The Research Council of Lithuania (RCL), implementing the objective *"Strengthening the national R&D potential"* under the programme *"Development of the National Research and Studies System"* set out in the *Strategic Activity Plan for 2025–2027*, and aiming to encourage researchers who have obtained a doctoral degree to conduct high-level research in Lithuanian research and higher education institutions and to successfully integrate into the international research area, announces the 2026 call for proposals for postdoctoral fellowship projects.

Call Budget	Approx. EUR 1.5 million
Source of Funding	State budget funds
Submission Platform	https://junkis.lmt.lt
Legal Acts Governing Project Implementation	• General Rules of the Research Council of Lithuania for the Competitive Funding of Research and Dissemination Projects • Description of the Procedure for Open Access to the Results of Research and Experimental Development
Deadline for Submission	8 May 2026, 16:00
Project Implementation	Start: between 16 September 2026 and 30 September 2026. Duration: 24 months.
Project Budget	Up to EUR 130,000
Scope of the Call	• Humanities • Performing Arts and Cinema • Visual Arts
Requirements for the Implementing Institution	1.1. The implementing institution must be a Lithuanian research and higher education institution included in the Register of Educational and Research Institutions. 1.2. The implementing institution must be different from the one where the fellow defended their doctoral dissertation.

Requirements for the Fellow and the Supervisor	2. Fellow – a researcher holding a doctoral degree (science or arts) awarded by a Lithuanian or foreign research and higher education institution, and for whom no more than 7 years have passed between the date of the defence of the doctoral dissertation and the application deadline indicated in the call (this period excludes maternity leave, paternity leave, and parental leave; in such cases, the period is extended accordingly), and who carries out the research (or artistic research) specified in the project. 2.1. When submitting an application, the fellow must ensure that from the project start date indicated in the application until the end of the project, they are a primary project implementer in no more than two projects funded by the Council and the principal investigator o of only one of them. This provision applies to the following programmes and measures administered by the Council: competition-based priority research programme; research projects of the Programme for Lithuanian Studies as a National Priority (2025-2030); impact-driven programme; researcher groups projects; technology development projects; competitive R&D projects supporting Lithuania's membership in the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN). 3. Supervisor – a researcher or artist employed by the implementing institution who supervises the fellow's research (or artistic research) during the project. 3.1. The fellow's doctoral supervisor cannot act as the postdoctoral supervisor. 4. The fellow and the supervisor may be included in only one application under the same call. 5. A person (fellow or supervisor) may be included in an application only if, on the application deadline, they are not subject to restrictions specified in paragraphs 76–80 of the General Rules of the Research Council of Lithuania for Competitive Funding of Research and Dissemination Projects. 6. Postdoctoral projects must be implemented without partners.
Requirements for Budget Planning and Workload	7. Project funds must be planned for the entire project duration and for each calendar year. 8. Indirect costs may amount to up to 10% of total direct project costs. 9. The fellow's workload must be no less than 40 hours per week multiplied by the number of project months, including annual leave granted to research staff of research and higher education institutions. 10. During project implementation, the fellow must be employed as a postdoctoral researcher (or researcher in the case of arts) and must be assigned a salary coefficient in accordance with the ranges defined in Article 72^1, Part 5, Clause 5 of the Law on Science and Studies of the Republic of Lithuania.

	11. The supervisor's salary costs are not eligible for funding from project funds.
Mandatory Project Monitoring Indicator	12. During the project, the fellow must undertake an internship research trip to a foreign research and higher education institution or a research centre, laboratory, company, institution, library, archive, expedition, etc. 12.1. Minimum duration of the trip – 30 calendar days. The visit may be split into parts, one of which must be at least 15 days long.
Application Procedure	13. The application is submitted by the implementing institution together with the fellow. 14. The application must be submitted in English (except for documents listed in points 14.1–14.3, which may be submitted in the original language). The following must be attached: 14.1. A signed official letter from the implementing institution (in Lithuanian), prepared according to the approved form, confirming the institution's commitment to ensure project implementation. 14.2. Copies of documents proving maternity leave, paternity leave, or parental leave (if applicable). A birth certificate copy is sufficient to justify maternity/parental leave up to 18 months per child; longer periods must be supported by official documents (e.g., certificates from the social insurance authority or employer). Full documentation is required for paternity leave. 14.3. A copy of the fellow's doctoral diploma.

Evaluation Procedure

1. Applications that meet administrative requirements are submitted for expert evaluation in accordance with the Description of the Procedure of the Expert Evaluation of the Projects and Their Reports.
2. Depending on the number of applications, research fields, and project topics, applications may be divided into several groups.
3. Applications will be evaluated by panels of Lithuanian and/or international experts formed in accordance with the General Rules for the Experts of the Research Council of Lithuania and Their Acitivities.

Additional Information

1. General requirements for projects, applicants, and eligible costs are set out in the General Rules of the Research Council of Lithuania for the Competitive Funding of Research and Dissemination Projects and other documents published on the relevant webpage.

2. Funds will be allocated among application groups based on the total call budget, number of applications submitted, number of administratively eligible applications, number of projects recommended for funding by expert panels, etc.

3. After the call results are announced, fellows of funded projects must submit identical applications in the Lithuanian language via the system (https://junkis.lmt.lt) before signing funding agreements (excluding documents listed in points 14.1–14.3). In case of discrepancies, the Lithuanian version prevails.