Applying for Starting and Team Grants in 2024

Estonian Research Council

Field of National Research Grants

March 6, 2024

Call 2024

- **Starting grants** (**PSG**, up to 5 years)
- **Team grants** (**PRG**, up to 5 years)

Submission of applications via **ETIS** from **1 March to 2 April at 5 pm (Estonian time).**

NB! **The application is submitted only after the applicant's institution has confirmed it via ETIS. Please follow the deadlines of your institution (University of Tartu 25 March, TalTech 25 March)!**

All the materials are available on the website of the Council.

FUNDING

- Research Funding ^
  - Centres of Excellence ∨
  - Personal research funding ^
    - Call 2024 ^
      - FAQ call 2024
    - Call 2023 ∨
    - Call 2022 ∨
    - Call 2021 ∨
    - Previous calls ∨
  - Proof-of-Concept Grant ∨
  - Institutional Research Funding ∨
  - 2020 target grant
- Mobility Funding ∨
- Partnership and Cooperation Funding ∨
- Infrastructure Funding ∨
- Programmes ∨
- Support for Ukrainian Researchers

Call 2024

The call is opened in ETIS from 1 March to 17:00 (Estonian time) on 2 April 2024.

The English webinar (**starting and team grants**) takes place on 6 March at 11AM (Estonian time). To access the webinar click __here__.

NB! The information will be updated

NB! The application is submitted only after the institution has confirmed it via ETIS.

	Application guidelines	Evaluation guidelines	Budget guidelines	Application form template	Ethics and data in forms	Budget tool
Postdoctoral grant	PUTJD_AG	PUTJD_EG		PJD_AF	Ethics_tab_AF	
Starting grant	PSG_AG	PSG_EG	Budget guidelines for PSG and PRG	PSG_AF		PSG_BT
Team grant	PRG_AG	PRG_EG		PRG_AF		PRG_BT

https://etag.ee/en/funding/research-funding/personal-research-funding/call-2024/

General principles

- The applicant must be the PI of the project.

- One application per applicant.

- Applicant's previous application (PUTJD, PSG, PRG) has not fallen below the **qualification threshold „Good"** in at least 1 criterion in 2 previous calls (2022, 2023) or in at least 2 criteria in the previous call (2023).

- Project start: 1 January 2025.*

- For the duration of the project, applicant will enter into an **employment contract with an Estonian R&D institution** on a **full-time*** basis.

- **PI's place of work must be Estonia.**

- Starting and team grant projects have to be implemented in Estonia.

Additionally,

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PSG applicant...

- ...has received PhD 2-7 years ago: between **1 January 2018–1 January 2023***
+ period of absence from research

- ...after obtaining the PhD has gained:

**research experience in a foreign
country** OR as a researcher at a **research-
intensive enterprise** in the same country

The Evaluation Committee may deem an applicant to
meet the requirements if, stemming from the
specifics of the research, it has not been possible to
fulfil the aforementioned mobility requirements.

PRG applicant...

- ...does not participate in an
ongoing starting or team project
that will continue in 2025.

Budget

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…consist of:

- **direct costs**, incl. staff costs (salaries with taxes, scholarships);
- **research costs,** incl. subcontracting costs, costs related to the (open access) publication and popularisation of the R&D results, costs related to the protection of intellectual property, travel costs, and other costs that stem from the characteristics of the project;
- **overhead.**

Follow the [Budget guidelines](#).

NB! The Estonian Research Council will continue with **restrictions on Russia and Belarus** in the new research funding period. We do not fund joint research work or mutual visits with these countries.

Fixed Grant Amounts*

STARTING GRANT (PSG)

- **Small** grant amount is 76,000 euros per year.

- **Large*** grant amount is 117,000 euros per year.

TEAM GRANT (PRG)

- **Small** grant amount is 192,400 euros per year.

- **Large*** grant amount is 270,000 euros per year.

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Requirements for the PSG staff

- All staff members must work/study in the same institution.

- **PSG amount** *large* can only be applied for when the research team includes **at least one member of the senior research staff** in addition to the applicant/PI (workload of at least 0.2 during the entire period of the project).

- Doctoral students/Junior research fellows must be included as members of the senior research staff.

Requirements for the PRG staff

- **PRG project team** must consist of a **minimum of three people** during the entire period of the team project, including the **PI** and **at least one member of the senior research staff**. The third person can be either senior or other research staff member.

- PhD holders must be included as members of the senior research staff.

- **PRG amount** *large* can only be applied for when in addition to the PI, the research team includes **at least three members of the senior research staff** (workload of at least 0.5 during the entire period of the project).

- **PRG amount** *large* can only applied for when in 2023 and 2024, the PI and the members of the senior research staff have not participated in any starting or team projects that will continue in 2025.

NB!

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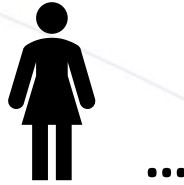
PSG small

PSG large

PRG small
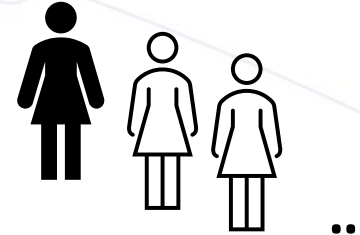
PRG large
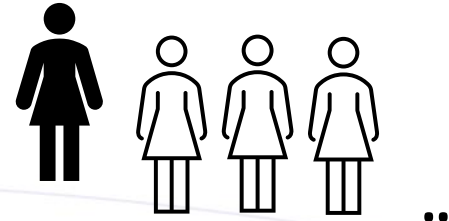
Names of the people must be shown in the application and the entire project period has to be covered with the team that meets the requirements.

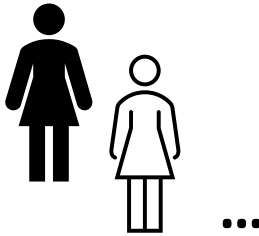Senior research staff members cannot participate in several projects/applications during the same period.*

The application

- Justification can be up to 24,000 characters (incl. spaces).
- The files that can be attached to the Justification part of the application as **PDFs**:
  - the list of references;
  - timetable (e.g., Gantt chart, incl. deliverables and milestones);
  - risk assessment incl. risk mitigation and back-up plan;
  - figures relevant to the Justification (max 2 files).
- Files **cannot contain long descriptive text** that should be in the Justification.
- **Links cannot be added to the application**.
- The application contains **automatic checks of technical details**. If the application contains an error, the application cannot be confirmed. **Therefore, please give yourself enough time for the confirmation of the application!** List of errors can be found under the "Submit" tab.

| Application | Justification | Ethics and data | Staff | R&D results | Impact | Budget | Bibliometrics | Additional information | **Submit** | Expertise |

Please print out the .pdf file of your application and check if all the relevant information has been provided.
If you would like to receive automatic messages regarding your application to your e-mail, please update your message settings in ETIS under "My Account".   ✕

Printing

Select tabs to include in
print view

- ☑ All
- ☑ Application
- ☑ Justification
- ☑ Ethics and data
- ☑ R&D activity
- ☑ R&D cooperation
- ☑ Staff
- ☑ R&D results
- ☑ Impact
- ☑ Budget
- ☑ Bibliometrics
- ☑ Additional information

[Print] [PDF]

List of errors

Submission ❓

⊘ Please make following amendments:

- Tab "Application" > Field "Keywords" is mandatory!
- Tab "Application" > Field "Summary in Estonian" is mandatory!
- Tab "Application" > Field "Summary in English" is mandatory!
- Tab "Application" > Field "Please explain and justify your choice" is mandatory!
- Tab "Application" > Field "Research type" is mandatory!
- Tab "Application" > Field "Research experience abroad (e.g., postdoctoral studies, working as a researcher at an R&D institution or at a research-intensive enterprise, etc. in a foreign country) or outside an R&D institution as a researcher at a research-intensive enterprise in the same country" is mandatory!
- Sum of percentages of fields of research must be 100%!
- Tab "Application" > Field "Field and speciality" is mandatory!
- Tab "Application" > Field "Have you used the help of generative artificial intelligence (MS Copilot, ChatGPT, Midjourney, DALL E or similar) for writing or preparing the application or its parts?" is mandatory!
- Tab "Ethics and data" > Field "Confirmation of adherence to the principles of research integrity and research ethics" is mandatory!
- Tab "Ethics and data" > Field "Do any of the project's research activities need to be approved by an ethics committee?" is mandatory!
- Tab "Ethics and data" > Field "Research data management" is mandatory!

What is new

- **Using generative AI tools for compiling the application is not forbidden**, however, their use must be transparent. For this reason, the first tab of the application form now includes a question concerning the use of AI, where the applicant must clearly indicate, whether and in which capacity AI tools have been used in the application.

- **Changes in the "Ethics" tab of the application:** Changes in the wording of questions and explanations in the "Ethics" tab. The checklist and instructions now include the subject matter of AI.

Ethics tab

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- Research ethics and data management form in Word

Ethics-and-data-in-PRG-and-PSG-application-forms-1.docx(live.com)

- To fill out the table please use the

„Guidelines for Completing Your Ethics Self-Assessment for Grant Application"
https://etag.ee/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Eetika_Tabel_ENG_2024.pdf

- Questions concerning ethical issues: **Marten Juurik**

(Head of the Unit of Research Integrity, +372 731 7381, marten.juurik@etag.ee).

Evaluation of PSG and PRG applications

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- PSG and PRG applications will be evaluated in **17 Expert Panels** that are based on 7 research fields (see the list and keywords on the website of the Council).

- The preliminary final evaluation will be sent to the applicants in the beginning of July (at the latest).

- The applicant and the institution are entitled to make objections regarding the preliminary final evaluation (the so-called hearing – deadline **12 August**, objections to be sent to etag@etag.ee).

- The Evaluation Committee will confirm the final ranking lists of each Expert Panel.

- Considering the position in the ranking list and funding amount, the Evaluation Committee will decide which applications will be forwarded to the Panel on Research Ethics and Data Management.

- After the evaluation in the Panel on Research Ethics and Data Management, the Evaluation Committee will make the proposals to approve the applications.

NB!

- **Read the relevant application guidelines, <u>evaluation guidelines</u>, and budget guidelines that can be found on the website of the Council. NB!** Neither the information on these slides nor in the FAQ section is complete!

- Compile the application in accordance with the guidelines. Add only the files which are allowed. The limitations on the number of characters apply to all applicants.

- All the members of the research staff have to update their ETIS CV.

- PhD information must be added to the CV!

- Members of the senior research staff have to confirm their CV in the application.

- Make sure that the data of your publications is correct (see the bibliometrics guidelines on the website of the Council).

Please give yourself enough time for the confirmation of the application (consider the auto-check)!

If something remains unclear, please contact the Research Funding Officer of your field.

Questions regarding the application

Research Funding Officers:

Medical and Health Sciences; Agricultural and Veterinary Sciences: **Ade Kallas-Kivi** (+372 731 7366, ade.kallas-kivi@etag.ee)

Biological and Environmental Sciences: **Merle Mandel** (+372 731 7387, merle.mandel@etag.ee)

Exact Sciences; Engineering and Technology: **Raili Torga** (+372 731 7358, raili.torga@etag.ee)

Humanities and the Arts: **Elli Marie Tragel** (+372 5349 1291, ellimarie.tragel@etag.ee)

Social Sciences: **Eveli Laats** (+372 5191 1737, eveli.laats@etag.ee)

Head of the Field of National Research Grants: **Helen Post** (+372 731 7363, helen.post@etag.ee)

Head of the Unit of Research Integrity: **Marten Juurik** (+372 731 7381, marten.juurik@etag.ee).

Q&A