

Centres of Excellence funding information session

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A Centre of Excellence is a scientific consortium which aims to develop the **cooperation and joint activities** of **exceptionally high-level** Estonian research groups. The Centre of Excellence focusses on solving high-risk, high-reward research questions **based on the needs of Estonia**. High-risk, high-reward research leads to a breakthrough research result that significantly affects the current knowledge or practices of one or more fields.



REQUIREMENTS

EVALUATION

APPLICATION

Duration and amount: 7 million euros for 7 years per Centre of Excellence (01.01.2024–31.12.2030)

Who can apply: positively evaluated state or public research and development institution whose research group(s) participate in the application

The call period: deadline for submitting a statement to begin the application is 30.06.2023 (to Mariann.proos@etag.ee). Application deadline is 15.09.2023. Funding decisions will be announced in December.

The statement should contain:

- the preliminary name of the Centre of Excellence (in Estonian and English)
- a preliminary English summary
- **name of the PI** along with participating partners
- keywords in English (3–6)

REQUIREMENTS FOR FORMING A CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

APPLICANT + 1 STATE OR PUBLIC R&D INSTITUTION

+ other non-obligatory partners

3 RESEARCH GROUPS

- + positively evaluated private R&D institutions
- + other research groups or R&D staff from public institutions

NB! Institutions which are not positively evaluated may be included as partners, but their costs cannot be covered from the Centre of Excellence's budget.

RESEARCH GROUPS AND PI-S

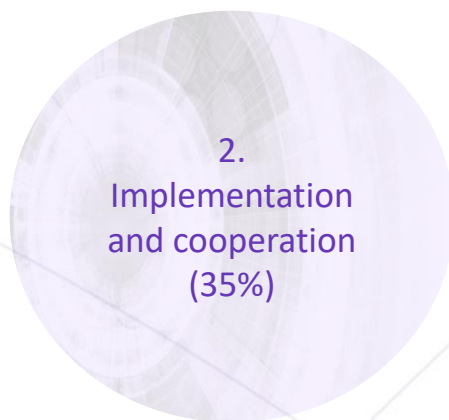
The research group must have ongoing funding in 2023. Ongoing projects are projects with an end date on or after the CoE call opening date (22.05.2023) or projects which start in 2023 after May 22, but where the funding decision is made at the latest on 15.09.2023 (deadline for applications). The duration of the project must be at least two years, and the funding must be at least 210,000 euros.

The project must be registered in ETIS. The amount of 210,000 must be grant as a whole, i.e. you cannot combine different funding sources into one larger project.

If the project ends in 2023, the institution must guarantee additional funding for the research group for the year 2024 in the amount of 70,000 euros (guarantee letter must be presented with the application).

The PI of the Centre of Excellence has to be the PI of one of the participating research groups.

The PI of the Centre of Excellence and the PI-s of the research groups included in the application must have a doctorate. They must be at an internationally high level in their field, have experience in conducting research and managing R&D projects, or have corresponding qualifications. **Each PI and research group PI can participate in only one application.** There are no participation restrictions for other research staff.



Expert Panel of Foreign Experts

Expert Panel of Local Experts



For the final ranking list, ETAG will sum up scores from each criteria which have been multiplied with the relevant coefficients.

Only applications which have received at least 4,0 points (before applying the coefficients) in each individual criterion will be placed in the ranking list.

Up to double the total funding amount worth of applications (98 million euros) is forwarded to the ethics and data management expert panel.

All applications that are forwarded to the ethics and data management expert panel will also be forwarded to the Selection Committee.

PRINCIPLES OF EVALUATION

In evaluating the applications, the selection criteria and sub-criteria must be followed, and the scores must be justified. (See the evaluation guidelines!)

In selection criteria 1, 2, and 3, the evaluation scale is 1 to 5, with a 0,5 step.

Research ethics and data management evaluation scale is „appropriate“ – „conditionally appropriate“.

The Selection Committee will base their decisions on the following:

- Final scores of the applications
- The Selection Committee will consider that the approved Centres of Excellence should cover the development needs of Estonia's long-term development strategy "Estonia 2035", and, if relevant, the focus areas of the RDIE Strategy as widely as possible
- Presentations made by the PI-s of the Centres of Excellence

The ranking list is **not binding** for the Selection Committee.

General information

Name of the Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Estonian * Tippude tipp

Name of the CoE in English * Excellent Centre of Excellence

Acronym * ExEx

Project start (dd.mm.yyyy) * 01.01.2024

Project end (dd.mm.yyyy) * 31.12.2024

Principal investigator of the CoE Mariann Proos ← NOT POSSIBLE TO CHANGE

Affiliation of the principal investigator * Tartu Ülikool

Lead institution * Q

- Tartu Ülikool ✘

Requested grant amount 0 EUR ← IS AUTOMATICALLY CALCULATED FROM THE BUDGET TAB



Partners

Partners Q

- Tartu Ülikool ✘
- Eesti Maaülikool ✘

Confirmation letter Tiri fail siia kasti või vajuta laadimise nuppu (max 15 MB) ← CONFIRMATION LETTERS FROM THE PARTNERS

List of research groups [Add new research group](#) ← **ADDING RESEARCH GROUPS**

Name of the research group	Principal investigator of the research group	Institution	CV
Uurimisrühm Üks	Proos, Mariann		↓ ×
Uurimisrühm Kaks	Post, Helen		↑ ↓ ×
Uurimisrühm Kolm	Kukk, Kristi		↑ ×

Add new research group

Lisa uurimisrühm

Name of the research group *

Group leader * Q x

Institution * Q

Salvesta

Open / close all groups

Uurimisrühm Üks [Open / close group data](#)

Uurimisrühm Kaks [Open / close group data](#)

Uurimisrühm Kolm [Open / close group data](#)

ADDING RESEARCH GROUPS' INFO

Please confirm your CV 1

Excellent Centre of Excellence

Uurimisrühm Üks [Open / close group data](#)

Name of the research group * Uurimisrühm Üks

Principal investigator of the research group * Mariann Proos

Institution *

- Sihtasutus Eesti Teadusagentuur

Please describe the expertise of the research group and its unique contribution to the CoE * Maksimaalne pikkus on 5000 tähemärki (sh tühikud). Kasutamata tähemärke on veel (sh tühikud): 5000

PROJECTS: Please add the qualifying project here. You can also add other projects to showcase the expertise of the group. In the latter case, please only include projects from 2018–2023

Related projects Sirvi andmebaasist

Research staff Lisa uus

STAFF: The staff does not need to be the same as the staff of the qualifying project. For example, if the qualifying project is a PRG, you do not need to include all staff members to the CoE. You can also add additional members from your institution to the group. In that case, we recommend explaining the addition.

You can choose people who have the permission to edit the group's information.

Salvesta

Budget

Planned costs	Sum (EUR)	Comments
Staff costs	3000000,0	Maksimaalne pikkus on 2000 tähemärki (sh tühikud). Kasutamata tähemärke on veel (sh tühikud): 2000 <p>The budget is evaluated, explain your planned expenses!</p>
Research costs	850000,0	Maksimaalne pikkus on 2000 tähemärki (sh tühikud). Kasutamata tähemärke on veel (sh tühikud): 2000
Costs of acquiring equipment, software, etc. (max 20%) <small>Costs of acquiring or modernizing equipment, devices, tools and software (max 20%)</small>	1400000,0 max: 1400000,00	
Overhead (max 25%)	1750000,0 max: 1749825,00	
Total with overhead	7 000 000,00 EUR	

Co-funding (if relevant)

Comments on co-funding ? Please only include already agreed upon co-funding

If you have already secured co-funding, you can indicate it here.

Arvuta

RECOMMENDATIONS

Every part of the definition of a Centre of Excellence is important: scientific excellence, cooperation, focussing on the development of Estonia. (Cf. Sub-criterion „To what extent is the relevant and existing scientific competence in Estonia included in the CoE?“)

The regulation will be translated into English by 21.06.2023. This will be a certified translation. The evaluation guidelines are also available in English. However, the explanatory notes of the regulation will not be translated. If you have any doubts, questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact me!

We will be continuously updating the information, there is now a FAQ section also available.

Contact:

mariann.proos@etag.ee

5199 7098

Good luck with writing and applying!