

COMPETITION IV. Projects led and implemented by early-staged scientists in areas of natural sciences, technology, medical and health sciences and agricultural sciences

Who is eligible to submit the proposal

1. The principal investigator and other project implementers (both primary and secondary) with a doctoral degree must be early-staged scientists, i. e. persons who have obtained a doctoral degree not earlier than 7 years before the last day of the deadline for proposal submission indicated in the call (in the event of maternity leave, paternity leave or parental leave, the above-mentioned period shall be extended accordingly).
2. The person can be the principal investigator of only one of the following programmes – Research Groups project or My First Research Team (implemented under Annex 4 of Measure No. 12-001-01-01-01 “*Improving the Environment for Science and Studies*” of the science development programme of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport of the Republic of Lithuania for 2022–2030, with the Research Council of Lithuania acting as a partner).

Proposal submission procedures

3. The proposal shall be submitted in English (except for the documents referred to in subparagraphs 4.1, 4.2 which shall be submitted in Lithuanian language).
4. The proposal shall be submitted by filling it in the online system: <https://junkis.lmt.lt>. The proposal shall be accompanied by:
 - 4.1. the letter of the implementing institution in regard to ensuring project implementation;
 - 4.2. documents proving the compliance with the requirements to an early-staged scientist:
 - 4.2.1. the copies of the doctor diploma of the principal investigator and other primary project implementers with a doctoral degree;
 - 4.2.2. copies of documents in Lithuanian language providing evidence that the person was on maternity leave, paternity leave or parental leave (applicable if evidence to support eligibility is required): documents substantiating maternity leave and parental leave for the mother for a period of up to 18 months are not required if the copy of the certificate of the child's birth is submitted (the 18-month period is calculated for each child separately). A longer period of the afore mentioned leaves or the entire period (if a copy of the certificate of the child's birth is not provided) is justified by submitting copies of supporting documents (for example, a certificate from “Sodra” or the institution where the mother works); paternity leave must be justified by submitting copies of documents for the entire period.

General requirements for projects

5. The general requirements applicable to projects, their implementers and costs are set out in the General Rules of the Research Council of Lithuania for the Competitive Funding of Research and Dissemination Projects and in other documents published on the [website](#).

Additional information

6. Compliance of an early-staged scientist with the requirements for the recruitment of secondary implementers with a doctoral degree will have to be ensured by the implementing institution. The Council may request documentation during the project implementation to confirm compliance with these requirements and, in the absence of such documentation, may refuse to declare these costs eligible.

7. When the results of the call are announced, principal investigators of the projects selected for funding shall submit an identical proposal in the Lithuanian language (without documents indicated in subparagraphs 4.1, 4.2) in an online form before signing the grant agreement. If the contents of the proposal in English do not correspond to the contents of the proposal in the Lithuanian language, the information in the proposal in the Lithuanian language shall prevail.

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