

INNOVATION VOUCHER PROGRAMME - CALL I

The Innovation Voucher programme is designed to develop communication as well as knowledge and know-how sharing between the business and research spheres, which can be used by business entities to start up or intensify their own innovation activities. Increased interactions between enterprises and research and knowledge organisations will directly improve SME's competitiveness.

SCHEDULE

Applications for aid will be accepted:

- 01/06/2016 – 31/05/2017

SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

- Supported activities include purchases of advisory, expert and auxiliary services in the field of innovations from research and knowledge organisations and certified testing laboratories.

APPLICANT

- Must declare that they are SMEs as of the application date in accordance with Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC.
- Is a business entity, which does not run or plan running a business in economic activities listed in Annex No. 2 of the Call.
- Is authorised to run a business within the territory of the Czech Republic, which complies with an economic activity corresponding to that for which the project is implemented.
- Must declare that they are registered as income tax payers with financial authorities in accordance with section 125 Act No. 280/2009 Coll., Tax Code, as amended, continuously for two closed fiscal years preceding the application date. The applicant must submit a declaration of simple registration with financial authorities in accordance with section 125 (1) Act No. 280/2009 Coll., Tax Code, as amended.
- Must declare that they do not have any arrears due to selected institutions and providers of support to projects co-funded from EU budgets.
- Must declare that they do not have any arrears on grounds of their employees' salary claims.
- Does not have any outstanding liability on grounds of a recovery order following a previous Commission decision declaring an aid illegal and incompatible with the internal market.
- The applicant must publish their ownership structure in accordance with Provider's requirements.

SECTORAL DEFINITION

- Projects, the outputs of which will be used in any of the following sectors, are not supported:
 - Production, processing and placing on the market of products listed in Annex No. 2 of the Call
 - Aquaculture, forestry, fishery, aquaculture (CZ-NACE A 01, A 02, A 03)

MAIN CONDITIONS OF THE CALL

- The project must be implemented within the territory of the Czech Republic, except for the City of Prague.
- The actual place where the project is to be implemented, not the applicant's registered office, will be considered to determine whether or not the project is eligible.
- The project does not assume an aid for activities related to exported quantities, an aid for the establishment and operation of a distribution network abroad, or for other current costs of exports (custom duties, insurance, etc.), or an aid giving preference to the use of domestic goods to the detriment of imported goods.
- The project was not started before the application date.
- Every applicant may submit under this Call up to 3 projects per ID.
- The applicant must sum up the expenses across submitted projects, and where the same or similar fulfilment is concerned, they must invite tenders.
- Simultaneously with the application, the applicant must submit the following documents: An offer to supply services conforming to the model, Business plan conforming to the model, de minimis statement.
- When the Decision is signed, the applicant must demonstrate: data on related enterprises, and the applicant must have the supported economic activity, as well as the establishment where the project is to be implemented, unless the project place is identical with the registered office, registered in the respective register depending on the type of beneficiary.
- Simultaneously with the request for payment, the applicant must submit mandatory annexes of payment request, such as the acceptance protocol, order, invoice, receipt, invoicing outputs.

ELIGIBLE COSTS

- Measuring, diagnostics, testing, trials, analyses, verification, certification, calculations where the mentioned activities are part of the project development or of introduction of a new product (or service) or process.
- Designs of new systems, worksheets, unique structural solutions, new types of devices, materials and methods.
- Development of software, hardware, materials, devices, system components, prototype, functioning sample in the context of development or introduction of a new product or process.
- Proposal for the product technical design.
- Optimisation of processes, methods, parameters, used material to considerably improve efficiency or reduce costs for the company.

- Modelling, simulating processes, actions, systems, operations in the context of development or introduction of new products or processes.
- Consultations, advisory for innovations, services in purchases and transfer of intellectual property, i.e. consultations in the protection of industrial property rights (these activities cannot be undertaken on a stand-alone basis, those are auxiliary activities only).

FORM AND AMOUNT OF THE AID

- Aid intensity:
 - The grant will be up to 75% of eligible costs under "de minimis" aid.
- Maximum and minimum amounts of aid
 - Min. absolute aid granted per project: CZK 80,000
 - Max. absolute aid granted per project: CZK 250,000