

Contents

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS.....	2
1. The Competition.....	2
2. Objectives	2
3. Deadlines and Timelines	3
4. The Research Group.....	3
5. The Principal Investigator	4
6. Group Members	4
7. The Foreign Partner (Collaborator)	5
8. Requirements for the Host Organization	5
9. Expected Results.....	6
II. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION PROCEDURE.....	8
10. Submission of Applications and Documents.....	8
11. Budget Composition	8
III. REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS	10
12. Compliance with Competition Terms.....	10
13. Expert Evaluation (Peer Review)	10
14. Evaluation Stage I (Extended Abstract Review).....	11
15. Evaluation Stage II (Expert Assessment).....	11
16. Evaluation Stage II (Interview).....	11
17. Evaluation Results and Selection	12
IV. OTHER PROVISIONS.....	12
18. Contract	12
19. Reporting Requirements	13
20. Additional Information	13
21. Termination of Funding.....	14
Annex N 2.1.....	16
Annex N 2.2	17
Annex N 2.3	18
Annex N 2.4*	19
Annex N 2.5.....	20

CALL FOR PROPOSALS
"INCOMING RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM - 2026
(INTEGRATION GRANT)"

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. The Competition

- 1.1. The "Incoming Research Fellowship Program - 2026 (Integration grant)" competition (hereinafter referred to as the **Competition**) is conducted pursuant to Order No. 391-U/2, dated March 13, 2026, issued by the Minister of Education, Science, Culture, and Sport of the Republic of Armenia (hereinafter referred to as the **Minister**).
- 1.2. The Competition is organized by the Higher Education and Science Committee of the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture, and Sport of the Republic of Armenia (hereinafter referred to as the **Committee**). It is governed by the "Procedure for State Financing of Scientific and Technical Activities in the Form of Scientific Grants," approved by Annex N 3 of the Government of the Republic of Armenia Decree N 156-Ն, dated February 13, 2025.
- 1.3. The Competition aims to implement the "Establishment of Remote Laboratories, Strengthening of Laboratories, and Organization of Competitions for Integration and Leading Research" measure under the strategic goal of "Promotion of Excellence in Research" within the "Strategic Program for the Development of Science in the Republic of Armenia 2026-2030."
- 1.4. The Competition is open to all professional specializations across all fields of scientific and technical activity (Annex N 2.1).
- 1.5. Participation requires the submission of an application (hereinafter referred to as the **Application**), comprising a scientific project (hereinafter referred to as the **Project**) and other requisite documents and data.
- 1.6. The Project (Annex N 2.2) must be ambitious, competitive, forward-looking, promising, and feasible.
- 1.7. Within the framework of this Competition, a "Publication in International Scientific Databases" (hereinafter referred to as **ISD Publication**) is defined as an article, review, letter, conference paper/proceedings paper, or book chapter indexed in the Web of Science Core Collection or the Scopus database. A monograph (hereinafter referred to as **Monograph**) must consist of at least five author's sheets (approximately 200,000 characters) and be indexed as a "Book" in Web of Science™ or Scopus.
- 1.8. For specializations listed under Field "6" of Annex N 2.1, one Monograph is considered equivalent to four ISD Publications.
- 1.9. The Competition Call package defines the application procedure, eligibility criteria, evaluation stages, and the protocols for financing and reporting for successful Applications.

2. Objectives

2.1. The primary objectives of the Competition are:

- To stimulate domestic and international collaboration;
- To enhance the scientific and technical potential of organizations implementing basic funding programs (hereinafter referred to as the **Organization**);
- To engage the scientific potential of the Diaspora and foreign scientists;
- To involve young researchers and Ph.D. students;
- To facilitate the integration of young researchers into the international research environment;
- To improve the overall scientific ecosystem;
- To establish new, competitive, and sustainable scientific units;
- To foster the socio-economic impact of scientific outcomes;
- To promote competitive conditions within the scientific sector.

3. Deadlines and Timelines

3.1. The duration for Project implementation is **60 months**.

3.2. The deadline for online application submission is **April 23, 2026**. Access to the Committee's online application system (irf-armenia-2026.hesc.am, hereinafter referred to as the System) will be disabled at 18:00 Yerevan time.

3.3. Hard-copy documents must be submitted to the Committee by an authorized representative of the Organization no later than **April 30, 2026**.

3.4. Funding for Projects guaranteed for support is expected to commence in **September 2026**.

3.5. Grant agreements shall be executed following the official publication of the Competition results.

3.6. The deadline for submitting progress reports is the last working day of the 12th month following the commencement of funding, recurring annually.

3.7. The Project must be executed within the timeframes specified in the Contract.

4. The Research Group

4.1. The Project is developed and implemented by a research group (hereinafter referred to as the **Group**) consisting of **3 to 5 members**, comprising a foreign supervisor (hereinafter referred to as The Principal Investigator) and researchers (collectively referred to as **Group Members**).

4.2. At the time of Application, Group Members may be either citizens of the Republic of Armenia or foreign nationals.

4.3. During the implementation of the Project, Group Members must be citizens or residents of the Republic of Armenia and must reside within the Republic of Armenia for the duration of the Project.

4.4. The Group must have an overseas collaborator (hereinafter referred to as the Foreign Partner/Collaborator).

- 4.5. The Principal Investigator serves as the sole authorized representative acting on behalf of the Group.

5. The Principal Investigator

- 5.1. The Application shall be submitted by The Principal Investigator.
- 5.2. To be eligible, The Principal Investigator must meet the following criteria:
- Born on or after **January 1, 1976**;
 - Conferred their doctoral degree on or after **January 1, 2006**;
 - Must not have studied or worked in the Republic of Armenia for a cumulative period of **12 months or more** during the 4-year period preceding the online application deadline (April 23, 2026). This residency requirement excludes supervisors of projects conducted within the framework of the "PostDoc-Armenia" program for foreign scientists.
- 5.3. For the 5-year period (2021–2026), The Principal Investigator must present:
- For Fields 1–5 (Annex N 2.1):
 - At least 4 ISD Publications, OR
 - An h-index of at least 10 according to the Scopus database.
 - For Field 6 (Annex N 2.1):
 - At least 2 ISD Publications, OR
 - 1 Monograph, OR
 - An h-index of at least 3 according to the Scopus database.
- 5.4. The Principal Investigator shall be responsible for the formation of the Group and the successful execution of the Project.

6. Group Members

- 6.1. At least **two members** of the Group must be born on or after **January 1, 1991**. They may be undergraduate students of at least the third year. This age limit may be extended:
- By **2 years** for service in the armed forces;
 - By **1 year per child** for individuals who have taken parental leave.
- 6.2. Undergraduate students in their first or second year may serve as Group Members if their major aligns with the fields specified in Annex 2.1 and they have been awarded at least a **third-degree diploma** in the national phase of a school subject olympiad during the 11th or 12th grade.
- 6.3. Group Members are prohibited from participating in more than one Application submitted to this Competition.

6.4. Individuals currently receiving funding as beneficiaries of the following programs are ineligible to serve as Group Members:

- Support for Leading Research Projects;
- Strengthening of Scientific Groups or Laboratories (Departments);
- Incoming Research Fellowship Program (Integration grant);
- Remote Laboratory Program.

7. The Foreign Partner (Collaborator)

7.1. The Group is required to include a Foreign Partner (Collaborator).

7.2. The Foreign Partner must hold a doctoral degree and be actively engaged in scientific research at an overseas research institution in a field relevant to the Project.

7.3. The Foreign Partner's h-index requirements are as follows:

- For Fields 1–5 (Annex 2.1): At least 15 (Scopus).
- For Field 6 (Annex 2.1): At least 3 (Scopus), OR a minimum of 8 ISD Publications in the relevant field within the last 5 years.

7.4. The Foreign Partner is not considered a Group Member and shall not receive remuneration from the grant.

7.5. The Foreign Partner shall provide The Principal Investigator with a Curriculum Vitae (CV) and a Confirmation Letter verifying their familiarity with the Project's scope and their commitment to participating in research activities, joint experiments, discussions, and seminars.

7.6. At least **one publication** presented as a final output of the Project must be co-authored by the Foreign Partner.

7.7. Over the 60-month duration of the Project, the Foreign Partner must spend a cumulative total of at least 25 days at the Host Organization in Armenia and host Group Members at their overseas institution for a cumulative total of at least 25 days.

7.8. A Foreign Partner may not be included in more than one Application submitted to this Competition.

8. Requirements for the Host Organization

8.1. The Organization must be an entity implementing a scientific and technical activity program through basic funding from the state budget of the Republic of Armenia.

8.2. The Organization shall ensure the Group's access to existing infrastructure and equipment throughout the Project.

- 8.3. The Organization shall provide necessary institutional support for Project implementation.
- 8.4. The Organization must provide The Principal Investigator with a Scientific Board Conclusion (from the Organization or Faculty) justifying the Project's alignment with the Organization's strategic scientific directions, as well as its significance and relevance.
- 8.5. No later than three months into the Project, the Organization must incorporate The Principal Investigator into its basic funding program for scientific and technical activities for the entire duration of the Project.
- 8.6. Within 24 months of Project commencement, the Organization must establish a new scientific unit (group, laboratory, or department) under the basic funding scheme, comprising The Principal Investigator (as head of the unit) and the researchers (as unit staff). The total labor commitment of the staff in this new unit within the basic funding program must be at least 120 hours per week, equivalent to 3 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE).
- 8.7. The Head of the Organization shall provide a certificate confirming awareness of the Competition terms and readiness to fulfill the conditions specified in sub-points 8.5. and 8.6. using the Organization's basic funding resources. This certificate must also include information regarding the proposed premises, number of rooms, and available infrastructure for the new unit.
- 8.8. The Organization shall provide the necessary conditions for Project implementation using the "Overhead Costs" allocated under the "Other Costs" section of the Project Budget.
- 8.9. Procurement of equipment, materials, and services required for the Project must be conducted in accordance with the RA Law "On Procurement" and state procurement regulations.
- 8.10. Acquired equipment and assets shall be recorded on the Organization's balance sheet. Ownership remains with the Organization for continued use in accordance with its statutory scientific and research objectives.
- 8.11. Upon approval for funding, a Grant Contract shall be executed between the Organization, the Committee, and The Principal Investigator regarding the utilization of state financial support for research project implementation.

9. Expected Results

- 9.1. When publishing research results conducted within the framework of the Project, it is mandatory to acknowledge the financial support received from the Committee using the following formula:

"The research was supported by the Higher Education and Science Committee of MESCS RA (Research project № _____)."

9.2. Interim Requirement (at 35 months): Upon completion of the 35th month of the Project, Group Members must submit publications indicating the Organization as their affiliation and meeting the following criteria:

- For Fields 1–5 (Annex N 2.1): At least 3 ISD Publications.
- For Field 6 (Annex N 2.1): At least 2 ISD Publications or 1 Monograph.

Note: In the absence of the required acknowledgment (as per subpoint 9.1.) and correct affiliation, the publication will not be considered a result of the Project and will be excluded from the report.

9.3. Failure to comply with the interim requirements specified in subpoint 9.2. may result in the termination of Project funding.

9.4. Final Requirement (at 60 months): By the conclusion of the Project, Group Members must present publications with the required affiliation and acknowledgment as follows:

- For Fields 1–5 (Annex 2.1): At least 8 ISD Publications, of which at least 2 must be in journals indexed in the Q1 quartile and at least 2 in the Q2 quartile.
- For Field 6 (Annex 2.1): At least 4 ISD Publications, of which at least 1 must be in the Q1 quartile and at least 1 in the Q2 quartile, OR 1 Monograph.

9.5. Regarding the required publications, for Fields 1–5, The Principal Investigator must be either the first, last, or corresponding author (or equivalent) in at least 4 of the publications. For Field 6, this requirement applies to at least 2 publications. Additionally, at least 1 ISD Publication must be co-authored with the Foreign Partner.

9.6. The authorship requirements (first, last, or corresponding author) mentioned in subpoint 9.5. may be waived if the number of Q1 publications is at least double the quantity required in subpoint 9.4., provided these works are the result of large-scale international collaboration. An international collaboration publication is defined as one involving at least 10 participating countries and more than 50 co-authors.

9.7. The Group must provide documentation of at least one submitted application for an international scientific grant exceeding 25,000,000 AMD (for Fields 1–5) or 15,000,000 AMD (for Field 6).

9.8. Throughout the Project, the Group must create and disseminate popular science materials (interviews, social media posts, popular science articles, videos, public discussions, etc.). These activities will be evaluated during the final report review.

9.9. Compliance with the publication and grant application requirements will affect the evaluation of future applications involving Group Members. Non-compliance may result in a 5% deduction from the maximum possible score for The Principal Investigator and a **1% deduction** for each member. Conversely, successful

compliance may result in equivalent bonus points. The total adjustment shall not exceed 5% of the maximum score.

II. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

10. Submission of Applications and Documents

- 10.1. The Application is completed and submitted by The Principal Investigator via the online system (irf-armenia-2026.hesc.am) no later than April 23, 2026, 18:00 Yerevan time.
- 10.2. The electronic Application must include:
 - The Principal Investigator's petition (Annex N 2.3);
 - The Project Budget;
 - The Scientific Board Conclusion;
 - The certificate from the Head of the Organization (re: sub-points 8.5., 8.6.);
 - Certificates of enrollment for Ph.D. or students (specifying major and year);
 - Copies of diplomas (re: sub-point 6.5.);
 - CVs of all Group Members;
 - Supporting documents for age limit extensions (military record or childcare leave documents);
 - The Foreign Partner's CV and Letter of Confirmation.
- 10.3. Additional documents may be requested if necessary.
- 10.4. By April 30, 2026, a representative of the Organization must submit the physical package for each application to the Committee (Orbeli Brothers St. 22, 8th Floor, Room 805) accompanied by a cover letter (Annex N 2.4).

11. Budget Composition

- 11.1. The Budget consists of the "Remuneration" and "Other Expenses" categories. The "Other Expenses" category comprises the following sub-categories: "Equipment, Materials, and Services," "Travel," "Group or Laboratory Strengthening," and "Overhead Costs."
- 11.2. The maximum funding amount for the Project is determined as follows:
 - For a Group consisting of 5 members: 148,000.0 thousand (one hundred forty-eight million) AMD.
 - For a Group consisting of 4 members: 125,000.0 thousand (one hundred twenty-five million) AMD.
 - For a Group consisting of 3 members: 102,000.0 thousand (one hundred two million) AMD.

The aforementioned sums may be increased by the amount specified in sub-clause 11.4. of this Call for Proposals.

- 11.3. Within the "Remuneration" category of the Budget, the monthly remuneration (including taxes and other mandatory payments) shall be planned as follows:
- For the Principal Investigator: up to 600.0 thousand (six hundred thousand) AMD.
 - For Group Members (excluding the Principal Investigator): the average calculated rate shall be up to 300.0 thousand (three hundred thousand) AMD, with a minimum rate of 150.0 thousand (one hundred fifty thousand) AMD.
- 11.4. In the event that family member(s) relocate to the Republic of Armenia, the Principal Investigator's remuneration (including taxes and other mandatory payments) shall be supplemented by an additional 150.0 thousand (one hundred fifty thousand) AMD for a spouse and 100.0 thousand (one hundred thousand) AMD for each minor child, provided the total supplement does not exceed 400.0 thousand (four hundred thousand) AMD. This sub-clause also applies to marriages and births occurring after relocation to the Republic of Armenia. To this end, the Principal Investigator shall apply to the Committee, submitting the supporting documentation; subsequently, an agreement forming an integral part of the Contract shall be signed to formalize the change in the Contract price.
- 11.5. Should the planned remuneration amount be less than the rates specified in sub-points 11.3. and 11.4., the difference may be allocated to the "Other Expenses" category of the Budget.
- 11.6. The Partner is not considered a member of the Group and is not eligible for remuneration.
- 11.7. Under the "Equipment, Materials, and Services," "Travel," and "Overhead Costs" sub-categories of the "Other Expenses" category, the following amounts may be planned for a period of 60 months:
- For a Group consisting of 5 members: 25,000.0 thousand (twenty-five million) AMD.
 - For a Group consisting of 4 members: 20,000.0 thousand (twenty million) AMD.
 - For a Group consisting of 3 members: 15,000.0 thousand (fifteen million) AMD.
- These amounts may be increased by the difference specified in sub-clause 11.4. of this Call for Proposals.
- 11.8. The "Equipment, Materials, and Services" sub-category may include costs for the acquisition of scientific equipment and materials used during research, and/or the procurement of services. Service agreements may only be concluded with legal entities, subject to prior coordination with the Committee.
- 11.9. In the event of relocation to the Republic of Armenia with family member(s), a one-time "Settling-in" grant of up to 1,000.0 thousand (one million) AMD may be allocated under the "Group or Laboratory Strengthening" sub-category (to cover ticket reimbursement, housing security deposits, etc.).

- 11.10. The acquisition of scientific instruments and equipment may not be scheduled for the final year of the Project implementation.
- 11.11. Funds allocated under the "Travel" sub-category may be utilized for participation in international conferences to present the implementation, progress, and results of the Project, as well as to cover expenses for reciprocal visits between the Partner and Group members.
- 11.12. When calculating per diem and accommodation expenses for travel, reference must be made to the Republic of Armenia Government Decree No. 2335-Ն, dated December 29, 2005.
- 11.13. Under the "Group or Laboratory Strengthening" sub-category, 15,000.0 thousand (fifteen million) AMD may be requested for the first 12 months. These funds may be used for the improvement of group or laboratory infrastructure and other expenses necessary for the execution of the Project.
- 11.14. Under the "Overhead Costs" sub-category, up to 2,500.0 thousand (two million five hundred thousand) AMD may be requested for the 60-month period.
- 11.15. Expenses across all Budget sub-categories must be justified in the Budget Commentary.
- 11.16. During the application review process, the justification and distribution of the Budget may be revised with the consent of the Principal Investigator.

III. REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS

12. Compliance with Competition Terms

- 12.1. The Committee shall verify the compliance of Applications with the terms and conditions set forth in the Call for Proposals.
- 12.2. An Application shall be excluded from review if:
 - It does not contain all required documentation;
 - It fails to meet the eligibility criteria of the Competition;
 - Its content overlaps significantly with any other project currently or previously funded by the state budget of the Republic of Armenia.
- 12.3. Verification results are submitted to the Evaluation and Reporting Committee (hereinafter referred to as the Commission).
- 12.4. The Commission reviews and approves the list of Applications eligible for expert evaluation.
- 12.5. If an Application is disqualified for non-compliance, The Principal Investigator shall be notified electronically.

13. Expert Evaluation (Peer Review)

- 13.1. The Commission, in collaboration with the Committee, defines the evaluation rubrics and procedures for the first and second stages of review, incorporating a qualitative matrix-based scoring system.
- 13.2. Stage I: The Commission evaluates the Project's Extended Abstract (Annex N 2.5) and other supporting data.
- 13.3. Stage II: Independent experts evaluate the full Project proposal, and the Commission conducts an interview with The Principal Investigator.
- 13.4. Disclosure of Application content or evaluation details by the Committee, Commission, or experts to third parties is strictly prohibited under the RA Law "On Scientific and Technical Expertise."

14. Evaluation Stage I (Extended Abstract Review)

- 14.1. The Commission reviews the Extended Abstract, the scientific track record and CVs of The Principal Investigator and Members, and the institutional suitability of the Host Organization and Foreign Partner. Based on consensus, the Commission identifies Applications eligible for Stage II.
- 14.2. Applications unsuccessful in Stage I will not proceed, and The Principal Investigator will be notified electronically.

15. Evaluation Stage II (Expert Assessment)

- 15.1. Experts evaluate the Application based on:
 - Scientific and technical novelty and relevance;
 - Prerequisites, milestones, and timelines for implementation;
 - Impact on the field and future prospects;
 - Professional qualifications and past achievements of the Group;
 - Suitability of the Foreign Partner and the necessity of the collaboration;
 - Management and dissemination of scientific results;
 - Justification of the requested budget.
- 15.2. Each Application is assessed by at least two experts. Commission members may also serve as experts.
- 15.3. For each Application, the expert completes an expert evaluation sheet.
- 15.4. The expert assessment accounts for 50% of the maximum total score.
- 15.5. If the scores of two experts differ by 30% or more of the maximum possible expert score, the Application shall be referred to a third expert.

16. Evaluation Stage II (Interview)

- 16.1. The Commission conducts a formal interview with The Principal Investigator.
- 16.2. For each Application, the Committee member completes an interview evaluation sheet.

16.3. The interview accounts for 50% of the maximum total score.

17. Evaluation Results and Selection

- 17.1. The score determined during the second stage of the Application review is the sum of the arithmetic mean of the two experts' scores and the arithmetic mean of the interview scores. In cases where an Application is evaluated by three experts, the expert component of the score shall be the arithmetic mean of the two closest scores (in the event of equal differences between the three experts' scores, the arithmetic mean of the two highest scores shall be used), which is then added to the arithmetic mean of the interview scores.
- 17.2. Based on the results of the second stage of the review, the Committee compiles a ranking list for each scientific field (specialization) in descending order of final Application scores and present it to the Commission.
- 17.3. The Commission approves the ranking list of Application scores and recommends to the Committee a threshold score for each field of scientific and technical activity (specialization).
- 17.4. Based on the allocations provided by the State Budget of the Republic of Armenia for scientific grant funding, the Committee determines the threshold score for each scientific and technical field (specialization). It submits to the Minister for approval the list of Projects and the proposed funding amount for the implementation of each Project.
- 17.5. The list of Projects guaranteed for funding and the designated funding amount for each Project shall be confirmed by the Minister's decree.
- 17.6. The list of Projects guaranteed for funding based on the competition results shall be published on the Committee's official website.
- 17.7. The Committee provides the Head of the Organization with information regarding the successful Applications from their respective Organization.
- 17.8. The Committee provides the Principal Investigator with the results of the Application review and the established threshold score.).

IV. OTHER PROVISIONS

18. Contract

- 18.1. A Contract shall be concluded between the Organization, the Committee, and the Principal Investigator.
- 18.2. To ensure the monthly remuneration of the Group members, the Organization shall conclude contracts in accordance with the procedures established by the "Civil Code" of the Republic of Armenia. Copies of these contracts shall be submitted to the Committee by a representative of the Organization (the Scientific Secretary or another designated responsible person).
- 18.3. Contracts for Project funding shall be concluded following the publication of the Competition results.
- 18.4. Projects shall be implemented within the timeframes specified in the respective Contracts.

19. Reporting Requirements

- 19.1. The Principal Investigator shall prepare progress and final reports regarding the implementation of the Project and submit them to the Committee.
- 19.2. During the implementation of the Project, on the last working day of every 12th month following the commencement of funding, the Principal Investigator shall submit a progress report to the Committee. Based on this report, the Commission shall issue a conclusion regarding the expediency of continuing the Project's funding.
- 19.3. On the last working day of the 35th month of Project implementation, the Principal Investigator shall submit a three-year report to the Committee, including the expected interim results of the Project (as specified in sub-clause 9.2 of this Call). Based on these results, the Commission shall issue a conclusion regarding the expediency of either terminating further funding or continuing the Project for an additional 24 months.
- 19.4. On the last working day of the 60th month of Project implementation, the Principal Investigator shall submit a final report to the Committee, including the expected outcomes of the Project (as specified in sub-points 9.4., 9.5., and 9.7. of this Call). Based on these outcomes, the Commission shall issue a conclusion regarding the acceptance of the final report.
- 19.5. In cases of supplementary funding provided under the conditions specified in sub-point 11.4. of this Call, each progress report must include supporting documentation (information on the registration address, certificates from the educational institution, residency certificates, copies of all passport pages, etc.). These documents shall be provided to the Commission to determine the expediency of continuing the supplementary funding or recommending a reduction in funding.
- 19.6. For the purpose of evaluating the quality and efficiency of the scientific system's operations, the Committee may, in accordance with established procedures, conduct ongoing monitoring of the Project and present the findings to the Commission.
- 19.7. When issuing a conclusion on the expediency of continuing Project funding, the Commission shall also take into account the results of the monitoring conducted by the Committee.
- 19.8. The Committee may publish the annotations and reports of Projects guaranteed for funding in either printed or electronic format.

20. Additional Information

- 20.1. When submitting applications or subsequent reports containing materials subject to intellectual property rights (copyright or patent), the provisions established by the Laws of the Republic of Armenia "On Copyright and Related Rights" and "On Inventions, Utility Models, and Industrial Designs" must be observed.

- 20.2. The Principal Investigator may petition the Committee for the reallocation of funds planned for the current year under the sub-categories of the "Other Expenses" section of the Budget. Such petitions must be accompanied by a justification in the prescribed form and require the written consent of the Committee. Upon approval of the reallocation, an Agreement-forming an integral part of the Contract shall be concluded to formalize the changes, and a revised version of the Project Budget shall be submitted to the Committee.
- 20.3. In the event that the Principal Investigator is unable to perform their duties, a change in the Principal Investigator may be effected upon the mediation of the Head of the Organization, with the consent of the Organization's Scientific Council and the Group members, and subject to the written permission of the Committee. In such cases, an Agreement shall be concluded, whereby the new Principal Investigator undertakes to implement the Project in accordance with the Contract.
- 20.4. The Principal Investigator may petition the Committee for an equivalent replacement of a Group member or Partner by providing a justification in the prescribed form and obtaining the Committee's written consent. If a Group member is replaced, an Agreement shall be concluded to formalize the change in the Contract, and a copy of the contract signed with the new member shall be submitted to the Committee.
- 20.5. The Principal Investigator may petition the Committee to reduce the number of Group members by one, provided that a corresponding justification is submitted. In the event of such a reduction, an Agreement shall be concluded to formalize the change in the Contract.
- 20.6. During the implementation of the Project (not earlier than after 12 months), the Principal Investigator may propose to the Committee the addition of up to two Group members under the age of 35 who possess a professional background relevant to the Project, provided that a corresponding justification is submitted.
- 20.7. Members recruited under sub-clause 18.6. of this Call must not have been included in any program of the Republic of Armenia state-funded basic scientific and technical activity during the year 2025.
- 20.8. In the event of an increase in the number of Group members, the Contract price shall be increased by up to 1,800.0 thousand AMD per new member (on a 12-month basis). An Agreement shall be concluded to formalize the change in the Contract, and a copy of the contract signed with the new member shall be submitted to the Committee.
- 20.9. Any instance where a Group member continues working on the Project while being consecutively absent from the Republic of Armenia for more than two months within a 12-month period must be coordinated in advance with the Committee and receive its written consent.

21. Termination of Funding

The Committee reserves the right to terminate funding if:

- A progress report on the Project's implementation is not submitted within the prescribed deadline;
- The Commission issues a negative conclusion regarding the expediency of the Project's further funding;
- A reallocation of funds within the "Other Expenses" category of the Budget is performed without the prior written consent of the Committee;
- A change in the composition of the Group is made without the prior written consent of the Committee;
- Any member of the Group is consecutively absent from the Republic of Armenia for more than two months within a 12-month period without the prior written consent of the Committee.
- the conditions specified in sub-points 8.5., 8.6., and 9.2. of this Call for Proposals are not met; furthermore, such non-compliance shall impact future applications submitted to the Committee by the Organization, to the extent determined by the conclusion of the relevant commission established for the subsequent program.

Research Fields (with Corresponding Classifiers)

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

Project

Submit in English, maximum 12 pages, including graphs, charts, photographs, and bibliography.

1. *Annotation*

--

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

--

3. *Project Aims and Objectives*

--

4. *Research Project*

--

5. *Scientific Methods of Project Implementation*

--

6. *Calendar Plan (by quarters or Gantt Chart)*

--

7. *Group's Track Record and achievements in the given field*

--

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

--

9. *International Collaboration: Prerequisites, suitability, and expedience of the Foreign Partner*

--

10. *Quantitative and Qualitative Indicators of the Expected Results*

(scientific articles, conference proceedings, etc.), utilization of innovative capacity (technology implementation, demonstration, pilot sample, prototype, etc.), management of intellectual property (patents, copyrights, etc.), strengthening of international collaborative links, and prospects for cooperation.

--

11. *List of References*

--

N: _____ Date: "____" _____ 2026

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

I request that you accept the application(s) submitted by (**Name of the Organization**) for the "Incoming Research Fellowship Program - 2026 (Integration grant)" competition, titled:
"_____".

Head of Organization: _____ (_____)

(Signature)

(Full Name)

Project Title

Extended Abstract

The Extended Abstract is evaluated during the first stage of peer review; it must be submitted in English, maximum 2 pages.

The Extended Abstract should be a concise version of the Project Proposal, highlighting the significance and scientific necessity of the research.