

Programme
BRAIN GAIN



Call for proposal
(02.03.)"Postdoc"



Nacionalna zaklada za znanost

**The National Foundation for Science, Higher Education and
Technological development of the Republic of Croatia**

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Postdoc

The purpose of the Call for proposal is to advance professional competences and independence of young researchers who have recently earned their doctoral degree with the goal of increasing the number of persons with postdoctoral education, including the ones outside the science and higher education system.

Within the priority fields defined in the Strategic plan, NZZ will finance postdoctoral education of:

- research assistants, senior research assistants and assistant professors holding a PhD and employed at Croatian universities and research institutes, who can develop an independent research career or who are employed in industry, business or public sector, and are going abroad for postdoctoral training (candidates must be employed at their home institution during the whole period of receiving the grant);
- foreign scientist who have recently gained a PhD degree outside Croatia and coming from industry and academic institutions to work on scientific and research projects in Croatian scientific and academic institutions (foreign postdoc in Croatia)

Grants are awarded as a personal grant for:

- travel costs and living expenses for scientists employed in Croatia who go abroad, for the period from 3 to 12 months
- travels costs and living expenses for foreign scientists who come to Croatia, for the period from 3 to 12 months
- conducting research in order to enhance the development of strategic fields and the scientific development of Croatian universities or other scientific institutes within the strategic fields defined in the NZZ Strategic

Total budget of this programme for the year 2010 is 2.000.000,00 Kuna.



Objectives

- to improve research standard at universities and institutes
- to transfer and establish technology in Croatia
- strategic definition of institutions (development of research domain – specific kind of research)
- to build a competitive research team
- to improve research competences in industry and public sector
- to raise the quality of doctoral studies and to promote international mobility of young researchers at the postdoctoral level
- to develop strategic fields in Croatia, especially those defined by the NZZ in the Strategic plan.



Eligibility

- PhD degree
- project duration from minimum 3 to maximum 12 months (researcher should spend at least 3 months abroad, or in Croatia if the researcher comes from abroad)
- when applying, candidate must be younger than 35¹ (the application of a candidate who will turn 35 in that calendar year is eligible)
- candidates who apply to go abroad from Croatia must deliver a proof of employment at a Croatian institution (employment contact with the institution)
- candidate coming from abroad does not have to deliver a proof of employment at a foreign institution
- candidate must not receive salary from the host institution.

Applications from candidates with more than 2 years of postdoctoral education abroad at the time of the application will not be considered.

Maximum amount of the grant is 117.000,00 HRK (without bonuses). Candidate's budget planning should be done in accordance with the following table:

Group	Maximum amount of grants for particular countries	Host country
1.	9.750,00 HRK	Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Sweden, the United Kingdom, Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, Japan, Australia, The United States of America
2.	9.000,00 HRK	Austria, Belgium, the Netherlands
3.	8.250,00 HRK	Croatia, Cyprus, Spain
4.	7.500,00 HRK	Greece, Portugal
5.	6.750,00 HRK	the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Bulgaria, , Romania, Israel, Turkey, China, India

If the candidate receives full pay from the home institution or has another scholarship, the maximum scholarship amount is decreased by 20%.

If the candidate receives part of pay from the home institution and has another scholarship, the maximum scholarship amount is decreased by 35%.

If the candidate receives full pay from the home institution and has another scholarship, the maximum scholarship amount is decreased by 50%.

- **Supplement** for spouse – 1.500,00 HRK per month

¹ The period of military service, period of pregnancy and maternity leave until the child's age of 1, and the period of longer illness will be deducted from the chronological age of the candidate. NZZ will also accept applications from candidates older than 35 in the case of other reasonable cases. Each of the above mentioned special conditions must be proved.

- **Supplement** for children– 750,00 HRK per month per child
- **Travel costs** – up to 7.500,00 HRK

Candidates who will receive pay from the host institution are not eligible for the NZZ scholarship.



Advantages

- fields in which there is lack of opportunities for postdoctoral training in Croatia, within strategic values and priorities as defined in the NZZ Strategic plan
- arrival of postdoctoral students to regional Croatian universities
- arrival of postdoctoral students to Croatia
- development of doctoral joint study by a Croatian university/ies with at least two universities from EU countries
- postdoctoral students going to EU countries and partially funded from other sources, such as the EU framework programme for research or another European foundation
- postdoctoral students who wish to pursue their training in a field other than their primary field of expertise (doctoral education)



Application documentation

Application documentation must contain:

- Application form (PDF document generated after the application in the EPP system is completed) (Application form is signed and sealed by the head of the institution the postdoctoral student is employed at. Application form for foreign postdoctoral students who are not employed is signed and sealed by the head of the postdoctoral student's host institution in Croatia.
- Form A – Project description
- Form B – Financial plan
- Form C – CV (with the list of publications) of the project leader
- Form D – CV (with the list of publications) of the project associates (mentor)²
- Form E – Work plan
- Invitation letter from the candidate's host institution
- Written consent from the candidate's home institution for the candidate's stay at foreign institution
- Proof of employment (for candidates from Croatia going abroad)
- Transcript of grades from undergraduate, graduate and doctoral studies and a copy of the PhD diploma³
- Form I – Statement on (not)receiving pay and/or another grant
- Marriage certificate and birth certificate if the candidate requires supplements for the spouse and children (To prove extramarital union the candidate should deliver

² CV and list of publications of project associates do not have to be in the NZZ CV form.

³ If there is no transcript of grades from the doctoral studies, the candidate should deliver a statement confirming it

- a certificate of sharing a common domestic life for at least three years issued by the competent police administration and the birth certificate of a child born in an extramarital union)
- Documentation to prove special conditions (proof of maternity leave, military service, illness) (if applicable)



Grant recipient's obligations

- participating in research according to the accepted Work plan
- supervising and giving support to doctoral students in the PhD programmes
- participating in undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate education
- delivering a public lecture about his/her research as well as research in which he/she will participate in within the programme "Postdoc" (the lecture should be held within 30 days from the end date of the project)
- submitting the final report on the accomplished objectives of the visit and research. The report is submitted on the official NZZ form.
- if the grant is awarded for a period longer than six months, the recipient should deliver a periodical report which will be evaluated by the Evaluation Committee; based on the Evaluation Committee's decision, the Board of NZZ brings a decision on further financing. The report is submitted on the official NZZ form.



Evaluation

- Proposals will be evaluated by the Evaluation Committee according to the **Evaluation form I** based on the application documentation. Applications submitted from 16th April 2010 until **15th October 2010** will be evaluated in November and December 2010, and **the financing may begin in December 2010**. Projects applied for this deadline must begin no later than 15th October 2010.
- For grants awarded for a period longer than 6 months, the recipient will be required to submit a **periodical report** after six months which will be evaluated by the Evaluation Committee (the same committee that conducted the first evaluation) according to the **Evaluation form IV**. After the evaluation of the periodical report, the Board brings a decision on further financing. The Board can decide to continue financing, to change the financing contract or to terminate financing.
- All recipients must submit a **final report** on the official report form. The Evaluation Committee (the same one that conducted the first and periodical evaluation) will evaluate the final report according to the **Evaluation form IV**. The report may be published on the NZZ web page and publications.



Deadlines

Application deadlines in 2010: **15th April 2010** and **15th October 2010**

Deadline for electronic application: 15th October 2010 by 12:00h

Deadline for hard copy application: 15th October 2010. The date of sending the

documentation by post is considered the delivery date to the NZZ.



Application submission

Complete application documentation should be submitted in electronic version and in hard copy no later than the date stated in the programme deadlines. Electronic and hard copies of the application must be identical – the NZZ will not be held responsible for any discrepancies.

Electronic application is submitted via EPP application system available on the official NZZ web site (<http://epp.nzz.hr/prijava>).

Hard copy should contain 4 copies of complete application documentation. Complete application documentation marked as "ORIGINAL" and three identical copies should be sent to the NZZ office address stated below. Hard copy of the application must be sent no later than the date stated in the programme deadline. The date of sending the documentation by post is considered the delivery date to the NZZ.

Incomplete applications and applications delivered after the deadline will not be taken into consideration.

Hard copies of the application should be sent to:

**The National Foundation for Science, Higher Education and
Technological Development of the Republic of Croatia
Nazorova 2
51410 Opatija
Croatia
- Call for proposals -**

The Board of the Foundation reserves the right to change criteria of this Call for proposals for further application deadlines.



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