

**A slightly faster career start
(TRySK)**

Call for applications for internal grants of IMIC CAS

20. 8. 2026

Table of Contents

A. Call schedule.....	2
B. Eligible applicant.....	2
C. Form of support	2
D. Requirements for grant applications.....	3
E. Expected results and outputs	3
F. Appendices to the call for proposals	3
G. Webinar, consultation, and contact	4



Co-funded by
the European Union



Ministry of Education,
Youth and Sports
of the Czech Republic

MBU

The Director of the Institute of Microbiology of the CAS announces, in accordance with the conditions of the awarded project OP JAK TRySK reg. no. CZ.02.01.01/00/24_037/0013826

A CALL

for proposals for projects to support individuals returning to research work after a career break

A. Call schedule

Date of announcement	20. 8. 2026
Type of the call	single round
Deadline for collecting applications	15. 10. 2026
Evaluation period	16. 10. 2026 – 15. 12. 2026
Announcement of results	16. 12. 2026
Start of project implementation	No earlier than January 1, 2027, and no later than July 1, 2027
Latest date for completion of physical implementation of the project	30. 6. 2029
Duration of individual project	24 months

B. Eligible applicant

An eligible applicant for a return grant (RG) is a researcher who meets the following criteria:

1.1. is a doctoral student at the time of submitting the RG application or has already successfully completed such studies in the past, i.e. holds a Ph.D. degree (or its equivalent)

and at the same time

1.2. is currently on a career break, or no more than 12 months have passed since the end of the career break as of the date of submission of the RG application

and at the same time

1.3. is employed in the Institute of Microbiology of the Czech Academy of Sciences, v.v.i. as of the date of the internal call for applications.

Given the complex conditions for defining a career break according to the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, the eligibility must be verified in advance by the Grant Department.

C. Form of support

Allocation of the call	3 753 624,- CZK
Extent of support	90% (the remaining 10% is covered by the supported laboratory from its institutional budget)

Mode of financing	Funds for RD will be budgeted for each project contract within the institution's internal system after the director of the institution announces the allocation of the project and as soon as the implementation of the specific RG begins.
Investments	NOT eligible
Monitoring	Report on the project implementation every 6 months; the length of the first and last monitoring periods may be shortened to correspond to the monitoring period of the OP JAK TRySK project specified by the grant provider, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. Specific monitoring dates will be set individually for each approved project according to the start date of implementation.

D. Requirements for grant applications

Proposals for the competition will be submitted electronically on standard forms.

The project proposal must be accompanied by a "Verification of Applicant Eligibility" form, completed by the applicant and confirmed by the IMIC Grant Department on the basis of a check of data from the HR Department and/or documentation provided by the applicant.

Proposals shall be submitted in English; other attachments may be in Czech.

The project budget is defined by the structure and justification of the selected units and their number according to the data filled in the file " Calculator-application-for-a-return-grant".

E. Expected results and outputs

The success of the RG solution will be evaluated using monitoring indicators of results and outputs, with the mandatory output of each RG being at least one publication in a journal with an IF and at least one grant application submitted. One presentation per year for the scientific community is also expected.

The researcher will submit interim reports and a final report on the implementation of the RG once every six months, with the first and last monitoring periods possibly being shorter in order to align with the monitoring period of the OP JAK TRySK project. Reports will be submitted to the Grant Department by the 15th day of the month following the end of the monitoring period.

F. Appendices to the call for proposals

1. TRySK tender documentation
2. "Verification of Applicant Eligibility" form
3. "Calculator-application-for-return-grant" form
4. Form for completing the application for a return grant "TRySK template"
5. Form for compliance with the RIS3 strategy

G. Consultation, and contact

Applicants can also consult questions about the call by email before submitting their project proposal. In-person/online consultations will only take place at a pre-arranged time. The consultations will focus exclusively on specific questions regarding the substantive aspects of the call (i.e., definition of eligible activities, setting of indicators, etc.), not on checking the correctness of the Project Proposal.

The contact person for questions and verification of applicant eligibility is **Ing. Iva Buchtová**, Project Manager of the Grant Department, email: **iva.buchtova@biomed.cas.cz**.