

**Call for applications to participate in the programme
No 40/2024 of 4 December 2024**

The Director of the National Agency for Academic Exchange, acting on the basis of Article 19(1) of the Act of 7 July 2017 on the National Agency for Academic Exchange (Journal of Laws of 2023, item 843), announces the call for applications for participation in the programme entitled **NAWA Strategic Partnerships – Call 2024**.

I. Purpose and timing of the Programme and duration of the Project	1. The aim of the Programme is to:	
	Supporting higher education and science institutions to develop sustainable solutions for teaching, research, administrative and implementation cooperation through strategic international partnerships	
	2. Programme specific objectives/expected results:	
	1) Implementing or developing cooperation between the Applicant and Foreign Partners in order to work out and develop long-term, systemic relations in the area of internationalisation;	
	2) building the Applicant's potential on the international arena by promoting innovative solutions and best practices that are the subject of the Project.	
	3. The programme will run from 01.09.2025 to 28.02.2028.	
	4. Projects can be implemented from 01.09.2025 to 31.08.2027.	
	5. The duration of the Project may range from 12 to 24 months ¹ and may not extend beyond the duration of the Programme.	

II. Indicators of target achievement	1. The programme provides for mandatory indicators [YES/ NO].	
	2. Target achievement indicators:	
	1) Number of realised exchanges (mobility) of students, doctoral students and academic staff (scientific, teaching, research, administrative) from Poland and abroad, including both stationary and hybrid and remote forms. Realised exchange (mobility) is understood as an exchange carried out and completed in accordance with the assumptions described in the Application Form.	Output indicator, mandatory
	2) The number of participants who took part in the completed exchanges (mobility) described in para. 1), above	Output indicator, mandatory
	3. The applicant must plan the implementation of at least 3 other indicators in the application, specific to the particular project and describing measurable effects of its implementation.	

¹ In calculating the duration of the project, the rules under the Civil Code shall apply, with the last day of the month being the day before the expiry date determined in accordance with those rules.

III. Eligible Entities	<p>1. The following Applicants are eligible for the Call:</p>
	<p>1) entities referred to in art. 7 para. 1 item. 1 - 6b of the Act of 20 July 2018. Law on Higher Education and Science;</p> <p>2) Entities referred to in Article 7(1)(8) of the Act of 20 July 2018. Law on Higher Education and Science, which provide education in Poland on degree programmes, postgraduate programmes or provide education for doctoral students/doctoral schools.</p>
	<p>2. The programme requires the Project to be implemented with at least one Strategic Partner, which is a university or scientific unit located and registered abroad. The Strategic Partner cannot be an institution financed from the Polish budget funds and must sign a letter of intent with the Applicant for the Project implementation.</p> <p>3. The number of Strategic Partners in a project can range from 1 to 6 institutions.</p> <p>4. The Programme allows for the possibility of implementing the project with the inclusion of Supporting Partners, which may be entities from Poland belonging to the category of eligible Applicants. The maximum number of Supporting Partners is 2.</p> <p>5. In connection with the cessation of cooperation between the Government of the Republic of Poland and the Government of the Russian Federation under the Agreement on cooperation in the fields of culture, science and education concluded in Warsaw on 25 August 1993 as a result of the aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, natural persons who are citizens of the Russian Federation and institutions and other entities based in the territory of the Russian Federation are excluded from participation in the Programme.</p>

IV. Eligible activities	<p>Within the framework of the Programme, it is possible to implement projects involving the following activities:</p>
	<p>1) Development of international strategic partnerships, the scope of which includes in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) organising exchanges of students, doctoral students and staff (scientific, teaching, research, administrative) from Poland and abroad; b) participation in study visits, internships, summer/winter schools, seminars, workshops, training or intensive courses, conferences, including international ones; c) development of modern teaching materials; d) the development or preparation of new and innovative learning tools and methods, including support for the implementation of international education programmes (leading to joint, double, or multiple degrees or micro-credits); e) Support for legal and organisational efforts to develop joint, double or multiple diplomas and microcredentials; f) strengthening the quality of education and research; g) Developing and implementing quality management systems for enhancing the quality of education; h) promotion of the teaching offer and image-building in the international education market; i) the organisation of conferences, including international scientific conferences; j) support for the conduct of joint scientific research, research and development works on an international scale by the Applicant and Partners² and the preparation and dissemination of joint scientific publications (this activity can be supported to a limited extent – the support is complementary to other research funding instruments, e.g. NAWA for Researchers, NCN, Horizon, MSCA programmes); k) networking and establishing cooperation between partners; <p>– implemented according to the rules set out in para. 4.2.5 of the Beneficiary Handbook.</p> <p>Note: The Project must cover the implementation of at least 3 different issues from the above mentioned catalogue. In addition, the amount of expenditure allocated in the Project for the theme "support for carrying out joint scientific research, research and development works in the international dimension (...)" cannot exceed 50% of the total Project budget.</p>

V. Eligible Project Participants	<p>1. The programme provides for the participation of Project participants [YES/NO].</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Polish student(s) (from the Applicant's and Partner's institutions) and international student(s) (from the Partner's institution(s)); 2) Polish doctoral students (from the institutions of the Applicant and the Partner(s)) and foreign doctoral students (from the institutions of the Partner(s));

² By 'Partner' is meant both foreign (Strategic) Partners and Supporting Partners.

	3) the staff of the Applicant and Partner(s) institutions.
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VI. Required Annexes to the Application	The Applicant is required to submit the Application together with the following attachments:
	1) the Applicant's current registration document, unless it is available in the relevant public register, maintained in electronic form, where this document is accessible;
	2) a power of attorney to represent the Applicant, if the application is submitted by a person other than the one indicated in the registration documents; a sample of the power of attorney is set out in No. 3 to the Announcement;
	3) letter(s) of intent from the Partner(s); the template for the letter of intent is set out in Annex 4 to the Announcement.
	4) a document confirming the provision of undergraduate or postgraduate education or doctoral education, required only for entities referred to in Article 7(1)(8) of the Act of 20 July 2018. - Law on Higher Education and Science.

VII. Deadline and form for submitting applications	1. The application must be submitted by 28 February 2025, 15:00 local time for Warsaw (Poland), via the Agency System, available at: https://programs.nawa.gov.pl/ .
	2. The application should be drawn up in Polish.
	3. A maximum of 2 applications may be submitted under the Call. If more than one application is submitted, the last applications submitted in the Call will be forwarded for evaluation.

VIII. Budget	1. As part of the Project, the Applicant may budget expenses for:
	1) Remuneration of persons directly involved in the implementation of the Project activities (employment contract, task allowances, civil law contracts);
	2) Purchase of goods and services necessary for the implementation of the Project's activities (excluding hardware, software and equipment classified as tangible and intangible assets);
	3) Travel and subsistence incurred in connection with the implementation of the Project activities:
	a) accounted for at actual expenditure, applicable to domestic and foreign missions;
b) accounted for on the basis of flat rates as defined in the Beneficiary's Handbook (the flat rate for subsistence and accommodation costs will be accounted for on the basis of daily rates);	
2. Please refer to the Beneficiary's Handbook for details of the above expenditure groups.	
3. For a catalogue of ineligible expenditure, please refer to the Beneficiary Manual.	
4. The Project Partner may incur expenses under the Project under the terms of the Beneficiary Handbook.	

	<ol style="list-style-type: none">5. The minimum value of the Proposed Funds is PLN 700,000. The maximum value of the Proposed Funds is PLN 2,200,000.6. The amount of expenditures allocated in the Project for the measure "support of conducting joint scientific research, research and development works in the international dimension by the Applicant and Partners and preparation and dissemination of joint scientific publications (...)" cannot exceed 50% of the total Project budget. cannot exceed 50% of the total Project budget.7. Payment Scheme C applies to the Programme.8. Reporting Scheme B applies to the Programme.
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Under the Call, applications are subject to substantive assessment in accordance with Scheme A. The assessment is carried out on the basis of the criteria indicated below.				
LEVEL OF ASSESSMENT	CRITERIA		ASSESSMENT OF THE CRITERION	EVALUATION MECHANISM
IX. Evaluation of applications in the Call	Formal assessment	1. Verification that the Applicant meets the following formal criteria:	Fulfil / does not fulfill	Verification of the application and accompanying documentation
		1) The applicant is the entity entitled to apply for funding.	Yes/No	
		2) The partners meet the formal requirements set out in the vacancy notice	Yes/No	
		2. The Applicant has submitted the Application in the NAWA ICT system, within the deadline indicated in the Call for Proposals.	Yes/No	
		3) The application is complete (all mandatory fields have been filled in).	Yes/No	
		4) The application was completed in the language required in the Call for Proposals.	Yes/No	
		5) The duration of the Project is within the timeframe stated in the Call for Proposals.	Yes/No	
		6) The applicant has submitted no more applications than the maximum number of applications stated in the Call for Proposals	Yes/No	
		7) The applicant has declared that it is not in liquidation.	Yes/No	
		8) The applicant has declared the fulfilment of obligations to NAWA under contracts signed in other programmes.	Yes/No	
		9) The amount of funding is within the range of values set out in the Call for Proposals.	Yes/No	
10) The amount of expenditure allocated in the Project to the activity: "Conducting	Yes/No			

		joint scientific research, research and development work with international dimension (...)" shall not exceed 50% of the total budget of the Project			
		11) The project involves the implementation of at least 3 different activities from the catalogue proposed in the Call for Proposals.		Yes/No	
		12) The required annexes specified in the Call for Proposals have been submitted with the application.		Yes/No	
		13) The Applicant declared that the expenses incurred for the implementation of the tasks within the Project will not be allocated to activities financed from the state budget or from tuition fees paid by the students covered by the Project.		Yes/No	
		14) The applicant has declared that he is not in arrears with payments of budget dues and social and health insurance contributions.		Yes/No	
		15) The applicant has declared the accessibility of NAWA-funded activities under the programme and the outcomes of these activities to people with special needs on an equal footing with others.		Yes/No	
		16) The applicant declared knowledge of accessibility standards for services and products for people with disabilities.		Yes/No	
		17) The applicant has declared in the application to comply with the standard of equal opportunities for women and men in the project.		Yes/No	
		18) The Applicant declared that it is subject		Yes/No	

		to an exemption from the application of the standard of equal opportunities for women and men due to the Applicant's business profile (statutory restrictions) preventing the application of equal opportunities for women and men.			
		19) the applicant declared that he/she is subject to exemption from the application of the standard of equal opportunities for women and men due to the closed nature of the recruitment of project participants, i.e.: the project covers with support all employees/staff of a particular applicant, or an organisationally separate part of a particular applicant.		Yes/No	
		20) The Applicant has declared that there is no discrimination in access to the Applicant's project in particular on the basis of: gender, race, colour, descent, genetic features, language, religion, beliefs, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, disability.		Yes/No	
		21) The applicant has declared the application of the Do No Significant Harm (DNSH) principle to the environment.		Yes/No	
		22) The Applicant has declared that the Project is in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.		Yes/No	
	Substantive evaluation	3. The substantive assessment (scope of the substantive assessment), including the following qualitative criteria:	Pre-selection	External expert (average of expert evaluations), scoring	Evaluation team, scoring
		1) Analysis of the needs/problems of	not applicable	0 - 15	0 - 15

		the Applicant and the target groups to be addressed by the Project			
		2) Objectives of the Project and their compatibility with the objectives and strategy of the Applicant in terms of internationalisation and with the objectives of the Programme, including the selection of project implementation indicators and their value, selection of target groups to which the Project is addressed	not applicable	0 - 20	0 - 20
		3) Project activities with justification and results of the Project and their impact	not applicable	0 - 28	0 - 28
		4) Feasibility of the Project resulting from the capacity and experience of the Applicant and the way the Project is managed, monitored and evaluated	not applicable	0 - 15	0 - 15
		5) The reasonableness of the costs associated with implementing the planned activities	not applicable	0 - 22	0 - 22
		TOTAL:		0 - 100	0 - 100
		Weight:		0,40	0,60
		Maximum number of points		100	

**X. Allocation
of funds**

1. The amount of funds allocated for the implementation of the Programme is PLN 19,000,000. The Agency reserves the right to change the amount of the aforementioned funds.
2. Source of funding for the programme intake: national resources.

**XI. Additional
rules**

1. The Agency reserves the right to cancel the Call, in particular in the event of significant changes in legislation affecting the implementation of the Call, force majeure events or in other justified cases.
2. The project will be implemented under the terms of the Agreement.
3. The Agency reserves the right to conduct an evaluation of the Programme. The groups covered by the NAWA Programme impact evaluation study are NAWA Beneficiaries (institutions).

XII. Appendixes

Appendixes to the Announcement:

- 1) Recruitment Regulations;
- 2) Model Beneficiary Agreement;
- 3) Model power of attorney;
- 4) Model letter of intent;
- 5) Model funding application.

XIII. Contact

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