

Grant Regulations – Restart VSE

Annotation:

This university-wide directive specifies the principles of the system for providing support for funding return grant projects at the Prague University of Economics and Business (VSE). The grant competition is financed under the project: CZ.02.01.01/00/24_037/0013841 Restart VSE and Call within No. 02_24_037 OP JAK Returns.

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Article 1

Introductory Provisions

These regulations set out the principles of the system for providing support for projects approved within the grant competition within Restart VSE (hereinafter referred to as the "Return Grant Competition"). The targeted financial support is provided on the basis of the results of the Return Grant Competition.

Article 2

Internal Grant Agency of VSE

1. The organisation of the Return Grant Competition for financing projects, which are supported by funds granted through Call No. 02_24_037 OP JAK Returns, is managed by the internal grant agency (hereinafter referred to as "IGA VSE").
2. The Grant Committee of VSE (hereinafter referred to as the "GC") takes part in activities of IGA VSE.
3. The organisational and administrative activities of the GC are ensured by the Research Office at VSE.

Article 3

Grant Committee of VSE

1. The GC is an advisory body of the Rector on matters concerning the distribution of grant funds. The GC consists of a chairperson and 8 members and is chaired by the Vice-Rector for Research and Doctoral Studies. The GC members are appointed and removed by the Rector on the proposal of the Vice-Rector for Research and Doctoral Studies. The GC members are respective Vice-Deans of individual faculties and two major experts in the respective fields who are not VSE employees, designated within the Internal Grant Competition.
2. The term of office of a GC member is four years. The GC has a quorum if more than half of its members are present. The GC decides by a majority of those present. The voting is public unless the members agree otherwise. Minutes are taken for the GC meetings. The GC submits its decisions to the Rector for approval.
3. The Committee meets at least once a year, either in person or remotely. In urgent cases (especially in the case of a problem with a specific grant task or in the case of a proposal for termination of the project), the GC chairperson shall convene an extraordinary GC meeting.



4. The GC performs the following tasks in particular:
- a) based on suggestions and comments, it may update the Rules for Applicants for Projects in the Return Grant Competition; it also oversees compliance with these rules,
 - b) on behalf of the Rector, it announces rounds of the Return Grant Competition, discusses applications and proposes projects and the amount of funds allocated to projects to the rector for approval,
 - c) based on the list of submitted applications and assigned scores, it votes on a resolution on which applications will be supported; the resolution is adopted if a majority of the members present vote in favour of it, with the following result:
 - approved without comment,
 - conditionally approved (the applicant must make specified adjustments in accordance with the GC's recommendations sent to the e-mail address provided in the application within five working days as determined by the GC),
 - not approved,
 - d) it ensures compliance by verifying that that the applicant is on a career break, or that no more than 12 months have elapsed since the end of the career break until the date of submission of the application, or, if the applicant performed R&D activities at VSE concurrently during their career break, it was an employment relationship of up to 0.3 FTE per month, on average for the number of months of performing this work, with his/her workload not exceeding 0.5 FTE in any month,
 - e) it approves the appointment to the position of external expert reviewer,
 - f) it assesses the quality of the elaborated reviewers' reports and their compliance with the criteria (verification of reports),
 - g) in the event of a difference between the requested and allocated funds, it requires the researcher to adjust the project and its budget,
 - h) it ensures the assessment and evaluation of the results of completed projects on the basis of final reports,
 - i) it monitors the use of allocated funds,
 - j) it decides on the application of sanctions based on submitted interim activity reports or final activity reports and the opinion of the Vice-Dean's Board for Science and Research, and in the event of a clear breach of the return grant agreement.
5. With the exception of subsection 4c) above, the GC may vote outside a meeting (*per rollam*).
6. For the purposes of evaluating proposals for new projects, the GC uses the reviews of two external reviewers who meet the following conditions:
- the reviewer is not in a conflict of interest, i.e., is not in an employment relationship with VŠE (except for relationships whose purpose is to ensure evaluation in competitive funding schemes) and has no other obligations that would compromise their impartiality, i.e., the reviewer did not participate in the preparation of the application, is not a member of the GC, is not a member of the research team,



- the reviewer is a citizen of the Czech Republic, or a foreign citizen (citizen of another EU member state or a citizen of a state that is a signatory to the Agreement on the European Economic Area),
- the reviewer has published at least two articles as an author or co-author with a significant contribution in Q1 journals in the field of FORD corresponding to the focus of the grant or a related field,
- the reviewer has successfully led at least one scientific research project financed from external sources as the main researcher (these may be national projects, such as GAČR or TAČR, or international projects, such as Horizon; contract research projects are not included),
- the reviewer has completed doctoral education (Ph.D. or equivalent).

Article 4

Return Grant Competition

1. Grant funding is provided in accordance with the Rules for Applicants for Projects in the Return Grant Competition, which are in line with CZ.02.01.01/00/24_037 /0013841 Restart VSE, the conditions of Call no. 02_24_037 OP JAK Returns, and in accordance with the Rules of the Return Grant Scheme of VSE.
2. The rules for project applicants in the Return Grant Competition govern:
 - the conditions for announcing the grant competition, participation, project duration,
 - the requirements for grant applications,
 - the procedure for evaluating grant applications,
 - the principles of the management of allocated funds, the method of its monitoring management,
 - reporting of activities through interim reports,
 - method of project completion,
 - evaluation of completed projects.
3. Funds for project implementation are provided on the basis of an agreement concluded between the main researcher and VSE. The agreement is signed by the Rector on behalf of VSE.
4. The duration of projects in individual rounds is specified in the call for the given round of the grant competition.

Annex: Rules for Applicants for Projects in the Return Grant Competition.

