

Documentation for the open grant competition of the Government of the Russian Federation designed to support scientific research projects implemented under the supervision of leading scientists at Russian institutions of higher learning

The Government of the Russian Federation will support scientific research projects implemented under the supervision of leading scientists at Russian institutions of higher learning by issuing monetary grants (hereinafter referred to as “Grants”) that will be used to fund scientific research projects in 2011-2013 with the possibility to extend the projects for up to two additional years. The grants will be made available in the form of subsidies payable to Russian institutions of higher learning hosting the research projects supported by the grants in question (hereinafter referred to as “Universities”). Research projects will be implemented by university research teams under the supervision of leading scientists in the following research areas determined by the Grant Board of the Government of the Russian Federation for support of scientific research activities implemented under the supervision of leading scientists at Russian institutions of higher learning (hereinafter referred to as “Grant Board”): astronomy and astrophysics, nuclear power and nuclear technologies, biology, biotechnologies, information technologies and computing systems, space research and technologies, mathematics, engineering, health sciences and technologies, mechanics and management processes, nanotechnologies, Earth sciences, material sciences and technologies, psychology, cognitive research, construction and architecture, physics, chemistry, ecology, economics, international research, sociology, power production, energy efficiency and energy saving.

The grants issued to support scientific research projects in 2011-2013 will amount up to 150 million roubles each. The total amount of compensation¹ payable to the leading scientist and the members of his research project team may not exceed 60 percent of the grant amount.

Leading Russian and foreign scientists known for their outstanding achievements in their respective scientific disciplines are eligible to apply, provided they design and submit their grant applications in partnership with universities that are prepared to supply their research facilities, provide resources, and ensure other conditions required to implement the research projects reflected in the applicants’ proposals.

The leading scientists who became winners of the open grant competition in 2010 cannot take part in the Grant Competition.

In 2012-2013 the leading scientist must personally oversee the research project activities implemented in his research laboratory by being physically present at the relevant university for not less than an aggregate of four months in a calendar year, i.e. an aggregate of four months in 2012 and an aggregate of four months in 2013. A leading scientist may participate in one research project. The number of research projects implemented on the basis of one university is unlimited.

The leading scientist may not have been employed by legal entities operating in the subject of the Russian Federation in which his partner university² is located from 2008 until the date of application³.

¹ Including all applicable taxes and deductions.

² Leading scientists employed in Moscow or Moscow region from 2008 until the date of application are not eligible to participate in the Grant Competition in partnership with institutions of higher learning located in these subjects of the Russian Federation. Leading scientists employed in St. Petersburg or Leningrad region from 2008 until the date of application are not eligible to participate in the Grant Competition in partnership with institutions of higher learning located in these subjects of the Russian Federation.

³ Excluding compensation for accidentals lectures and/or compensation to scientists involved in supervision of research groups based on Federal Targeted Program “Scientific and scientific-pedagogical personnel of the innovative Russia” 2009-2013”.

The research project team to be created by the leading scientist must include at least 2 candidates of sciences, at least 3 post-graduate students, and at least 3 undergraduate students attending the host university.

Each grant application submitted for consideration under the Grant Competition must be prepared by one leading scientist in partnership with one Russian university in compliance with the form provided in Appendix No.1. Grant applications must meet the selection criteria determined by the Grant Board. Applications may be submitted in Russian and English or in English only.

Each grant application must be accompanied by the following documents:

Leading scientist's questionnaire (to be signed by the leading scientist), Appendix No. 2;

Information materials outlining the leading scientist's research experience (including a CV, a list of patents, a list of 10 publications believed by the leading scientists to be most significant in his research career - to be signed by the leading scientist; recommended amount – up to five pages exclusive of appendices);

Information materials outlining the leading scientist's experience in managing a research team (to be signed by the leading scientist; recommended amount – up to five pages exclusive of appendices);

A program and a plan of the scientific research activities to be implemented within the selected research area at the laboratory established at the host university under the leading scientist's supervision (hereinafter referred to as "Research project"; to be signed by the university's rector or his authorized representative acting on the basis of the power of attorney issued in compliance with applicable laws of the Russian Federation, as well as the leading scientist; recommended amount – up to 20 pages exclusive of appendices);

Information materials on the status of the host university's infrastructure and the level of scientific research implemented at the host university (to be signed by the university's rector or his authorized representative acting on the basis of the power of attorney issued in compliance with applicable laws of the Russian Federation; up to 10 pages exclusive of appendices);

Information materials about the image of the research laboratory to be established by the leading scientist at the university, scientific achievements within the research area, the research laboratory's contribution to the development of the university's infrastructure – as seen three years from the date of application (to be signed by the university's rector or his authorized representative acting on the basis of the power of attorney issued in compliance with applicable laws of the Russian Federation, as well as the leading scientist; recommended amount – up to five pages exclusive of appendices);

The university's objectives associated with the establishment of the research laboratory and its role in the achievement of these objectives, as well as their compliance with the university's development strategy (to be signed by the university's rector or his authorized representative acting on the basis of the power of attorney issued in compliance with applicable laws of the Russian Federation; recommended amount – up to five pages exclusive of appendices);

Financial and infrastructural support of the project, the university's obligations associated with the establishment of the research laboratory (to be signed by the university's rector or his authorized representative acting on the basis of the power of attorney issued in compliance with applicable laws of the Russian Federation; recommended amount – up to seven pages exclusive of appendices);

Project efficiency indicators (to be signed by the university's rector or his authorized representative acting on the basis of the power of attorney issued in compliance with

applicable laws of the Russian Federation; recommended amount – up to three pages exclusive of appendices).

Information materials about the experience of commercialisation of the results of the scientific activity of a scientist including the number of licenses issued in compliance with a patents the owner or author of which is a leading scientist; about the number of spin-off companies created for commercialization of the results of the scientific activity of a scientist (to be signed by the leading scientist; recommended amount – up to five pages exclusive of appendices);

Information materials about probable commercialization of project results including expected applied results of researches – patents, know-how planned for commercialization; about expected purchaser of licences for intellectual property received as a result of project accomplishment; about the existence of confirmed investors who are ready to put up money in commercialisation of results of accomplished project; about the volume of declared investments; about the readiness of a host university to provide to a scientist with share of ownership rights in the results of project accomplishment and readiness to create joint companies for their commercialization (to be signed by the university's rector or his authorized representative acting on the basis of the power of attorney issued in compliance with applicable laws of the Russian Federation, as well as the leading scientist; recommended amount – up to five pages exclusive of appendices).

To ensure that specific characteristics of each project are given careful consideration at the time of review the competition participants are recommended to provide information materials documented in compliance with the forms accounted for by Appendix No.3 hereto as part of their grant applications.

The grant competition participants must submit their grant applications to the Ministry of education and science of the Russian Federation (hereinafter referred to as "Ministry") in two copies clearly designated as the "Original" and the "Copy", respectively. The original grant application must be accompanied by a list of enclosed documents specifying the number of pages in each of them.

In case of discrepancies between the original and the copy of the grant application the original application will prevail.

The original and the copy of the grant application must be bound and sealed with the university stamp carrying the image of the National Emblem of the Russian Federation and personally endorsed by the university rector (or his authorized representative acting on the basis of the power of attorney issued in compliance with applicable laws of the Russian Federation). If the grant application is endorsed by the authorized representative of the university rector the grant application must be accompanied by the power of attorney issued thereto.

Each page of the grant application must be typed using the regular Times New Roman font (size - 14, principal text spacing – 1.5, header spacing - single) and personally endorsed by the university rector (or his authorized representative acting on the basis of the power of attorney issued in compliance with applicable laws of the Russian Federation). Bulky tables exceeding one page in size may be enclosed as separate appendices which may be single-spaced and typed using size 10 - 12 font.

The size of the grant application may not exceed 70 "A 4" pages typed using 1.5 spacing (exclusive of appendices).

The electronic version of the grant application must be saved on an optical CD-R disc (to protect the data from modification) in *.doc and *.xls formats (the "Word" and "Excel" software versions may not be older than year 2003).

All documents enclosed with the grant application must be organized in volumes. Each volume must be bound and sealed with the university stamp carrying the image of the

National Emblem of the Russian Federation and personally endorsed by the university rector (or his authorized representative acting on the basis of the power of attorney issued in compliance with applicable laws of the Russian Federation).

The original grant application and its copy must be enclosed in separate envelopes. Each envelope must also contain an electronic version of the grant application saved on a CD-R disc. The following information must be indicated on each envelope: the name of the grant competition, the research area of the project, the full name of the leading scientist, and the full name of the host university. The envelopes containing the original grant application and its copy must be enclosed and sealed in a common envelope carrying the name of the grant competition and the following language: "DO NOT OPEN UNTIL 11:00 on June 20, 2011".

All grant applications must be submitted to the Ministry by 12:00 Moscow time on June 16, 2011 at the following address: 11 Tverskaya Street, Moscow, 125993. Any applications submitted past this deadline will not be considered.

Grant competition participants requiring explanations/clarifications regarding the substance and/or requirements of the competition documentation may submit their written enquiries to the Ministry in Russian or English at the following address: 11 Tverskaya Street, Moscow, 125993. Such grant competition participants will be provided with requisite explanations/clarifications as long as their written enquiries are received by not later than 17:00 Moscow time on June 6, 2011.

Grant competition participants have the right to modify and/or recall their grant applications, provided they do so by notifying the Ministry in writing to same effect by not later than 12:00 Moscow time on June 16, 2011.

Any changes to grant applications must be documented in the same format and in compliance with the same requirements as the ones that apply to the documentation of the original grant application. The envelope containing a modified grant application must be designated as "MODIFIED GRANT APPLICATION". Modified grant applications must be submitted by not later than 12:00 Moscow time on June 16, 2011.

Based on the decision of the Grant Board, the Ministry, the leading scientist, and the host university will execute a grant agreement¹ that will specify the following: the research area of the project supported with the grant, a plan of the research activities envisioned by the project and the project budget, including the total amount of the grant and the amounts of partial instalments payable at each project phase, the leading scientist's responsibility to report on the progress of his research project on an annual basis², the responsibility of the host university to provide the leading scientist with an office space and access to laboratory facilities required for the project, to execute service or (term) labour agreements with the leading scientist and his research team members, to compensate the research team members in compliance with the amount and quality of their individual contributions to the project, to report on eligible expenditure of the grant funds³, the rights of the parties to intellectual property resulting from the project, as well as other rights and responsibilities of the parties associated with expenditure of the grant funds.

If publishing research materials referencing the project and its results, the grantee will be required to mention the host university.

The grant may only be used for the purposes specified in the grant agreement. Should the Ministry determine, upon recommendation of the Grant Board, that grant funds have been

¹ Form of a model treaty on a grant approved by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation on September 7, 2010 #913 (as amended on December 24, 2010).

² Form of the report of an ongoing research study approved by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation dated 27 July 2010 #806.

³ Report form on the proper use of the grant approved by Decree of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation dated August 24, 2010 # 874.

or are being used for ineligible purposes, this will be construed as sufficient grounds for termination of the grant agreement and repayment of the subsidy in compliance with the procedure specified by the grant agreement.

The leading scientist must ensure that the goals of the research project specified in the grant agreement are achieved and its objectives are accomplished.

The host university must ensure that grant funds are used for eligible purposes.