

Chapter II. Field of Application

Art. 2. The methodology is applied in Internal competition for granting financing in the scope of performing grants of initiation in scientific research within the Junior Researcher Academy organised by UMFST G.E. Palade Tg. Mureș. The methodology is available for bachelor’s and master’s degree students from UMFST G.E. Palade Tg. Mureș, who have the status of Junior Researcher (hereinafter JR) – Involved level.

Chapter III. Description of the Methodology

Art. 3. Objectives:

The Internal competition for financing initiation grants in scientific research within Junior Researcher Academy (JRA) organised by UMFST G.E. Palade Tg. Mureș, has the following objectives:

- encouraging JRA members to document and identify research / innovation topics of interest in the areas set forth within the bachelor’s/master’s programme;

- supporting JRA members in obtaining knowledge and experience in writing applications for funding and participation in competitions;

- supporting JRA members in obtaining knowledge and experience in implementing grants of scientific research, including acquaintance with specific administrative processes;

- supporting JRA members in obtaining knowledge and experience in dissemination of research results by taking part in conferences and publishing scientific papers.

Art. 4. Eligibility Criteria (cumulative criteria):

- the beneficiary of the grant has a status of bachelor’s or master’s student at the UMFST G.E. Palade Tg. Mureș and is member of the Junior Researcher Academy, level Involved;

- the beneficiary of the proposed grant is coordinated within the grant by a tutor, employee of the UMFST G.E. Palade Tg. Mureș, who has any of these positions: University Assistant, Head of Works / University Lecturer, Research Assistant, Scientific Researcher, third degree Scientific Researcher;

- the beneficiary of the proposed grant has not implemented a JRA grant for Involved level members;

- the content of the proposed grant will represent a systematic review-type documentation of the specialty literature related to a specific topic.

Art. 5. Duration and value of the project:

1) The implementation period of the grant is 12 months starting with the 1st January the following year.

2) The amount of the awarded grant is maximum 500 EUR, equivalent in RON, at the BNR exchange rate on the date of signing the financing contract.
Art. 6. Eligible Expenses:

1) Eligible expenses within the project are:
   - logistics expenses – needed to execute the grant: access to specialised publications in the field of the grant (book, magazines and other subscriptions), publication fees;
   - mobility expenses – taking part in national and international scientific events (expenses with transport, accommodation, participation fee);
   - overheads expenses – 10% out of the total value of the project.

2) Salary expenses are not eligible. Subcontracting costs are not eligible. The purchase of consumables, equipment or inventory items is not eligible.

3) During the implementation of the project redistributions between budget chapters (logistics expenses and mobility expenses) are allowed in a limit of 15% out of the total budget of the project.

Art. 7. Submission, Evaluation and Selection of Grant Proposals:

1) Submission of Grants – Grant proposal will be submitted exclusively in an electronic format, in November each year, according to the calendar that shall be published on the UMFST website, section JRA – Involved level. Applicants are required to send to jra_granturi_initiere@umfst.ro the following documents:
   - grant application, filled out in accordance with Annex 01, in English (as unprotected PDF file – a PDF file generated from an editable file, not a scanned document);
   - declarations filled out according to Annexes 03 and 04 (signed and scanned);
   - Certificate issued by the Dean’s Office confirming the applicant’s student statute and enrollment in the current academic year as bachelor’s or master’s student, as well as the fact that the applicant has not repeated any year of study due to the accumulation of an insufficient number of ECTS for promotion (signed and scanned).

Failure to comply with the drafting criteria set out in Annex 01, including the maximum number of characters/pages, renders the application INELIGIBLE.

2) Eligibility Check – The received project proposals are administratively checked by the Validation Committee of the JRA in order to make sure all eligibility criteria are met. The grading is ELIGIBLE/INELIGIBLE. Projects that received the ELIGIBLE rating move forward to the evaluation process. The list of proposed projects deemed eligible is going to be published on the UMFST G.E. Palade Tg. Mureş website under section JRA Grants – Involved level. Objections regarding meeting eligibility criteria can be mailed to jra_granturi_initiere@umfst.ro within 3 working days from the publishing of the results.

3) Evaluation of Grants – Grants deemed eligible are evaluated by a panel of experts from UMFST G.E. Palade Tg. Mureş. Evaluation is going to include an interview as well, where the candidate is going to support the proposed project in front of a panel of experts.

4) Publishing the Results of Evaluation – The list of proposed projects and their scores shall be published in a descending order on the website of UMFST G.E. Palade Tg. Mureş, under section JRA Grants – Involved level.
5) Appeals – The beneficiary of the projects may file written appeals within 3 working days from the date of publishing the results. The subject of the appeals can exclusively be only procedural flaws that the candidate considers non-compliant with the provisions of the present methodology. The appeals cannot refer to scores and to the observations of the assessors. The appeals are going to be resolved by a Committee for appeals.

6) Financing – The list of the projects accepted for financing is established taking into consideration the allocated budget and the obtained scores. Projects that obtained a score less than 80 out of 100 are not going to be financed. The list of projects accepted for financing is going to be published on the website of UMFST G.E. Palade Tg. Mureș, under section JRA Grants – Involved level.

Art. 8. Indicators:

1) The indicators assumed by the beneficiary of the grants, that are going to be achieved in a mandatory fashion during the implementation of the project, are (cumulatively):
   - at least one participation at a scientific conference as first author, with a poster or presentation resulted from his activity within the grant;
   - at least one in extenso article resulted from the documentation carried out under the grant, published in a journal of the UMFST G.E. Palade Tg. Mureș, an external journal indexed in international databases (BDI), in an external journal indexed by Web of Science or in a volume of a scientific event. The documentation and the writing of the article are going to be carried out according to the specific methodology for one of the following article types: systematic review, state-of-the-art review, umbrella review, meta-analysis. The authorship of the published article shall be as follows: first author – beneficiary of the financing, second author – beneficiary’s tutor. The beneficiary of the financing will also play the role of corresponding author. No other persons are accepted in the list of authors.

2) For in extenso articles the official acceptance of publication is also taken into consideration.

3) At the end of the project implementation, within 30 days from the end of this period, the beneficiary of the grant shall make and present to JRA a Detailed Report concerning his activity.

4) Only in in extenso articles that mention at the Acknowledgments <<This work was supported by the George Emil Palade University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Science, and Technology of Târgu Mureș, Research Grant number ...>> or <<This paper was financially supported by the George Emil Palade University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Science, and Technology of Târgu Mureș, Research Grant number ...>> are taken into consideration.

5) Articles that have multiple sources of financing shall not be quantified.

6) Failure to achieve the indicators leads to the recovery of allocated sums.

7) The beneficiary of the grant is responsible for keeping the financial records of the project. Copies of all invoices are going to be filed to JRA grant file.

8) It is recommended that the drafting of the project to be made in accordance with the description of criteria used during evaluation (Annex 02).

Art. 9. Responsibilities and accountabilities during the activities:

Grant beneficiary – submits the proposed project;
JRA Validation Committee – verifies the eligibility of the projects from an administrative point of view;

Expert Assessors – evaluate the grants in a panel;

Committee for Resolving Appeals – resolves the appeals submitted by the applicants during the selection phase.

Art. 10. UCSDT/JRA can make revisions of the present methodology in accordance with newly identified needs or as a result of modifications in the legal framework.

The present methodology was approved by the Administrative Board of the George Emil Palade University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Science, and Technology of Târgu Mureș on the 21st September 2020 and comes into force on 22nd September 2020.

Annexes:

Annex 01: Grant Application for Initiation in Scientific Research within Junior Researcher Academy UMFST-REG-106-F01-Ed.01

Annex 02: Evaluation Criteria of the Proposed Projects UMFST-REG-106-F02-Ed.01

Annex 03: Declaration of non-financing from other sources UMFST-REG-106-F03-Ed.01

Annex 04: Declaration regarding the legality and accuracy of information UMFST-REG-106-F04-Ed.01
INTERNAL COMPETITION FOR INTRODUCTORY GRANTS IN SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH WITHIN JUNIOR RESEARCHER ACADEMY – EDITION 20...

GRANT APPLICATION FOR INITIATION IN SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH WITHIN JUNIOR RESEARCHER ACADEMY

PROJECT TEMPLATE - FOR INTRODUCTORY GRANT IN SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

1. Personal identification data of the beneficiary of the proposed grant
   1.1. Name
   1.2. Surname
   1.3. Date of birth (DD/MM/YYYY)
   1.4. Year of study
   1.5. Address
   1.6. Phone no.
   1.7. E-mail

2. Project title (max. 15 words)

3. Keywords (max. 5)
   
4. Project duration (max. 12 months)

5. Project objective(s) (max. 200 words)

6. Justification of the chosen topic (max. 200 words)
7. Current state of knowledge in the field at national and international level, according to the latest references in the literature (maximum 1 page)
8. Methodology for literature analysis and synthesis (maximum 1 page)
9. How you intend to capitalize on the knowledge gained about the chosen field, in particular in terms of the possibility of further research (maximum ½ page)


10. Justification of the requested budget (Details of what is to be purchased and of any mobility planned to be carried out)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget chapter / line</th>
<th>Justification</th>
<th>Estimated cost (in lei)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LOGISTICS EXPENSES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total logistics expenses</td>
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<td>MOBILITY EXPENSES</td>
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<td>Total mobility expenses</td>
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<td>OVERHEAD (10% of the TOTAL BUDGET)</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL ESTIMATED BUDGET</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

11. Bibliography

Date__________________ Project tutor,

Candidate's signature ______ Function, Name, First Name,

Signature ____________________
EVALUATION CRITERIA OF THE PROPOSED PROJECTS

I. Evaluation of the description of current stage knowledge in the targeted field – max. 30 points

The following aspect shall be assessed:
- candidate’s ability to identify relevant sources of the literature (level, topicality and relevancy of publications to which the description of current stage refers to) – maximum 15 points
- ability to synthesize information collected from bibliographic sources – maximum 15 points

II. Evaluation of the study design and of the research methodology – maximum 30 points

The following aspect shall be assessed:
- Explicit definition of the end goal – maximum 5 points
- Clarity and coherence of the description – maximum 10 points
- Consistency between the methodology of identification, selection and evaluation of literature and the objectives of the project – maximum 10 points
- Degree of topicality (the extent to which the proposed project involves an analysis of literature on an issue with current research potential) – maximum 5 points

III. Evaluation of the predicted impact of the proposed direction of research – maximum 20 points

The following aspect shall be assessed:
- The importance of the problem approached by the direction of the proposed research – maximum 10 points
- Practical applicability aspect, the way in which the proposed research direction can materialise in the future – maximum 10 points

V. Evaluation of use of resources – maximum 20 points

The following aspect shall be assessed:
- How suitable are the proposed resources in relation to the objectives of the project? - maximum 10 points
- Suitable dimensioning of budget headings and the degree of detailing of estimated expenses – maximum 10 points
DECLARATION OF NON-FINANCING FROM OTHER SOURCES

The undersigned ……………………………………………………………….., as beneficiary of the grant I hereby declare on my own responsibility that the activities and works of the project titled:

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submitted within the Internal competition for granting financing in the scope of implementing initiation grants in scientific research within Junior Researcher Academy edition ………………. , organised by George Emil Palade University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Science, and Technology of Târgu Mureș, are not and have not been financed from other sources,

DATE:

Signature:
DECLARATION REGARDING THE LEGALITY AND ACCURACY
OF INFORMATION

The undersigned ................................................................., as beneficiary of the grant with the title:

“...........................................................................................
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.................................................................................................” submitted within the Internal competition for granting financing in the scope of implementing initiation grants in scientific research within Junior Researcher Academy edition ................., organised by George Emil Palade University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Science, and Technology of Târgu Mureș, I hereby certify on my own responsibility the legality and accuracy of the information included in the application for financing.

DATE:

Signature: