



In line with the decision of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport of the Republic of Slovenia of 25 May 2021, granting the University of Nova Gorica the approval for executing the activities for achieving the aims of the development field of national significance: »Additional activities for talented students«, the University of Nova Gorica is launching the

CALL for applications for student research projects

1. Purpose of the Call

The purpose of the Call is to select the best student project proposals and to ensure the execution of the projects. In this manner, the University of Nova Gorica (hereinafter »University«) shall allow the inclusion of students from all Slovenia into scientific and research work using the state-of-the-art research equipment and infrastructure (the INSPIRO project) and thus providing additional activities for talented students.

2. General provisions

- 2.1 The Call lays down the conditions, procedures and measures for selecting the projects, and determines the duration of the projects, the duties and rights of the project holders and of the University.
- 2.2 The Call also specifies the documentation to be used in the process of evaluating the project proposals, and the actions to be performed as part of the procedure carried out by the Committee for the Call and the Selection of Candidates (hereinafte: »Committee«) and the University, which undertake the decisions on the selection and the conditions for executing the approved projects.
- 2.3 The expressions used in this Call, which are written in the masculine grammatical form, shall be deemed gender neutral and apply equally to men and women.

3. Conditions for candidates

- 3.1 The call is open for students of bachelor's and master's study programmes at public universities and students of study programmes holding concessions at independent higher education institutions.

4. Applications

- 4.1 The candidates may submit proposals of research projects related to the following areas or thematic clusters, as described in details in Annex 1:
 - advanced materials and environmental technologies,
 - atmospheric and aerosol research using the LIDAR system,
 - organic semi-conductors,
 - quantum optics,
 - astrophysics,
 - laser opto-thermal spectroscopy,
 - yeast collections and enology,
 - linguistics and cognitive sciences,
 - studies in the field of literary sciences using electronic collections.



- 4.2. The application must contain:
 - the completed application form (Annex 2),
 - the research project proposal submitted on maximum two pages (font size 11, single spacing), which must contain the justification of the proposed research project and of the use of the specific equipment and infrastructure at UNG, the description of the course of research activities and of their respective duration, the description of the outcomes and a list of most relevant scientific bibliography sources,
 - the certificate of enrollment,
 - the candidate's statement that the results obtained shall not be used for the candidate's bachelor's or master's thesis.
- 4.3. The candidates must submit their applications via e-mail to the e-mail address inspiro@ung.si.
- 4.4. The deadline for the submission of applications is 27th March 2022 by 24:00.
- 4.5. Incomplete applications and untimely applications, received after the deadline for submissions, shall not be processed by the Committee.

5. Committee for the Call and the Selection of Projects

- 5.1. The Committee, which has five members, consists of three representatives of the University of Nova Gorica and two representatives of public universities in Slovenia.
- 5.2. The members of the Committee evaluating the project proposals submitted to the Call are:
 - Prof. Dr. Matjaž Finšgar (Faculty of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, University of Maribor)
 - Prof. Dr. Mladen Franko (School of Environmental Sciences, University of Nova Gorica)
 - Prof. Dr. Franc Marušič (School of Humanities, University of Nova Gorica)
 - Assist. Prof. Dr. Dunja Fabjan (Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, University of Ljubljana)
 - Dr. Jan Reščič (School for Viticulture and Enology, University of Nova Gorica).

6. Selection procedure

- 6.1. The Committee shall carry out the evaluation procedure for the submitted proposals on the basis of the complete applications and evidence submitted, and in line with the evaluation criteria no later than 14 days after the closure of the Call, and shall draw up a proposal of the selected candidates, which it shall submit to the University.
- 6.2. The Committee shall perform the selection of the projects according to:
 - the topicality of the research area and the relevance of the proposed research,
 - the eligibility of the use of specific research equipment at UNG for the purposes of carrying out the research,
 - the feasibility of the research project,
 - the significance of the expected results.
- 6.3. The Committee shall select up to two project proposals from each individual research area or thematic cluster stated in Article 4.1. The Committee may decide not to select any project from an individual research area or thematic cluster.



- 6.4. The decision on the selection of the best projects is adopted by the University, which, within seven days after having received the proposal from the Committee, communicates the decision on the selection to all the candidates who have submitted a complete application. The decision is also adopted to appoint the candidate's mentor for the execution of the research project, and is approved by the Committee on the basis of the proposal of the research unit.
- 6.5. The candidate may not appeal against the decision of the Committee.

7. Obligations of the selected candidates

- 7.1. The selected candidates must start with the proposed research project activities latest by 1 May 2022 and complete the practical part of the research within 90 days, which is agreed upon with the mentor appointed for the execution of the project.
- 7.2. The candidate completes the project with a written report and a statement confirming that the data and the information stated in the report are the result of the candidate's research work, which have to be signed also by the mentor. The candidate must submit the report latest by 30 September 2022.
- 7.3. The candidate must participate in the annual public presentation of the outcomes of the INSPIRO project, which shall be organized in the form of short lectures held by candidates, through which the most important outcomes of the project will be communicated.

8. Funds for the execution of the project

- 8.1. The funds for the execution of the project are provided by the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport of the Republic of Slovenia as part of the development pillar of funding for the period 2021–2024.
- 8.2. The University shall provide the candidates with all the necessary infrastructure and equipment, as well as the material (small laboratory inventory items, chemicals) for the execution of the project, and a mentor and professional support staff offering assistance in using the more sophisticated equipment.
- 8.3. Upon completing the project, the candidates are entitled to receive an award in the amount of 750 EUR, which shall be paid out by the University on the basis of the referral issued by a student job agency. The payment shall be carried out after the submission of the written report on the project outcomes, which must be signed by the mentor.
- 8.4. The candidates are also entitled to the travel expenses allowance for the arrival to the location where the activities related to the project take place, as arranged also for UNG staff members.

Contact:

For further information please write to the e-mail address: inspiro@ung.si.

Project funded by:



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION,
SCIENCE AND SPORT