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**European Union Cohesion Policy Programme for 2021–2027 under the specific aid objective 1.1.1 “Strengthening research and innovation capacity and transfer of advanced technologies to the R&D system”, measure 1.1.1.9 “Postdoctoral research”:**

**REGULATIONS FOR THE THIRD SELECTION ROUND OF RESEARCH APPLICATIONS**

**FOR RESEARCH APPLICATIONS RELATED TO AN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY**

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| --- | --- |
| **The Cabinet Regulations governing the implementation of the specific aid objective measure:** | Cabinet Regulation No. 35 of 9 January 2024 “European Union Cohesion Policy Programme for 2021–2027 under the specific aid objective 1.1.1 “Strengthening research and innovation capacity and transfer of advanced technologies to the R&D system”, measure 1.1.1.9 “Postdoctoral research” implementing regulations” (hereinafter – “the Cabinet Regulation for the measure”) |
| **Amount of funding:** | The total funding available under the measure is EUR 44,440,611, including EUR 37,774,519 from the European Regional Development Fund, EUR 4,797,862 from the state budget and EUR 1,868,230 from private co-financing.  The total eligible funding available for the third round of selection of research applications is EUR 3,847,200.  **The third round of selection of research applications supports only implementation of research applications related to economic activity.**  During the entire duration of the programme, the amount of funding planned for fundamental research shall not exceed 20 per cent of the amount set out in Paragraph 13 of the Cabinet Regulations. |
| **Method of implementation of the selection of research applications:** | Open selection of research applications |
| **Deadline for submission of research applications:** | From **19 May 2025** to **18 July 2025 by 17:00** |
| **Research applicant:** | Research application is implemented by:   * **A tiny (micro), small, medium-sized or large enterprise registered in the Register of Enterprises of the Republic of Latvia**; or * **a scientific institution that does not meet the definition of a research organisation**, or * **a scientific institution that meets the definition of a research organisation** and submits a research application related to an economic activity as part of the economic activity of the research organisation. In this case, the research application is accounted for by the scientific institution as an economic activity of the scientific institution. Economic activities are pursued within the research application. |
| **Type of research application:** | Research application related to economic activity |
| **Category of research application:** | Fundamental or industrial research application |

1. **CONDITIONS**

1.1 The total funding available under the measure is EUR 44,440,611, including EUR 37,774,519 from the European Regional Development Fund, EUR 4,797,862 from the state budget and EUR 1,868,230 from private co-financing.

1.2 The total eligible funding available for the third round of selection of research applications is EUR 3,847,200.

1.3 The third selection round of research applications shall only support research applications related to economic activities (hereinafter referred to as 'research application') carried out by a tiny (micro), small, medium-sized or large enterprise registered in the Register of Enterprises of the Republic of Latvia, or by a scientific institution that does not meet the definition of a research organisation, or by a scientific institution that meets the definition of a research organisation, submitting a research application related to economic activity as part of the economic activities of the research organisation. In this case, the research application is accounted for by the scientific institution as an economic activity of the scientific institution.

1.4 For the third round of selection of research applications, applications for economic research activities are implemented and implementation of non-economic research applications is not supported.

1.5 If the funding available for implementation of research applications related to economic activity within the framework of the third round of selection is not used it should be redirected for the next rounds of selection.

1.6 The maximum total eligible funding of a research application is EUR 192,360 and the maximum implementation period is 36 months, up to 30 June 2029. The research applicant shall ensure the sustainability of the results achieved for at least one year after the end of implementation of the research application, including the development of the research direction and the sustainability of the workplace created by the research application (if applicable).

1.7 The research applicant shall start the implementation of the research application no later than within six months after the decision approving the research application or approval on condition (if applicable).

1.8 Costs of a research application related to economic activity shall include the following items of eligible costs of the research application:

1.8.1 personnel costs: researchers, technical and other auxiliary staff, in so far as they are employed in the implementation of the research application, within the limits of the aid intensities allowed for public funding;

* + 1. the costs of tools and equipment, in so far as and for how long they are used in the implementation of the research application, which includes the costs of scientific equipment and machinery (fixed assets). If the period of use of the equipment and machinery in the research application does not cover the entire depreciation period, only the depreciation costs covering the period of use of the equipment and machinery in the research application, calculated in accordance with good accounting practice, shall be eligible;
    2. costs of contract research, know-how and patents acquired or licensed from external sources under conditions of fair competition, as well as costs of consultancy and equivalent services used solely for the purpose of implementing the research application;
    3. additional indirect costs and other operating expenses, including the costs of materials, supplies and similar products incurred as a direct result of the research application, such as chemicals, laboratory utensils, medicines, in so far as and for how long they are used in the project, as well as the costs of their acquisition and supply, which are accounted for in accordance with the laws and regulations governing accounting and are directly attributable to the implementation of the research application;
    4. costs of obtaining, validating and defending patents and other intangible assets (except for large merchants);
    5. the costs of training staff and trainees directly linked to the implementation of the research application;
    6. the cost of the trainee staff and general indirect costs (administrative costs, rent, ancillary costs) for the hours during which the trainees participate in the training.
  1. Intensity of public funding for conducting research related to economic activity:

1.9.1 85 per cent for implementation of fundamental research;

1.9.2 for implementation of industrial research:

* 70 per cent for a research applicant that meets the definition of a tiny (micro) or small enterprise;
* 60 per cent for a research applicant that meets the definition of a medium-sized enterprise;
* 50 per cent for a research applicant that meets the definition of a large enterprise;
  1. The intensity of public aid for implementation of industrial research applications may be increased by 15 percentage points of the total eligible costs of the research application, not exceeding 80 per cent of the total eligible costs of the research application, if research results of industrial research applications are made publicly available in at least one of the following ways: dissemination of research results at technical and scientific conferences and in publicly accessible repositories (databases), availability of free software.
  2. Costs related to the protection of technology rights may be received by a research applicant that meets the definition of a tiny (micro), small or medium-sized enterprise when carrying out a research application related to an economic activity. The allowable public aid intensity for support for protection of technology rights is 50 per cent;
  3. Costs related to training may be received:
* in the amount of 70 per cent if the research applicant meets the definition of a tiny (micro) or small enterprise;
* in the amount of 60 per cent if the research applicant meets the definition of a medium-sized enterprise and the training is provided to disabled persons or disadvantaged employees;
* in the amount of 50 per cent if the research applicant meets the definition of a large enterprise;
  1. The costs of a research application are eligible at the earliest from the start of implementation of the research application.

1. **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE RESEARCH APPLICANT AND CO-OPERATION PARTNERS** 
   1. The research applicant shall be a tiny (micro), small, medium-sized or large enterprise registered in the Register of Enterprises of the Republic of Latvia, or a scientific institution that does not meet the definition of a research organisation, or a scientific institution that meets the definition of a research organisation but submits a research application related to an economic activity as part of the economic activity of the research organisation, which establishes an employment relationship with a post-doctoral researcher whose doctorate degree/doctorate in science degree was obtained not more than 10 years before the deadline for the submission of the research application (hereinafter referred to as the post-doctoral researcher), and provides access to infrastructure and human resources for the research required by the research application.
   2. The research application may be carried out individually or in partnership with a foreign or Latvian scientific institution, university or business (hereinafter – “co-operation partner”), which hosts the postdoctoral researcher and provides access to infrastructure or human resources. The co-operation partner may benefit from economic advantages and intellectual property rights in proportion to each co-operation partner's contribution to the research application.
   3. Where the research application is implemented in partnership with a co-operation partner, the research applicant and the co-operation partner shall, after approval of the research application, conclude a cooperation agreement setting out the conditions for substantive, technical and financial cooperation, the rights, obligations and responsibilities of the parties, as well as the rights to the results of the research application (including intellectual property rights) in proportion to the contribution of each co-operation partner to the implementation of the research application, and access to the infrastructure and other resources of the co-operation partner for the research required for the implementation of the research application.
   4. The following requirements apply to the research applicant and the co-operation partner (if it is a merchant and benefits from the collaboration):
      1. order of funds recovery for aid schemes of which individual aid payments to a company to which unfulfilled order of funds recovery applies in line with a previous decision of the European Commission does not apply to these, whereby the aid shall be recognised illegal or incompatible with the domestic market, except aid schemes for compensation of certain losses caused by natural disasters and evaluated at the level of the company of the group (in accordance with Article 1(4)(a) of the Commission Regulation No. 651/2014);
      2. they are not considered to be in financial difficulties within the meaning of Paragraph 2.7 of the Measure's Cabinet Regulation, and proof of compliance with Article 2(18)(c) of Commission Regulation No 651/2014 (Annex No. 11), which is assessed at the level of the group of the company (not applicable if the aid is granted in accordance with European Commission Regulation (EU) No. 2023/2831 of 13 December 2023 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to *de minimis* aid (hereinafter referred to as Commission Regulation No 2023/2831);

2.4.3 where the research applicant carries out both economic and non-economic activities, it shall separate the types of activities and their costs, funding and revenues in such a way as to effectively prevent cross-subsidisation of economic activities;

2.4.4 the research applicant is not subject to application of the exclusion rules laid down in Article 22 of the Law on the Management of the European Union Funds for the programming period 2021–2027.

* 1. For a research application related to an economic activity, the aid shall take the form of transparent categories of aid (grant) and shall be granted:

2.5.1 by LCS under Commission Regulation (EC) No [2023/2831](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/2831/oj/?locale=LV) and the laws and regulations on the procedures for registration and granting of *de minimis*aid, or

2.5.2 The Central Finance and Contracting Agency, in accordance with Commission Regulation (EC) No [651/2014](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2014/651/oj/?locale=LV).

1. **SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES AND COSTS**

3.1 Within the framework of a research application, the activities defined in Paragraph 45 of the Cabinet Regulation of the measure are supported and only research applications that contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the [Latvian Smart Specialisation Strategy](https://www.izm.gov.lv/sites/izm/files/ekosist_kopsavilkums_ris31.pdf) or to the development of specialisation areas, including interdisciplinary research applications corresponding to at least one of the defined Latvian Smart Specialisation areas, are supported:

3.1.1 A knowledge-intensive bioeconomy;

3.1.2 Biomedicine, medical technology, pharmaceuticals;

3.1.3 Photonics and smart materials, technologies and engineering systems;

3.1.4 Smart energy and mobility;

3.1.5 Information and communication technologies.

3.2 In the research application, plan the costs in accordance with the provisions of Paragraphs 74 – 76 of the Cabinet Regulation of the measure.

1. **PROCEDURE FOR THE PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF THE PROJECT APPLICATION**

4.1 A research application consists of a research application form to be filled in electronically and submitted via the Postdoctoral research information system (hereinafter referred to as Postdoc information system), and its annexes:

* + 1. Annex 1: “Statement by the research applicant” (in accordance with the form in Annex 1 to the selection regulations “Research application form completion methodology”);
    2. Annex 2: “Copy of the postdoctoral researcher's doctorate/PhD degree diploma *(obtained no more than 10 years before the deadline for submission of the research application)*”;
    3. Annex 3: “Curriculum Vitae (CV) of the postdoctoral researcher (to be prepared in English)”;
    4. Annex 4: “Scientific description/Research project proposal” (to be completed in English) (in accordance with the form in Annex 2 to the selection regulations “Research application completion methodology”);
    5. Annex 5: “Postdoctoral researcher's statement on double funding” (in accordance with the form in Annex 3 to the selection regulations “Research application completion methodology”);
    6. Annex 6: declaration of the commercial company's eligibility as a small (tiny) or medium-sized commercial company and its annex if the applying commercial company has at least one partner commercial company or related commercial company (in accordance with the form in Annex 4 and Annex 4.1 to the selection rules "Research application completion methodology");
    7. Annex 7, depending on the type of aid:
       1. Annex 7.a: justification of the incentive effect of the public aid planned as part of the research application in accordance with the requirements of Article 6(2) and (3) of Commission Regulation No 651/2014 (in accordance with the form in Annex 5 to the selection rules "Research application form and its annexes") *(if commercial aid under EC Regulation 651/2014 is chosen);*
       2. Annex 7.b: printout of the *de minimis*accounting form *(if de minimis aid is opted for)* prepared in the electronic database of the SRS EDS;
    8. Annex 8: the most recent annual report submitted in accordance with the requirements of laws and regulations (applicable if the research application is submitted by a private legal entity with an economic activity) or an operational interim report not older than one month before the date of submission of the research application, certified by a sworn auditor (applicable if the research application is submitted by a private legal entity with an economic activity which does not have access to the most recent annual report);
    9. Annex 9: the research applicant's financial management and accounting policy;
    10. Annex 10: Agreement/memorandum of understanding between the postdoctoral researcher and the organisation in free form, confirming the planned cooperation between the postdoctoral researcher and the organisation in the framework of the research application, if approved, indicating the planned workload of 1 FTE, the duration of the employment contract and other conditions agreed between the research applicant and the postdoctoral researcher (e.g., content of the research application, conditions for technical and financial collaboration, rights, duties and responsibilities of the parties, and conditions for exploitation, implementation and commercialisation of the research application results, etc.);
    11. power of attorney or an internal regulatory act of the organisation attesting the authority to sign the research application (applicable if the research application is signed by a person other than the head or deputy head of the organisation) *(if applicable)*;
    12. translation of documents, including doctorate/PhD degree diploma if not issued in Latvian or English *(if applicable)*.
  1. To ensure the quality of the research application form, the methodology for completing the research application form (Annex 1 of the selection regulations) shall be used*.*
  2. The research applicant shall prepare and submit the research application to the Postdoc information system by the deadline for submission for the third selection round.
  3. The research application and its annexes shall be approved by the responsible person of the research applicant or his/her authorised representative who has been granted access to the Postdoc information system in accordance with the procedures laid down in Regulation 5.2.
  4. The annexes to the research application shall be signed by the responsible official of the research applicant or his/her authorised person with a secure electronic signature containing a time stamp (except for CVs and other documents which do not require a secure electronic signature of the authorised signatory). Postdoctoral statements shall be signed by the postdoctoral researcher with a secure electronic signature containing a time stamp.
  5. The signatory's signature rights must be established in accordance with the legal and regulatory framework. If the research application is signed by a person authorised by the research applicant, the authorisation of that person shall be accompanied by the relevant document.
  6. The research application shall be prepared in Latvian, except for Annex 4 “Research project proposal” and Annex 3 “Curriculum Vitae (CV) of the postdoctoral researcher”, which shall be prepared in English.
  7. In the research application submission, the amounts shall be expressed in *EUR* to 2 decimal places.
  8. In case Artificial Intelligence (AI) has been used in the development of the content of the research application, the research applicant is obliged to indicate this in the "Scientific description/Research project proposal", including a description of the AI tools used in the development of the content of the project proposal and the extent and context in which it is used.
  9. The research applicant is responsible for the use of the generative AI content used in the preparation of the research application, including the research questions put forward, the methodology developed, the structuring of the content, as well as the interpretation and evaluation of the results.
  10. The research applicant is responsible for ensuring the reliability of the scientific research and claims, and is responsible for the originality and factual accuracy of the content of the research application.
  11. When using AI solutions, the research applicant is responsible for the following:
      1. ensuring that no personal data, sensitive and/or confidential information is provided to third party AI systems;
      2. the absence of biased and stereotyped, and/or offensive information in the content created by AI;
      3. the reliability of content created by AI.

**5 PROCEDURE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE PROJECT APPLICATION**

5.1 The Latvian Council of Science (hereinafter – the LCS) announces the third round of selection of research applications by publishing a call for research applications in the official publication “Latvijas Vēstnesis”, on the European Commission portal "Euraxess" and on the website of the Ministry of Education and Science (www.izm.gov.lv).

5.2 The research application shall be submitted through the Postdoc information system: [https://Postdoc.lzp.gov.lv](https://postdoc.lzp.gov.lv). **The person responsible for the submission of the research application, or his/her authorised person, shall conclude a contract for the use of the Postdoc information system at least 2 weeks before the deadline for the submission of the research application.** To conclude the agreement, the research applicant shall complete the contract form available on the LCS website [www.lzp.gov.lv](http://www.lzp.gov.lv) and send it signed with an electronic signature to [pasts@lzp.gov.lv](mailto:pasts@lzp.gov.lv) with the subject “Agreement for the use of the Postdoc information system”.

5.3 Research application shall be submitted by the deadline for its submission. If a research application is submitted after the deadline of the third selection round for submission of research applications, it will not be evaluated and the research applicant will receive a notification from the LCS refusing to evaluate the research application.

5.4 Once the responsible official has submitted the research application in the Postdoc information system, changes to the research application are no longer allowed.

**6 PROCEDURE FOR THE EVALUATION OF RESEARCH APPLICATIONS**

* 1. For the evaluation of research applications, the LCS shall set up a Research Application Evaluation Committee (hereinafter – “Evaluation Committee”).
  2. The Evaluation Committee is composed of seven members. The Evaluation Committee shall be composed of representatives of the Ministry of Education and Science as the responsible authority and representatives of the line ministries.
  3. The Evaluation Committee shall operate in accordance with the rules of procedure of the research application Evaluation Committee, which shall be approved by the LCS in agreement with the Ministry of Education and Science.
  4. The members of the Evaluation Committee shall comply with the laws and regulations of the Republic of Latvia and the European Union and shall be responsible for the timely, objective and thorough evaluation of research applications in accordance with the evaluation criteria for research applications set out in Annex 2.2 to the “Methodology for the evaluation of the administrative, eligibility and output indicator quality of research applications”, as well as for respecting confidentiality. The composition of the Evaluation Committee shall respect the provisions of the Law on Prevention of Conflict of Interest in Actions of Public Officials and Article 61 of Regulation 2018/1046[[1]](#footnote-2).
  5. The evaluation of the administrative, eligibility and output indicator quality of research applications shall be carried out by the LCS staff and the Evaluation committee using Annex 2.2 of the selection regulations “Methodology for the evaluation of the administrative, eligibility and output indicator quality of research applications”, providing a score for each criterion and giving reasons for the score in cases where the criterion is “No” or “Yes with condition”.
  6. To assess the scientific quality of research applications, the LCS organises an international assessment of the scientific quality of research applications, involving experts from foreign scientific expert databases and applying the approach and principles of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships programme of the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation framework programme. For the evaluation, the foreign experts use Annex 2.3 of the selection regulations “Guidelines and criteria for the evaluation of the scientific quality of research applications”, providing a score and comments in support of the score.
  7. The maximum total score for the scientific quality evaluation for the research application, after conversion of the coefficients, is 5 points.
  8. In the session, the Evaluation Committee shall evaluate the research application and take a decision on the results of the evaluation of the scientific quality of the research application and on the approval, conditional approval or rejection of the research application.
  9. The opinion of the Evaluation Committee is reflected in the decision of the LCS.
  10. At the end of the evaluation, the Evaluation Committee will validate the results of the evaluation, which will be summarised in the lists of research applications to be recommended:
      1. research applications to be supported;
      2. studies of the reserve research applications (if applicable);
      3. research applications to be rejected (if applicable).
  11. If the research application is to be approved subject to conditions, the deadline for the fulfilment of the conditions shall be specified in the decision of the LCS.
  12. Upon receipt of the updates to the research application, the Evaluation Committee will evaluate the updated research applications against the criteria for which the additional conditions were set and complete the evaluation section of the research application in the Postdoc information system.
  13. If the research applicant fails to comply with the conditions set out in the decision of the LCS to conditionally approve the research application, or fails to comply with them within the time limit set in the LCS decision, the Evaluation Committee shall reissue its opinion on the conditional approval of the research application in accordance with the procedure set out in the selection regulations. If any of the conditions specified in the repeated LCS decision are not met or are not met within the time limit set in the LCS decision, the research application shall be considered rejected.

1. **THE DECISION TO APPROVE, APPROVE WITH CONDITIONS OR REJECT A RESEARCH APPLICATION AND THE NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE**
   1. On the basis of the opinion of the Evaluation Committee, the LCS shall issue a decision (hereinafter – “decision”) on:
      1. approval of a research application;
      2. conditional approval of a research application;
      3. rejection of the research application.
   2. A decision to approve a research application shall be taken if the research application fulfils the following conditions:

7.2.1 the research application meets the administrative and eligibility criteria for quality assessment;

7.2.2 the research application has obtained a consolidated score of at least 3 points before weighting for each of the scientific quality criteria and a total score of at least 3 points after weighting for the scientific quality criteria from the foreign experts;

7.2.3 it has sufficient funding to be approved in the relevant selection round.

* 1. A decision on conditional approval of a research application is taken if:

7.3.1 the research application does not meet a criterion for assessing the administrative, eligibility and output quality of a research application;

7.3.2 the scientific quality of the research application has been assessed by foreign experts with a score of at least 3 points before weighting for each of the scientific quality criteria and a total score of at least 3 points after weighting;

7.3.3 sufficient funding is available for approval in the relevant selection round.

* 1. The applicant must make the clarifications and additions requested by the LCS in the decision to conditionally approve the research application within the time limit set in order for the research application to fully meet the quality assessment criteria for the administrative, eligibility and outcome indicators of the research application.
  2. A decision to reject a research application shall be taken if:
     1. After recalculation of the coefficients in one of the scientific quality assessment criteria or after recalculation of the coefficients, a total of less than 3 points;
     2. the research application is not relevant to the objectives of the Latvian Smart Specialisation Strategy or to the development of the areas of specialisation;
     3. does not meet the administrative and eligibility criteria of the research application for quality assessment;
     4. there is insufficient funding to approve the research application in the relevant selection round.
  3. If a research application is rejected due to insufficient funding in a given round of selection of research applications, the research application shall be placed on the reserve list.
  4. If the research application is conditionally approved, the Evaluation Committee will re-evaluate the criteria that were identified by the LCS as needing to be clarified/added after the submission of the clarifications. The LCS takes its decision on the basis of the opinion of the Evaluation Committee:

7.7.1 that the conditions of the research application have been fulfilled, provided that the updates to the research application meet all the conditions set out in the decision;

7.7.2 re-adopt the decision to approve the research application with conditions if the conditions contained in the decision to approve the research application with conditions are not fulfilled.

7.8 After submitting repeated clarifications in the research application, the Evaluation Committee evaluates them according to the criteria for the fulfilment of which additional conditions were set, and gives an opinion on the fulfilment of the conditions. The LCS takes its decision on the basis of the opinion of the Evaluation Committee on:

7.8.1 the conditions of the research application have been fulfilled, provided that the updates to the research application meet all the conditions set out in the decision;

7.8.2 failure to fulfil the conditions of the research application and rejection of the research application if the research applicant fails to fulfil the conditions set or fails to fulfil them within the time limit set. (For a research application, the applicant may fulfil the conditions a maximum of two times).

7.9 The decision on the approval, conditional approval, rejection and the opinion on the fulfilment or non-fulfilment of the conditions of the research application shall be prepared by the LCS in the form of an electronic document and notified to the research applicant in accordance with the procedure established by laws and regulations. The decision on the approval of the research application includes information on the contracting procedure.

7.10 Funding in the selection round is awarded to the research applications that score the highest overall score for compliance with the scientific quality assessment criteria.

7.11 In the event of several research applications receiving the same number of points, priority will be given to those research applications which have received the highest number of points in the scientific quality evaluation criterion “Impact”. If they have obtained the same score in the scientific quality evaluation criterion “Impact”, the research applications which have obtained the higher score in the scientific quality evaluation criterion “Excellence” will be supported. If they have also obtained the same score in the scientific quality evaluation criterion “Excellence”, priority will be given to those research applications that include international mobility in the research application.

* 1. If one of the supported research applicants withdraws its research application or does not sign the contract for the implementation of the research application, the Evaluation Committee shall select from the reserve list the research application with the next highest overall score in the list and propose its approval to the Evaluation Committee.
  2. Information on the approved research application shall be published on the LCS website [www.lzp.gov.lv](http://www.lzp.gov.lv).

1. **ESTABLISHING A DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE RESEARCH APPLICATION**

8.1 In order to ensure research data management, the research applicant shall establish a research data management plan (hereinafter referred to as the 'data management plan') for the research being carried out in the research application no later than three months from the start date of the research application[[2]](#footnote-3).

8.2 No later than three months after the start of the implementation of the research application, the research applicant fills in the fields in the information system for the information platform on which the data management plan is created and maintained, the address for accessing the data management plan, indicating if the data created during the research application implementation are planned to be accessible (for details, see Ministry of Education and Science Latvian Open Science Strategy 2021–2027), and, if open access to the data is planned, the date by which such access will be provided/started.

8.3 The research applicant may update the data management plan and create the datasets in it for the duration of the research application implementation, and within one month after the end of the implementation of the research application.

1. **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

9.1 Questions related to the preparation of a research application and its submission must be sent to the following e-mail address: [pasts@lzp.gov.lv](mailto:pasts@lzp.gov.lv). Replies to questions sent by research applicants are sent electronically. Questions must be submitted no later than 2 working days before the deadline for submission of the research application.

9.2 The draft contractual text for the implementation of the research application may be updated during the contracting process (Annex 4 to the Regulations for the Third Selection Round of Research Applications).

Annexes:

Annex 1. Research application completion methodology with eight annexes;

Annex 2. Methodology for assessing the administrative, and compliance indicator quality of research applications;

Annex 3. Guidelines and criteria for the evaluation of the scientific quality of research applications with annexes;

Annex 4. Draft contract for the implementation of the research application.

1. Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014 and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. For information on the requirements for preparing a data management plan, see the website of the Latvian Council for Science <https://www.lzp.gov.lv/lv/dokumenti-un-informativie-materiali-1119> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)