

# HIGHER EDUCATION AND SCIENCE COMMITTEE

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA



## CALL FOR PROPOSALS

### ADJUNCT RESEARCH PROFESSORSHIP PROGRAM 2025 REMOTE LABORATORY

FOR ESTABLISHING NEW SCIENTIFIC SUBDIVISIONS IN ARMENIA  
UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF FOREIGN SCIENTISTS



## Contents

<b>I. GENERAL PROVISIONS.....</b>	<b>2</b>
1. The Call for Proposals .....	2
2. Purpose.....	3
3. Timeframes.....	3
4. Group.....	3
5. The PI.....	4
6. Group Members .....	4
7. Organization Eligibility .....	5
8. Expected Results .....	6
9. Submission of the Application and Supporting Documents .....	8
10. Estimate.....	9
<b>II. APPLICATION CONSIDERATION AND EVALUATION .....</b>	<b>10</b>
11. Conformity of Applications to the Terms of the Call.....	10
12. Scientific Expertise .....	11
13. The 1 <sup>st</sup> Stage of Scientific Expertise (Extensive Summary Evaluation) .....	11
14. The 2 <sup>nd</sup> Stage of Scientific Expertise (Interview).....	11
15. The 3 <sup>rd</sup> Stage of Scientific Expertise (Expert Evaluation) .....	12
16. Evaluations Results .....	12
<b>III. OTHER PROVISIONS .....</b>	<b>13</b>
17. Contract Signing.....	13
18. Reporting .....	13
19. Additional Information .....	14
20. Termination of the Project Funding.....	16
Annex N°2.1 .....	17
Annex N°2.2.....	18
Annex N°2.3.....	19
Annex N°2.4.....	20

# CALL FOR PROPOSALS ADJUNCT RESEARCH PROFESSORSHIP PROGRAM 2025 (REMOTE LABORATORY)

## I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

### 1. The Call for Proposals

- 1.1. The “Adjunct Research Professorship Program 2025 (Remote Laboratory)” Call for Proposals (hereinafter **Call for Proposals** or **Call**) is carried out in accordance with the Order № 2042-U/2 dated October 30, 2024, issued by the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Republic of Armenia (hereinafter ‘**Minister**’).
- 1.2. The **Call for Proposals** is organized by the Higher Education and Science Committee of the Ministry of Science, Education, Culture, and Sports of the Republic of Armenia (hereinafter **Committee**), in accordance with the procedure for contractual (thematic) funding of scientific and technical activities established by the RA Government Decision №1122, dated 17 November 2001.
- 1.3. The **Call for Proposals** aims to establish new scientific subdivisions in prospective and cutting-edge research areas under the supervision of foreign scientists within the organizations carrying out a program within the framework of basic funding for scientific and technical activities from the state budget of the Republic of Armenia (hereinafter ‘**Organization**’).
- 1.4. The **Call for Proposals** covers all research fields of scientific and technical activities (listed in Annex №2.1).
- 1.5. The procedure of the **present Call** implies submitting an application (hereinafter ‘**Application**’), which shall include the description of the scientific project (hereinafter ‘**Project**’) and other supporting documents/data.
- 1.6. The submitted **Project** (Annex №2.2) shall be ambitious, promising, and feasible.
- 1.7. A publication in a periodical indexed in International Scientific databases (hereinafter ‘**ISD-indexed publication**’) is hereby defined as an article, review, letter, conference paper, proceedings paper, book chapter included in the Web of Science™ Core Collection or Scopus Scientific Database.

A monograph (hereinafter referred to as ‘**Monograph**’) is defined as a Book of at least 5 author's sheets included in the Web of Science™ Core Collection or Scopus Scientific Database.

- 1.8. For the specialties included in Research Field #6 of **Annex 2.1**, 1 **Monograph** is tantamount to 4 **ISD-indexed publications**.
- 1.9. The terms of the **Call for Proposals** define the application procedure, the stages and criteria of **Application** evaluation, as well as funding and reporting procedures for the selected **Projects**.

## 2. Purpose

The purposes of the present **Call** are as follows:

- Foster domestic and international collaboration;
- Increase the capacity of the respective hosting Organization;
- Involve researchers from the Diaspora and overseas;
- Engage young researchers and students;
- Promote the integration of young scientists into the international research area;
- Improve the scientific environment;
- Create new, competitive, and prospective scientific units;
- Foster competitiveness in science.

## 3. Timeframes

- 3.1. The **Projects** approved for funding shall be carried out within 60 months.
- 3.2. The submission deadline for the **Call for Proposals** via the Committee's Online Application and Reporting System grants.hesc.am (hereinafter "**System**") is **December 20, 2024, 18:00**, Yerevan time (GMT+4).
- 3.3. The deadline for the submission of the paper-based documents to the **Committee** is **December 27, 2024**.
- 3.4. The funding of the selected **Projects** under the **Call** is expected to start in June 2025.
- 3.5. **Contracts** shall be signed within 10 days after the announcement of the results of the **Call**.
- 3.6. Implementation **Reports** shall be submitted by the last working day of every 12<sup>th</sup> month since the commencement of the **Project**.
- 3.7. The **Project** shall commence and be implemented within the timeframes specified in the contract.

## 4. Group

- 4.1. The **Project** is developed and implemented by a group of researchers (hereinafter '**Group**') consisting of a maximum of two principal investigators from abroad as adjunct research professors (hereinafter '**PI**') and 2-5 group members, particularly a Co-Investigator (hereinafter '**CI**') and researchers (hereinafter '**Group Members**').
- 4.2. The **Group** shall consist of:

- At least 3 members (including the **PI**) for research fields #1-4 listed in Annex 2.1,
- At least 2 members (including the **PI**) for research field #5-6 listed in Annex 2.1.

4.3. The **Group Members** can hold any citizenship at the moment of the submission of the **Application**.

4.4. The **Group Members** should be either citizens or residents of the Republic of Armenia and reside in Armenia during the whole implementation of the Project.

4.5. The **Group** shall be represented by the **CI**.

## 5. The PI

5.1. The person eligible to be the **PI of the Group** shall:

- hold a scientific degree;
- be employed on a full-time/part-time basis as a professor, lecturer, researcher, or hold a similar position in any foreign research institution (university, research center), as well as be engaged in research activities.

5.2. For the years 2020-2024, the **PI of the Group** shall:

*For research fields #1-5 (NS, ET, MS, AS, and SS) listed in Annex 2.1:*

- have at least **8 ISD-indexed** publications;
- or an h-index (Hirsch) of at least 15, according to the SCOPUS Scientific Database (<https://www.scopus.com/freelookup/form/author.uri>).

*For research field #6 (AH) listed in Annex 2.1:*

- have at least 4 **ISD-indexed** publications or 1 **Monograph**;
- or have an h-index (Hirsch) of at least 3, according to the SCOPUS Scientific Database (<https://www.scopus.com/freelookup/form/author.uri>).

5.3. If any of the submitted publications is included in Beall's list (<https://beallslist.net/>) of predatory and fraud publications or journals, the issue of the admissibility of the **Application** for scientific expertise shall further be considered at the **Applications** evaluation stage.

5.4. During the whole implementation of the **Project** (60-month period), the **PI** must spend a cumulative period of no less than 140 days (20 weeks) at the hosting **Organization** in the Republic of Armenia, as well as host **Group Members** in their respective foreign scientific institution for a cumulative period of no less than 60 days throughout the implementation of the **Project**.

5.5. The **PI of the Group** is responsible for the formation of the **Group** and the successful completion of the **Project**.

## 6. Group Members

6.1. The **Application** shall be submitted by the **CI of the Group**.

6.2. The members of the **Group** can be both citizens of the Republic of Armenia or hold any other citizenship at the moment of the submission of the **Application**.

- 6.3. The **Group Members** should be either citizens or residents of the Republic of Armenia and reside in Armenia during the whole implementation of the **Project**.
- 6.4. The **CI of the Group** shall be born after January 1, 1984.
- 6.5. At least 2 **Group Members** (including the **CI**) shall be born after January 1, 1989. Undergraduate students who are in their third year or above are eligible.  
The age threshold can be extended in the following cases:
  - in the case of military service in the Armed Forces - for 2 years;
  - in the case of parental leave - for 1 year for each child.
- 6.6. **Group Members** can be first-year undergraduate students majoring in areas related to the scientific and technical field of the **Project** listed in **Annex 2.1**, if awarded at least a level 3 diploma at the republican-level School Subject Olympiad in their 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> school grade.
- 6.7. At least one of the young **Group Members** (born after Jan 1, 1989) shall not be involved in any program funded within the basic funding of scientific and technical activities from the state budget of Armenia as of 20 Dec 2024 (the deadline for **Application** submission).
- 6.8. The **PI** and the **Group Members** shall not be involved in more than one **Application** within the present **Call for Proposals**
- 6.9. The beneficiaries of the **Call** (The **PI** and the **Group Members**) shall not be among the recipients of the following grants:
  - “Support Program for Advanced Research” (2021);
  - “Starting Grant for Research Groups and Consolidator Grant for Laboratories (Subdivisions) - 2023”;
  - “Consolidator Grant for Research Units — 2024”;
  - “Support Program for Integration of Foreign Scientists to the Scientific Community of the Republic of Armenia (Integration Grant)” (for the years 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025);
  - “Adjunct Research Professorship Program (Remote Laboratory)” (for the years 2022, 2023, 2024).

## 7. Organization Eligibility

- 7.1. The **Organization** shall be among those implementing the program funded within the basic funding of scientific and technical activities from the state budget of the Republic of Armenia.
- 7.2. The **Organization** shall provide the **Group Members** with access to its infrastructure and equipment throughout the implementation of the **Project**.
- 7.3. The **Organization** shall support the implementation of the **Project**.
- 7.4. The **Organization** must provide the **PI** with the scientific board conclusion of the **Organization** (or, in the case of higher education institutions, that of a particular department) regarding the **Project's** relevance, importance, and correspondence to the **Organization's** scope of activities.
- 7.5. The **Organization** shall include the **CI of the Group** in a program of basic funding of scientific and technical activities for the whole duration of the **Project**.
- 7.6. By the 24<sup>th</sup> month of the implementation of the **Project**, a new scientific subdivision (group, laboratory, department) shall be established under the umbrella of the **Organization** within

the basic funding of scientific and technical activities, ensuring the involvement of the **CI** (Head of the Subdivision) and **Group Members** (Employees of the Subdivision). The total workload of the employees involved in the **Project** shall comprise no less than 120 hours per week (3 Full-time Equivalent, FTE).

- 7.7. The Head of the **Organization** provides the **PI** with a reference letter confirming their awareness of the conditions of the **Call** and expressing their readiness to allocate the financial resources from the basic funding of the **Organization** to comply with the provisions specified in Subparagraphs 7.5 and 7.6 of the present **Call**.
- 7.8. The **Organization** covers the expenses aimed at creating necessary conditions for the implementation of the **Project** at the expense of financial resources envisaged in the “Overhead Costs” subsection of the “Other Expenses” section of the Financial Estimate (hereinafter ‘**Estimate**’).
- 7.9. The equipment, materials, and services necessary for the implementation of the **Project** shall be purchased in the manner prescribed by the RA Law “On Procurements” in conformity with the regulations of public-needs-oriented procurements.
- 7.10. The equipment and devices purchased shall be included in the balance sheet of the **Organization**, and the right of disposal thereof shall belong to the **Organization**, including subsequent use thereof for statutory purposes, i.e., for carrying out research activities.
- 7.11. A **Contract** shall be signed between the **Organization**, the **Committee**, and the **CI** of the **Project** for the use of the amounts of financial assistance provided by the state in the form of a grant for the implementation of contractual projects of scientific and technical activities (hereinafter ‘**Contract**’).

## **8. Expected Results**

- 8.1. In all publications produced as an output of the **Project**, it is necessary to indicate the funding received from the **Committee** as follows:  
*-The research was supported by the Higher Education and Science Committee of MESCS RA (Research Project № \_\_\_\_\_)*
- 8.2. By the 35<sup>th</sup> month since the commencement of the **Project**, the **Group Members** shall present the following publications with an indication of the **Organization** as the author's affiliation and containing the note stipulated in Subparagraph 8.1. of the **Call**.
  - For research fields #1-5 (listed in Annex 2.1):
    - At least 4 **ISD-indexed** publications;
  - For research field #6 (listed in Annex 2.1):
    - At least 2 **ISD-indexed** publications;
    - Or 1 **Monograph**.



**Attention: Without the aforementioned notes, the publication shall not be considered a Project Output and, therefore, shall not be included in the Report.**

8.3. In the case of failure to comply with the provisions of Subparagraph 8.2. of the **Call** by the 35<sup>th</sup> month since the commencement of the **Project**, it shall be decided to terminate the funding of the **Project** upon the conclusion of the **Board**.

8.4. After the completion of the **Project** (for an overall period of 60 months), the **Group Members** shall present the following publications with an indication of the **Organization** as the author's affiliation and containing the funding acknowledgment statement as outlined in Subparagraph 8.5. of the **Call**.

- For research fields #1-5 (listed in Annex 2.1):
  - A minimum of 8 **ISD-indexed** publications, at least 2 of which shall be in Q1 journals and another 2 - in Q2 journals.
- For research field #6 (listed in Annex 2.1):
  - A minimum of 4 **ISD-indexed** publications, at least 2 of which shall be in Q1 journals and another 2 - in Q2 journals.
  - Or 2 **Monographs**.

**For the specialties included in Research Field #6, 1 Monograph is tantamount to 4 ISD-indexed publications.**

8.5. In at least 4 publications produced as an output of the **Project**, the **CI** shall be either the first or the last, or the corresponding author, or credited in any equivalent capacity.

8.6. As an output of the **Project**, the **Group** is expected to apply for an international grant (at least one submitted grant) and submit a relevant certifying letter. The grant budget for research fields #1-5 listed in Annex 2.1 should amount to at least AMD 25,000,000; for research field #6 listed in Annex 2.1 - at least 15,000,000 AMD.

8.7. Within the frames of the **Project's** implementation, the **Group** is expected to ensure the creation and dissemination of popular science materials about the **Project** or their particular field of science (interviews, publications in popular science journals, creation and distribution of video materials, organization of discussions for general audience, etc.). These dissemination efforts shall be considered when evaluating and accepting the **Project's** final report.

8.8. Both successful compliance and noncompliance with the provisions of Subparagraphs 8.1., 8.2., 8.4., 8.5. and 8.6. shall respectively affect the evaluation score of the future applications submitted by the Group Members to the upcoming Call for Proposals announced by the Committee. Particularly, the amount of 5 percent of the final evaluation score shall be subtracted from (in the case of noncompliance) or added to (in the case of compliance) the evaluation score of the applications submitted in the future with the involvement of PI (irrespective of their future capacity), and the amount of 1 percent of the final evaluation score



- for the future applications with the involvement of each Group Member. The score shall be affected by a maximum amount of 5 percent of the total score. The reduction of the final expertise score of future applications submitted by the Group Members for subsequent Calls for Proposals shall cease to apply once the Committee is duly notified about the compliance with the provisions of Subparagraphs 8.1., 8.2., 8.4., 8.5. and 8.6. procedure for completion and submission of applications.

## **9. Submission of the Application and Supporting Documents**

9.1. The **Application** shall be filled in and submitted by the **CI** via the System [grants.hesc.am/](https://grants.hesc.am/). The Application deadline for the Call for Proposals is **December 20, 2024, 18:00**, Yerevan time (GMT+4).

9.2. After the submission of the **Application** via the system, the **CI** shall submit the following paper-based documents to the Organization:

- The title page of the **Application** created in the system and coded, together with the **Estimate**,
- **PI's** application letter;
- The scientific board's conclusion;
- The written consent of the relevant Head of the project if any Group Member(s) included in the Application are involved in the programs specified in clause "6.9" of this Call;
- The reference required by Subparagraph 7.7 of this Call, provided by the head of the **Organization**;
  - for those **Group Members** who are undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate students, references from their universities are required with an indication of specialty and the year of study;
  - Copy of military service book or relevant documents for maternity leave to increase the age limits.

9.3. Other documents may be required if necessary.

9.4. By December 29, 2024, a representative of the **Organization** (Scientific Secretary or another authorized person) shall submit the hard copies of all Applications' supporting documents from their respective **Organization** to the **Committee** (address: 22 Orbeli Brothers St., 9th floor, 907 room, during working hours) in one package, accompanied with a letter by the Head of the **Organization** as specified in **Annex 2.3**.

9.5. Should there be any further inquiries regarding the **Call for Proposals**, please contact the relevant department of the **Committee** at [scexpert@hesc.am](mailto:scexpert@hesc.am) or by dialing +37410210140-108.

**Attention: The Committee shall consider only those applications that are submitted and coded via the System. The applications that have not been submitted in accordance with the aforementioned procedure or deadlines shall not be considered.**

## 10. Estimate

10.1. The **Budget** consists of two sections: “Remuneration” and “Other Costs”. The “Other Costs” section includes “Equipment, Materials and Services”, “Travels”, “Establishment of the Group/Laboratory”, and “Overhead Costs” subsections.

10.2. The maximum amount of funding for the whole duration of the Project is as follows:

- For a Group consisting of 5 members: 130,000.0 thousand AMD (one hundred thirty million AMD)
- For a Group consisting of 4 members: 107,000.0 thousand AMD (one hundred seven million AMD)
- For a Group consisting of 3 members: 84,000.0 thousand AMD (eighty-four million AMD)
- For a Group consisting of 2 members: 61,000.0 thousand AMD (sixty-one million AMD)

10.3. For the “Remuneration” section, the advisable average monthly salary of the **Group Members** amounts to AMD 300,000 gross, and the minimum amount - AMD 150,000 gross:

- For a Group consisting of 5 members: 90,000.0 thousand AMD (ninety million AMD);
- For a Group consisting of 4 members: 72,000.0 thousand AMD (seventy-two million AMD);
- For a Group consisting of 3 members: 54,000.0 thousand AMD (fifty-four million AMD);
- For a Group consisting of 2 members: 36,000.0 thousand AMD (thirty-six million AMD).

10.4. If the total remuneration is less than the above-mentioned amount in Subparagraph 10.3., the surplus can be used in the “Other Costs” section of the **Estimate**.

10.5. For the “Equipment, Materials, and Services”, “Travels”, and “Overhead Costs” subsections of the “Other Costs” section of the **Estimate**, the following amounts shall be considered for a total of 60 months:

- For a Group consisting of 5 members: 25,000.0 thousand AMD (twenty-five million AMD);
- For a Group consisting of 4 members: 20,000.0 thousand AMD (twenty million AMD);
- For a Group consisting of 3 members: 15,000.0 thousand AMD (fifteen million AMD);
- For a Group consisting of 2 members: 10,000.0 thousand AMD (ten million AMD);

The amount of funding envisaged for those costs can be increased at the expense of the surplus mentioned in Subparagraph 10.4.

10.6. A remuneration in the amount of AMD 150,000 gross per week may be provided for the **PI** during their stay in the Republic of Armenia under the “Equipment, Materials, and Services” subsection of the “Other Costs” section of the **Estimate**, which cannot exceed the total of AMD 3,000,000 gross throughout the implementation of the **Project** (60 months).

10.7. The expenses for purchasing scientific equipment, materials, and services necessary for the research may be envisaged under the “Equipment, Materials, and Services” subsection of the

“Other Costs” section of the **Estimate**. A contract for services may be signed only with legal entities upon the prior consent of the **Committee**.

- 10.8. The purchase of scientific equipment shall not be scheduled for the last year of the **Project**.
- 10.9. The costs for the implementation process and presentation of the proceedings of the **Project** at international conferences and mutual visits of the **PI** and the **Group Members** may be envisaged under the “Travel” subsection of the “Other Costs” section of the **Estimate**.
- 10.10. When calculating daily and accommodation costs of the study visits, it is necessary to be guided by the Decree of the Government of the Republic of Armenia N°2335-Ն dated December 29, 2005.
- 10.11. An amount of AMD 15,000,000 may be allocated to the improvement of the laboratory infrastructure and other **Project-related** costs for the first 12 months under the “Establishment of the Group/Laboratory” subsection of the “Other Costs” section of the **Estimate**.
- 10.12. Up to AMD 2,500,000 may be requested within a period of 60 months under the “Overhead Costs” subsection of the “Other Costs” section of the **Estimate**.
- 10.13. All of the subsections of the **Estimate** shall be justified in the Budget Estimate Narrative.
- 10.14. Justification and distribution of the Budget may be amended upon the consent of the **PI and the CI**.

## II. APPLICATION CONSIDERATION AND EVALUATION

### 11. Conformity of Applications to the Terms of the Call

- 11.1. The **Committee** shall consider the following circumstances:
  - Compliance of the submitted **Applications** with the terms of the **Call**;
  - Whether the publications mentioned in the **Application** are included in Beall’s list (<https://beallslist.net/>) of fake and predatory publishers or journals.
- 11.2. The **Application** shall not be considered if:
  - it does not contain all the required documentation;
  - it does not meet the **Call’s** criteria;
  - its content is identical to one of the research projects funded, currently or previously, from the state budget of the Republic of Armenia.
- 11.3. The results of the examination shall be provided to the Professional Expert Board established for the purpose of evaluation of applications (hereinafter **Board**).
- 11.4. The **Board** shall consider and approve the list of **Applications** subject to Scientific **Expertise**.
- 11.5. The **CIs** of the Groups whose **Applications** do not meet the criteria specified in the **Call** shall be duly notified via the grants.hesc.am **System** about not being shortlisted for the Scientific Expertise stage.

## 12. Scientific Expertise

- 12.1. **The Board**, in cooperation with **the Committee**, shall design and approve the evaluation sheets and the procedure for the first, second, and third stages of Scientific Expertise of the applications.
- 12.2. During the 1st Stage of Scientific Expertise, the Board shall consider the Extensive Summary (Annex 2.4) of the Project.
- 12.3. During the 2nd Stage of Scientific Expertise, the Board shall conduct an interview with the **PIs** and the **Cis**.
- 12.4. During the 3rd Stage of Scientific Expertise, the Experts shall evaluate the **Application (Project)**.
- 12.5. Pursuant to the provisions of the RA Law “On Scientific and Technical Expertise”, the **Committee**, the **Board**, or the experts shall be prohibited from providing any information regarding the **Applications’** content, Scientific Expertise process, and the results thereof to a third party.

## 13. The 1<sup>st</sup> Stage of Scientific Expertise (Extensive Summary Evaluation)

- 13.1. During the 1<sup>st</sup> Stage of Scientific Expertise, the **Board** shall consider the Extensive Summary of the **Project**, the **PI’s** and **CI’s** track records, their academic **CVs**, and the **Organization’s** compatibility with the **Project’s** purposes. Subsequently, based on the **Board** members’ consensus, the shortlist of eligible applications for the next stage of Expertise shall be formed.
- 13.2. The **CIs** of the groups that have not been shortlisted as a result of the 1<sup>st</sup> Stage of Scientific Expertise shall be duly notified the grants.hesc.am **System**.

## 14. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage of Scientific Expertise (Interview)

- 14.1. The **Board** shall conduct interviews with the **PIs** and **CIs** of the **Applications**. At this stage, the following aspects shall be evaluated: the qualifications and professional compliance of the **PI**, **CI**, and the **Group Members** in terms of the **Project** objectives, implementation feasibility at the **Organization**, relevance in terms of the current state of the art on the particular field, feasibility of the international cooperation, efficiency of the disposal and dissemination of scientific results, **Estimate** justification, as well as other issues related to the peculiarities of the current **Call**.
- 14.2. Each member of the **Board** shall fill out the Interview Evaluation Sheet for each **Application**.
- 14.3. The maximum score of the Interview shall not exceed 50% of the maximum evaluation score of the **Application**.
- 14.4. The final Interview evaluation score shall be calculated as the arithmetic mean of the scores of **Board Members**.

- 14.5. Only those applications that scored at least 70% of the maximum evaluation score of the Interview shall be shortlisted for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Stage of Scientific Expertise.
- 14.6. The **CI**s of the groups that have not been shortlisted as a result of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage of Scientific Expertise shall be duly notified the grants.hesc.am **System**, and the **PI**s shall be notified electronically.
- 14.7. The Committee shall provide the **CI**s of the **Groups** via the grants.hesc.am System, and the **PI**s of the **Groups** electronically with the results of and the threshold of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage of Scientific Expertise (Interview).

## 15. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Stage of Scientific Expertise (Expert Evaluation)

- 15.1. Applications that have passed the 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage of Scientific Expertise are subject to Expert Evaluation. At the 3<sup>rd</sup> Stage of Scientific Expertise, the following aspects of the **Application** shall be evaluated by the Experts: the **Project's** current state of research, relevance, and perspectivity, the implementation feasibility at the **Organization**, the validity of the scope and timespan of the **Project**, the significance of the international cooperation, the qualifications and professional compliance of the **PI**, **CI**, and the **Group Members** in terms of the **Project** objectives, feasibility of international cooperation, the disposal and dissemination of scientific results, **Estimate** justification, as well as other issues related to the peculiarities of the current **Call**.
- 15.2. The **Application** shall be reviewed by at least 2 independent experts. A **Board Member** is also entitled to act as an independent expert.
- 15.3. For each **Application**, the expert shall fill out the Expert Evaluation Sheet.
- 15.4. The maximum score of the Interview shall not exceed 50% of the maximum evaluation score of the **Application**.
- 15.5. If the scores of two experts differ by 30 percent or more from the maximum evaluation score of scientific expertise, the **Application** shall be subject to further examination by a third expert.

## 16. Evaluations Results

- 16.1. The total score of scientific expertise shall be calculated as the sum of the arithmetic mean of the Interview Score from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage of Scientific Expertise and the Evaluation Scores of 2 experts from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Stage of Scientific Expertise. If the **Application** has been evaluated by 3 experts, the final **Application** score shall be calculated as the sum of the arithmetic mean of two of the closest scores submitted by 3 experts (in the case of equal difference between 3 experts' scores – the arithmetic mean of two higher scores) and the Interview Score.
- 16.2. Based on the final evaluation results of the **Applications** shortlisted for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Stage of Scientific Expertise, the **Committee** shall form the Application Ranking List in descending order, and further submit it to the **Board** for consideration.

- 16.3. The **Board** approves the **Application** Ranking List and presents the recommended threshold score for each research and technical field.
- 16.4. Based on the volume of relevant allocations from the Republic of Armenia's state budget, the **Committee** shall determine the threshold score for each of the research fields and shall submit the draft order listing the **Applications** eligible for funding and the amount of funding for each **Application** to the **Minister's** approval.
- 16.5. The list of **Projects** eligible for funding and the amount of funding thereof shall be approved by the Order of the **Minister**.
- 16.6. The list of **Projects** eligible for funding as a result of the **Call** shall be published on the official website of the **Committee**.
- 16.7. The **Committee** shall duly inform each Head of the **Organization** on the Approved **Projects** List for their respective **Organization**.
- 16.8. The **Committee** shall provide the **CI** with Scientific Expertise results and the threshold score via the grants.hesc.am System.

### III. OTHER PROVISIONS

#### 17. Contract Signing

- 17.1. The **Committee**, the **Organization**, and the **CI** of the approved **Application** shall sign a **Contract** formed automatically via the **System**.
- 17.2. To ensure the monthly remuneration of the Group Members, contracts shall be signed in the manner prescribed by the RA "Civil Code,"
- Between the Organization and the CI,
  - Between the Organization, the CI, and the Group Member.
- Copies of the aforementioned contracts are submitted to the **Committee** by the **Organization's** representative (Academic secretary or another responsible official).
- To ensure the monthly remuneration of the **Group Members**, the Organization signs contracts in accordance with the Civil Code of the Republic of Armenia, and copies of these contracts are also submitted to the **Committee** by the **Organization's** representative (Academic secretary or another responsible person).
- 17.3. The **Contracts** shall be signed within 10 days after the publication of the results of the present **Call**.
- 17.4. The **Projects** shall be implemented within the timeframes outlined in the **Contract**.

#### 18. Reporting

- 18.1. Interim and final reports are prepared on the implementation of the Project.
- 18.2. The **CI** of the **Group** shall submit an Interim Implementation **Report** to the **Committee** every 12<sup>th</sup> month (on the last working day) since the commencement of the **Project** via the

grants.hesc.am **System**. Based on the reports, the **Board** shall decide on the continuation of funding of the **Project**.

- 18.3. By the 35<sup>th</sup> month (on the last working day) since the commencement of the **Project**, the **CI** of the **Group** shall submit a triennial report to the **Committee**, which shall include the description of anticipated intermediate results of the **Project** (as outlined in Subparagraph 8.2 hereby) via the grants.hesc.am **System**. Based on those reports, the **Board** shall decide whether to terminate the **Project's** funding or continue it for another 24 months.
- 18.4. By the 60<sup>th</sup> month (on the last working day) since the commencement of the **Project**, the **CI** of the **Group** shall submit the Final report to the **Committee**, including the expected outcomes as outlined in Subparagraphs 8.4, 8.5 and 8.6 hereby, as a result of which the **Board** shall issue a conclusion on the acceptance of the report.
- 18.5. With the aim of assessing the quality and effectiveness of the research system, the **Committee** is entitled to initiate interim monitoring of the **Project** and present the results to the **Board**.
- 18.6. While deciding on the continuation of funding of the **Project**, the **Board** shall take into consideration the results of the monitoring by the **Committee**.
- 18.7. The **Committee** reserves the right to publish the abstracts and reports of the funded **Projects** either in a paper-based or electronic format.

## 19. Additional Information

- 19.1. Should the submitted **Project** and the reports based thereon include intellectual property or patent rights objects, the **PI** and the **CI** shall comply with the Laws of the Republic of Armenia “On Copyright and Related Rights” and “On Inventions, Utility Models and Industrial Designs.”
- 19.2. Upon the consent of the **PI**, the **CI** shall be allowed to redistribute the financial means envisaged in the “Other Costs” section of the **Contract's Estimate** by submitting an appropriate justification to the **Committee** and receiving the **Committee's** written permission thereto.
- 19.3. In the case of the **PI's** incapability to continue performing their duties, upon the suggestion of the Head of the **Organization** and the consent of the scientific board of the **Organization** and the **Group Members**, as well as with the written approval of the **Committee**, it is possible to replace the **PI**.
- 19.4. The **PI** is entitled to relocate to the Republic of Armenia throughout the implementation of the **Project**. To achieve this goal, the **CI** applies to the **Committee** with a proposal to add a new member to the **Group**, along with an appropriate justification and suggesting an equivalent substitute acting as a **PI**.
- 19.5. In the case of the inclusion of the **PI** in the list of **Group Members** as specified in Subparagraph 19.4 hereby, the amount of the new **Group Member's** salary (including taxes and other mandatory fees) is set to AMD 600,000 per month, and in case of moving to the



Republic of Armenia with family member(s), up to AMD 750,000 gross per month, and an agreement shall be signed establishing the change in the price of the Contract, which shall constitute an integral part thereof.

- 19.6. In the case of the **PI's** relocation to the Republic of Armenia as specified in Subparagraph 19.4 hereby, the **Organization** shall involve him/her in a program within the framework of basic funding for scientific and technical activities. If the **PI** was born after January 1, 1974, they are entitled to hold the position of the Head of the Subdivision envisaged under Subparagraph 7.6.
- 19.7. In the case of the **CI's** incapability to continue performing their duties, upon the suggestion of the **Head** of the **Organization** and the consent of the scientific board of the **Organization** and the rest of the **Group Members**, as well as with the written approval of the **Committee**, it is possible to replace the **CI**. In the case of the **CI's** replacement, a new agreement shall be signed within the Contract which shall constitute an integral part thereof, with the new **CI** of the **Group** undertaking to implement the **Project** in accordance with the **Contract**.
- 19.8. The **CI** may apply to the **Committee** for a written permission to make an equivalent change in the list of the **Group Members**, providing the justification in the required form and the **PI's** consent. In the case of a change in the list of **Group Members**, a copy of the newly signed contract with the new member under the grant project shall be submitted to the **Committee**.
- 19.9. The **CI** may apply to the **Committee** with a request to reduce the number of **Group Members** by one (as long as it complies with the provisions of Subparagraph 4.2.), providing an appropriate justification and the **PI's** consent. In the case of a reduction in the number of **Group Members**, an Agreement shall be concluded on changing the Contract price which shall constitute an integral part thereof.
- 19.10. In the case of the **Group Member's** incapability to continue performing their duties, before including a new **Group Member**, the **PI** may apply to the **Committee** to suspend the remuneration of the **Group Member** for a period of up to 3 months (as long as it complies with the provisions of Subparagraph 4.2. of the present Call), presenting the appropriate justification. In the case of failure to reinstate or substitute a **Group Member** within the three-month period, the number of the **Group Members** shall be reduced by one, and an **Agreement** on the change of the **Contract** price (including the amount of three months' remuneration) shall be signed. The **PI** may redistribute the surplus of the "Remuneration" section of the Estimate only within the same section.
- 19.11. During the implementation of the **Project** (no earlier than 12 months after the commencement), the **CI** is entitled to apply to the **Committee** with a proposal to increase the number of the **Group Members** by a maximum of 2 performers under the age of 35 holding a qualification relevant to the **Project**, along with an appropriate justification and the **PI's** consent.

- 19.12. The **Group Members** involved in the **Project** under Subparagraph 19.12 shall not be employed in any Organization carrying out a program within the framework of basic funding for scientific and technical activities from the state budget of the Republic of Armenia.
- 19.13. In the case of an increase in the number of **Group Members**, the value of the **Contract** shall increase by AMD 1,800,000 gross per each new **Group Member** (for the period of 12 months), and an Agreement shall be concluded on changing the Contract price which shall constitute an integral part thereof.
- 19.14. The absence of any **Group Member** from the Republic of Armenia for 2 or more months during a 12-month period must be agreed upon in writing with the **Committee**.

## 20. Termination of the Project Funding

The **Committee** is entitled to terminate the funding of the **Project** in the following cases:

- Interim reports have not been submitted within the established timeframe, or the **Board** has issued a negative conclusion on the acceptance of the report;
- A redistribution of financial means has been made in the “Other Costs” section of the **Estimate** without the **Committee's** written permission thereto;
- A change has been made in the list of the **Group Members** without the **Committee's** written permission thereto,
- The absence of any **Group Member** from the Republic of Armenia for a period of two months or more during a 12-month period without the **Committee's** written permission thereto,
- The provisions of Subparagraphs 7.5, 7.6., 8.2. and 19.5 of the present **Call** failed to be fulfilled. Moreover, such noncompliance shall also affect further **Applications** from the **Organization** in the amount determined in the conclusion of the **Board** formed for the next **Calls for Proposals**.

## RESEARCH FIELDS BY CLASSIFIERS

<p><b>1. Natural Sciences</b></p> <p>1.1 Mathematics 1.2 Computer and Information Sciences 1.3 Physical and Astronomical Sciences 1.4 Chemical Sciences 1.5 Earth and Related Environmental Sciences 1.6 Biological Sciences</p> <p><b>2. Engineering and Technology</b></p> <p>2.1 Civil Engineering and Architecture 2.2 Electrical Engineering, Electronic Engineering, Energy Engineering, Computing and Information Technologies 2.3 Mechanics 2.4 Mechanical Science and Mechanical Engineering 2.5 Chemical Technologies 2.6 Material Studies 2.7 Medical Engineering 2.8 Environmental Studies 2.9 Biotechnology 2.10 Nanotechnology</p> <p><b>3. Medical and Health Sciences</b></p> <p>3.1 Basic Medicine 3.2 Clinical Medicine 3.3 Medical Biotechnology</p>	<p><b>4. Agricultural Sciences</b></p> <p>4.1 Animal Agriculture and Veterinary Science 4.2 Crop Science 4.3 Soil Science, Agrochemistry, Plant Protection 4.4 Agricultural Biotechnology</p> <p><b>5. Social Sciences</b></p> <p>5.1 Psychology 5.2 Economics and Business Administration 5.3 Education 5.4 Sociology 5.5 Law 5.6 Political Science 5.7 Social and Economic Geography 5.8 Media and Communications</p> <p><b>6. Armenian Studies and Humanities</b></p> <p>6.1 History and Archaeology 6.2 Languages and Literature Studies 6.3 Philosophy and Ethics 6.4 Theology and Religious Studies 6.5 Arts</p>
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## PROJECT

To be filled out in English\*, on up to 12 pages, including graphs, tables, images, and references.

### 1. *Annotation*

### 2. *Review on the Current State of Research on the Topic*

### 3. *Project Aims and Objectives*

### 4. *Research Project*

### 5. *Current Resources and Scientific Methods*

### 6. *Calendar Plan (by trimesters or Gantt Chart)*

### 7. *Group Members' Achievements in the Mentioned Field and the Feasibility of the Foreign Partner's Involvement*

### 8. *Group Development Prospects (risks and opportunities)*

### 9. *Quantitative and Qualitative Indicators for the Expected Results (publications, conference proceedings, use of innovative methods, such as technological investment, demonstration, sample, prototype, etc., management of intellectual property (patent, copyright, etc., fostering international cooperation, prospects for collaboration)*

### 10. *References*

\*Optionally, the Project can be submitted in both English and Armenian.

*Non-official translation*

**Annex №2.3**

to the Call for Proposals  
“Adjunct Research Professorship Program 2025”  
(Remote Laboratory)

TO THE ATTENTION OF  
MR. SARGIS HAYOTSYAN  
CHAIRMAN OF THE RA HIGHER EDUCATION  
AND SCIENCE COMMITTEE

Application Letter

Kindly find enclosed herewith the Application(s) submitted by the  
\_\_\_\_\_ (name of the Organization) with the following  
codes: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ for consideration under the Call for Proposals “Adjunct  
Research Professorship Program 2025”.

Head of the Organization \_\_\_\_\_ ( \_\_\_\_\_ )  
(Signature) (Name, Surname)

*Non-official translation*

**Annex №2.4**

to the Call for Proposals  
“Adjunct Research Professorship Program 2025”  
(Remote Laboratory)

**Project Title**

**Extensive Summary**

*The Extensive Summary is evaluated at the 1<sup>st</sup> Stage of Scientific Expertise.*

*The Extensive Summary shall be written both in Armenian and English (maximum 2 pages per each).*

*The Extensive Summary should concisely describe the **Project**, outlining the relevance and expediency of the research.*