# STARS Grants 2023 TEMPLATES

Starting/Consolidator/Wild Card Grants (please choose one)

Research proposal [Part B2]

*(not evaluated in Step 1)*

**Part B2: *The scientific proposal* (max. 15 pages)**

*Text highlighted in grey should be deleted.*

***Please respect the following formatting constraints: use Times New Roman, Arial or similar, at least font size 11, margins (2.0 cm side and 1.5 cm top and bottom), single line spacing.***

**Section a. State-of-the-art and objectives**

**Section b. Methodology**

**Section c. Resources (including project costs)**

(Note: State and fully justify the amount of funding considered necessary to fulfill the objectives for the duration of the project. To facilitate the assessment of resources by the experts, the use of the following budget table is compulsory. All eligible costs requested, should be included in the budget. Please, note that the cost categories (as like as their amount) must be identical to the ones part of the online submission form. If any inconsistency occurs, only the online submission form’s figures will be considered valid. **Please use whole Euro values only**.)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Cost Category** | **Total in Euro**  |
|  | **Personnel** | PI |   |
| Postdocs |   |
| Students (PhDs) |   |
| **Travel**  |   |
| **Equipment** |   |
| **Other goods and services** | Consumables |   |
| Publications (including Open Access fees), etc. |  |
| Other (please specify) |   |
| **Total Estimated Eligible Costs**  |  |

**The budget is divided in the following cost categories:**

**Personnel costs**

* **PI:** costs covering the PI salary (research grant/RG, “*assegno di ricerca*”: max 40,000 euros per year; gross amount of 100,000 euros for 30 months). PIs benefiting from a STARS RG must be fully dedicated to the STARS project.
* **Postdocs**: costs for one or more research contract/s (RC, “contratti di ricerca”) to be assigned to researchers recruited on the project. The minimum duration of a research grant is 24 months and its cost is 40,000 euros approximately per year.
* **Students (PhDs)**: it is possible to co-fund a **PhD position** (for which the PI has to act as the PhD supervisor or co-supervisor).

Costs for covering fellowships or fixed-term research contracts type a) or type b) (i.e. (*Ricercatore a tempo determinato di tipo a)* or *b) – Rtda* or *Rtdb*) are not eligible.

**Travel**: PI’s and team members’ travel costs and related subsistence allowances.

**Equipment**: costs of equipment or other assets.

**Other goods and services**

This category covers the following items (the list is not exhaustive):

* **Consumables**: costs for consumables and supplies (e.g. animals, raw materials etc.).
* **Publications**: costs for scientific publications, including Open Access (e.g. books, manuscripts, articles, digital copies, etc.).
* **Other**:
* costs related to intellectual property rights (IPR)
* dissemination and communication costs (e.g. organization of conferences/workshops, videos, etc.)
* translation costs
* short-term scientists’ visits
* sequencing
* …

Costs are eligible if their direct link to the project and their necessity for the project is demonstrated. Costs must be incurred during the project duration.

The project cost estimation should be as accurate as possible. The experts assess the estimated costs carefully; unjustified budgets will be consequently reduced.

Briefly specify your commitment to the project in the *resources* section. Please note that you should perform and complete your proposed research activity in full and you are engaging with the University of Padua in submitting a project proposal (at the first applicable call after the starting date of the STARS project) to either an ERC call or to a different funding programme, featuring an equivalent structure as the ERC calls (Art. 8 – Duties of PIs of funded projects, STARS@UNIPD 2023 Call for proposals), i.e.:

- a selection process based on the researcher's curriculum and career development;

- the funding for the contract and the research activities of the PI is provided to the Host Institution;

- the evaluation criteria are comparable to those of the ERC, providing for independent, open, transparent and merit-based selection procedures through scientific committees involving qualified experts.

An exemplary and non-exhaustive list of the above alternative programmes is provided herein:

1. International fundings

* HFSPO-Human Frontier Science Program Organization: funds three-year long-term fellowships. This transnational organization, financed by member states including Italy, operates in the Life Sciences macro-area (LS), but it also support intersectoral projects with Physical Sciences and Engineering (PE) and Social Sciences and Humanities (SH);
* EMBO-European Molecular Biology Organisation: funds two-year long-term fellowships and four-year grants, as like as EMBO Young Investigator. This European organization, financed by member states (including Italy) in favor of the EMBC (European Molecular Biology Council). EMBO supports projects in the Life Sciences macroarea (LS);
* Harvard-Armenise Foundation: US foundation funding 5-year Career Development awards (1 M$) in the macroarea LS;
* Branco Weiss Fellowship – Society in Science: global fellowships programme, founded in 2002 and coordinated by ETH Zurich, which supports to exceptionally qualified researchers in all areas. The programme funds 5-year post-doc fellowships (CHF 100,000 per year), characterized by an international and transdisciplinary nature.

2. National (Italian) fundings

* AIRC: funds either fellowships designed for the training of young researchers, or various five-year grants, such as Start-up grants, My First AIRC Grants, Investigator Grants. The foundation supports projects in the Life Sciences macroarea (LS);
* Fondo Italiano per la Scienza (FIS): Ministry of University and Research’s program designed to support excellent research, in any field, within highly qualified schemes very similar to those of the ERC. There are two funding schemes: Starting Grant, for early-career researchers with a PhD awarded from 2 to 10 years ago; Advanced Grant, for independent researchers, active in research for more than 10 years and with a profile that identifies them as leaders;
* Progetti di Ricerca di Interesse Nazionale: designed to fund research projects, in any scientific field, in order to promote the national scientific researches, and foster the participation in competitive calls of Framework Programmes of UE. The program supports projects requiring the cooperation of various universities/institutions, due to the complexity and nature of the proposals, which the financing needs exceed the normal availability of one institution.

If the PI wishes to submit a project proposal to a call (national or international) different from the ERC ones, (s)he will have to submit a request to the STARS@Unipd Internal Commission. The Commission will evaluate the characteristics of the call and, in order to confirm or deny their suitability. The Commission, in cooperation with the International Research Office, will monitor the ERC (or alternative) applications actually submitted by the beneficiaries of a STARS grant.