

MTA LENDÜLET “MOMENTUM” PROGRAMME

The Hungarian Academy of Sciences launches

a call for applications

to establish new Lendület “Momentum” research groups

2026–2031

Objectives

Under the funding scheme of the Lendület “Momentum” Programme, the Secretary-General of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (Magyar Tudományos Akadémia, hereinafter referred to as “MTA”), who is also the Chair of the Lendület “Momentum” Committee, launches a call for applications to establish research groups which will start working in 2026. The Lendület “Momentum” Programme (hereinafter referred to as “Lendület Programme”) aims at strengthening the community of young researchers in Hungary by attracting internationally acclaimed scientists and highly-talented young researchers, either by hiring them from abroad or keeping them in Hungary, and at the same time it aims at supporting young researchers in their efforts to become independent. The mission of the Lendület Programme is to support excellence; accordingly, its purpose is to provide funding for research groups to be set up at host research entities to conduct research with a potential for groundbreaking results. A total amount of HUF 800 million may be earmarked for the funding of the new Lendület research groups from the funds made available under the appropriation provided for in Act LXIX of 2025 on the Central Budget of Hungary for the Year 2026 (the Central Budget Act), Chapter XXXIII “Hungarian Academy of Sciences”, Title 6 “Appropriations governed by chapter owner”, Subtitle 6 “Lendület “Momentum” Programme”, allowing for the funding of 12-14 new Lendület research groups with starting dates between 1 September 2026 and 1 December 2026. The entire grant period, in accordance with the provisions of this call and with that of the grant award document, may be a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 years. It is a precondition for the actual disbursement of the grant amounts due to be paid that the budget earmarked for the implementation of the Lendület Programme in the central budget of the year concerned should be sufficient for the further funding of the Lendület research groups.

Eligibility and conditions of participation

1. Researchers holding a scientific degree of PhD or DLA are eligible to submit applications to head a new Lendület research group if they intend to establish a new, independent research group **for the implementation of a new research project**.

The call is open to promising young researchers with outstanding and steadily increasing scientific output who meet the following criteria:

- a) they are under 40 years of age (born after 1 January 1986);

A researcher raising a child may request an extension of the age limit set for applicants: for women the extension is 2 years per child or equals the time of maternity leave actually taken (if this is longer than 2 years per child); for men the extension equals the time of parental leave actually taken.

- b) they obtained their PhD or DLA degree after 1 January 2016 and before 31 December 2022;

The time that has elapsed after receipt of their PhD or DLA degree may be extended (meaning that the award date for the degree may be earlier than 1 January 2016): for women the extension is 2 years per child or equals the time of maternity leave actually taken (if this is longer than 2 years per child); for men the extension equals the time of parental leave actually taken.

- c) they have already obtained a prestigious Hungarian grant (“OTKA/National Research Excellence Programme – NKKP”, “MTA Bolyai” or “MTA Premium Postdoctoral Programme”) or an international postdoctoral or other research grant comparable to the above in timeframe and grant amount for a research topic of their own either as an individual researcher or as a head of a research group („Principal Investigator” PI), or they have submitted an application after 1 January 2023 to any of the European Research Council’s (ERC’s) calls and have with this application passed to Step 2 of the ERC evaluation process, without however eventually obtaining the grant;
- d) they have not received any Lendület grant as PI before;
- e) winners of the grant must undertake to apply for one of the calls of the European Research Council (ERC) in the course of their Lendület project, and they shall present their project proposal submitted to ERC in their final Lendület report.

It is required that a Principal Investigator who has obtained the grant should establish a research group composed of young researchers, thus contributing to the primary objective of the Lendület Programme, which is to strengthen the community of young researchers in Hungary and to support young researchers in their efforts to become independent.

The Lendület grant can be obtained only once.

Where the applicant has a running research grant, the differences between the running project and the proposed project have to be described in detail in the short description of the current research proposal (research plan part 1).

Researchers who have won a grant in the “Excellence” or “Highlight” research call of the National Research Excellence Programme in 2025 will not be eligible for a 2026 Lendület grant.

It is not possible to obtain in the same year parallel grants for overlapping research topics under the Lendület call on the one hand and the “Excellence” or “Highlight” call on the other hand. Where the applicant is awarded both grants, they will have to decide which of the two they accept. Where there is no overlap between the two research topics concerned, the applicant will have to make a declaration about the lack of overlap in terms of the topics as well as in terms of the personnel employed.

2. Within the framework of the Lendület Programme, applications may be submitted for research activities to be conducted at research institutions and budgetary research institutions as defined in Act LXXVI of 2014 on Scientific Research, Development and Innovation (the RDI Act).

Applications must be submitted jointly by the head of the host institution – that is, either the head of the host research entity or the rector of the institution of higher education hosting the research group – and the prospective PI of the research group to be established.

3. The specific research topic must be in strategic alignment with a promising line of research attracting considerable international interest, that is, a line of research whose performance indicator is, based on international assessment, considered excellent and as having been continuously on the rise over the last five years, the details of which must be provided in the research plan.

4. The grant is non-repayable and its minimum amount is HUF 25 million per year throughout the grant scheme, while the maximum amount can be HUF 60 million on average per year. Planned overhead charges cannot exceed 17 per cent of the total requested grant amount. The existence of the grantee's own resources is not required by the grantor.
5. A researcher may be a member or PI of only one Lendület research group at a time.
6. The prospective PI must ensure that in the case of receiving the Lendület grant, he or she will reside in Hungary throughout the duration of the entire grant period.
7. Applicants must be registered users of the Hungarian Scientific Bibliography Database ("Magyar Tudományos Művek Tára", hereinafter referred to as "MTMT"), and their publication data stored there must be up-to-date.

Submission of applications, requirements regarding form and content

Applications **must be submitted in English** via the electronic submission portal of Lendület (https://palyazatok.mta.hu/lendulet_2026). Applications in the fields of the humanities and social sciences may be submitted in Hungarian where a reasoned request to this effect has been submitted to the Lendület Jury and the Jury has given its permission.

The deadline for electronic submission is

14:00 hrs (CET), 27th February 2026.

The **host research entity's declaration**, to be completed and signed by the head of the host research entity and its chief financial officer¹, as well as the **applicant's declaration**, to be completed and signed by the applicant, both of which shall be part of the application package uploaded to the submission portal, shall **also** be submitted **by post**² in one copy each to the Department of Grant Management of the Secretariat of MTA (hereinafter referred to as "Department of Grant Management") (name and address: MTA Titkársága, Kutatási Pályázatok Főosztálya, Nádor utca 7., H-1051 Budapest), with the latest acceptable date of the postmark being the deadline for electronic submission as specified above. The reference "*Lendület pályázat 2026*" ("Application for Lendület 2026") shall be put on the envelope containing the documents. No application fee shall be charged.

For further information regarding the full application procedure, applicants are requested to contact the staff of the Department of Grant Management at the e-mail address lendulet@titkarsag.mta.hu, or by phone at +36 1 411 6336.

The submission portal of Lendület can be entered by using the username and password valid for the Academy's Database ("MTA Akadémiai Adattár", hereinafter referred to as "AAT"). The submission portal automatically retrieves the prospective PI's data stored in the AAT, so these data should and can only be modified in the AAT. To ensure that the data used are up-to-date, applicants are requested to update their data in the AAT where relevant.

If the applicant has not registered in the AAT yet, registration can be done using *Guideline 1*. If the applicant has already got an AAT username and password (or after registration has been successfully completed), the applicant should follow the instructions in the Guide from point 3 onwards, so as to fill in the obligatory data in the AAT. Further guidance may be sought at aat@titkarsag.mta.hu.

On the submission portal of Lendület, *Guideline 2* should be consulted for completing and submitting the application.

¹ Any document shall have only one type of signature: either each signature shall be handwritten or each signature shall be electronic. For documents signed electronically, submission shall take place via the submission portal. Documents containing handwritten signatures shall also be submitted by post. No document with mixed types of signatures may be accepted.

² In case the above-mentioned declarations were signed with the electronic signature specified in the relevant legislation, their paper copies do not need to be sent by post.

The Secretariat of MTA shall perform the administrative duties related to the management of the Lendület Programme pursuant to § 19 (1) of Act XL of 1994 on the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (hereinafter referred to as the “Academy Act”).

The application package must include:

The following details to be entered in the online application forms on the submission portal:

- **personal data of the prospective PI** (name, date of birth, citizenship, sex, contact details, name of current employer, scientific degree and date of its award);
- **basic data of the application** (title of proposal, field of science, short description of the research project, short summary in English and Hungarian using an easily accessible language, name of the research group, name of the host research entity);
- **a list of the prestigious Hungarian grants** (e.g. “OTKA / National Research Excellence Programme - NKKP”, “MTA Bolyai”, “MTA Premium Postdoctoral Programme”) **or international postdoctoral or research grants** (e.g. MSCA, ERC) **which the prospective PI has already obtained for a research topic of their own**, as well as a list of the prospective PI’s running research projects and the data of any of their ERC applications which have been admitted to Step 2 of the ERC evaluation process (name of the grant type, research theme, period/year of application, result/qualification);
- **the prospective PI’s scientific results, scientometric data** and data on publication activity, as well as their MTMT registration number and related links (Scopus, ORCID, Google Scholar, etc.);
- **the grant amount requested, broken down in annual amounts** (the amounts indicated in the budget plan should be provided in million HUF);
- **additional data** (suggested foreign reviewers or Hungarian reviewers living abroad, their contact details, reviewers whose involvement should be avoided, information about proposed group members, and in the case of an age limit extension request, the number of children the prospective PI has).

The following documents to be uploaded to the submission portal (in PDF format):

- a **research plan** composed of two parts:

Part 1 (of max. 5 pages), which is a **presentation of the proposed research project** (using the template **”research plan part 1”** to be downloaded from the submission portal), which shall contain the following:

- a description of the state-of-the-art in the given research field,
- an explanation of the scientific question and the objectives of the project,
- a presentation of the general approach and research strategy necessary to reach the project objectives,
- an outline of the novelty, originality and groundbreaking nature of the project as well as its potential scientific impact on the research field.

Part 1 should spell out the original and creative project idea which raises a fundamental question in the given research field. It should highlight the new perspectives the project may open up and the contribution it can make to the research field(s) concerned, in other words, the potential changes and challenges that may be involved, and the ways in which the research output may change the current understanding of the research field.

Part 2 (of max. 10 pages), which is a **detailed description of the proposed research project spanning the entire project period** (using the template “**research plan part 2**” to be downloaded from the submission portal), which shall contain the following:

- a detailed presentation of the project implementation, including the research methodology,
- a work plan in annual breakdown (including a Gantt chart),
- the envisaged outcome and a plan for publication activity,
- a risk assessment and a list of risk mitigation measures.

OR

in the case of ERC applications, which have been admitted to Step 2 of the ERC evaluation process:

- **parts “A”, “B1” and “B2”** of the submitted ERC application;
- the **evaluation report** of the ERC application;
- a **short summary of** the eventual **modifications**, if any, to the scientific content of the ERC application necessary to deal with the differences in the respective – ERC and Lendület – budget plans (using the template “**ERC modification**” to be downloaded from the submission portal);

In the case of "Synergy" applications, the short description, the detailed work plan, the PIs' narrative CVs have to be uploaded together with attachments for all Lendület applicants.

Additional documents to be uploaded by all applicants:

- the prospective **PI's narrative CV** (using the template “**narrative cv**” to be downloaded from the submission portal);
- **CV(s) of the planned research group members** (excluding the PI) (using the template “**group members cvs**” to be downloaded from the submission portal);
- the **institutional background** of the proposed research project (using the template “**institutional background**” to be downloaded from the submission portal);
- a **budget plan** (with amounts rounded off to thousand forints) signed by the host research entity's chief financial officer (using the template “**budget plan**” to be downloaded from the submission portal and *Guideline 4*);
- a **budget plan justification** (using the template “**budget plan justification**” to be downloaded from the submission portal and *Guideline 4*);
- a **data management plan** for the management of research data (using the template “**data management plan**” to be downloaded from the submission portal³);
- the **applicant's declaration** signed by the prospective PI (on the authenticity and correctness of the data provided, on compliance with legal requirements, on the use of artificial intelligence, on the official authorization of the research, on an age limit extension request where relevant, on salary supplementation, on the applicant's commitment to establish or maintain their place of residence in Hungary, and on the processing of personal data, using the template “**applicant declaration**” to be downloaded from the submission portal);
- the **host research entity's declaration** signed by the head and the chief financial officer of the host research entity (using the template “**host research entity declaration**” to be downloaded from the submission portal);
- copy of the PhD/DLA diploma.

³ Guidance on how to fill in the data management plan will be provided by the Library and Information Centre of MTA (MTA KIK) at openaccess@mtak.hu.

The following original documents to be submitted also on paper (by post) – in case of electronic signature the documents do not have to be posted:

- the **applicant's declaration** signed by the prospective PI (using the template “**applicant declaration**” to be downloaded from the submission portal);
- the **host research entity's declaration** signed by the head and the chief financial officer of the host research entity (using the template “**host research entity declaration**” to be downloaded from the submission portal).

The use of templates to be downloaded from the submission portal is mandatory, and the page limits specified in these templates must be observed. Applicants should refrain from submitting any unsolicited annexes or other content (e.g. recommendation letters or expressions of interest).

Use of Artificial Intelligence during the preparation of the application

If, beyond language editing, spelling and grammar checks, or translation, the applicant has used a generative artificial intelligence (AI) tool in the preparation of the substantive elements of the application – such as the literature review, data analysis and interpretation, or the development of the research plan, hypotheses, or conclusions – this must be detailed in the applicant's declaration. The declaration must include the name and version of the AI tool used, as well as an indication of which parts of the application involved its use and for what purpose.

The applicant bears full responsibility for the scientific accuracy, originality, and integrity of the content of the application, regardless of whether any part of it was generated with the assistance of AI. The applicant must ensure that all references and bibliography entries included in the application are genuine and verifiable, and that any AI-generated text does not infringe the copyright of third parties.

During the evaluation of applications, responsible use of AI in itself does not constitute a disadvantage; however, reviewers may subject AI-assisted sections to enhanced scrutiny with regard to scientific rigor and originality.

Upon submission of the application the prospective PI shall receive a confirmation email acknowledging receipt of the application.

The submitted application will undergo a check of conformity with the formal requirements, to be performed by the Department of Grant Management.

Where the application meets the formal requirements specified in the call, the Department of Grant Management shall, at the latest by the 7th day after the submission deadline, send to the applicant a confirmation of admission of the application for evaluation.

Where the application fails to meet the formal requirements – that is, it is not in conformity with the requirements of form or with the page limits –, it will be rejected without evaluation.

Where any of the declarations or the budget plan that have been submitted turns out to be incorrect or incomplete, the Department of Grant Management shall call on the applicant to remedy the deficiencies identified. The remedy of deficiencies in a declaration or a budget plan may be allowed only once, and the applicant must provide the correct or complete version within five (5) working days after receipt of the notification to this effect. Should the applicant provide a rectification which contains an error or which is incomplete, or should the applicant fail to correct any irregularities within the specified time limit, the application shall be rejected without evaluation.

Furthermore, the application shall be rejected without evaluation if (1) the applicant or the host research entity is ineligible to apply; (2) the documents required in the call have been dispatched by post after the deadline for posting; (3) the applicant has provided information which is either false, forged or misleading, and which could substantially affect the outcome of the decision upon

evaluation. In case of a rejection without evaluation, the information provided on this must contain the reason of the rejection and a reference to the possibility and terms of lodging a complaint.

Legal remedy

No legal remedy may be sought concerning the substance of the decision on the results of the call.

Information on how to lodge a complaint

Applicants may lodge a complaint, addressed to the Chair of the Lendület Committee, should they believe that a procedural element of the call procedure or of the decision-making concerning the award of the grant, or of the issue of the grant award document or of the transfer of the state-funded grant amount or of the recovery of undue payments has violated in any way a legislative provision or has been contrary to what has been provided for in this call for applications. No complaint may be lodged concerning the scientific evaluation of the applications. The complaint shall contain the name and address of the applicant lodging the complaint, the specification of the contested measure or of the instance of inaction, the description of the relevant facts, the identification of the specific legislative provision or provision of this call which was allegedly violated by the contested measure or instance of inaction, and the signature of the applicant lodging the complaint.

The complaint may be submitted only once within 15 days following the receipt of the notification about the decision containing the contested measure or implying an instance of inaction, via e-mail to the address lendulet@titkarsag.mta.hu and at the same time by post⁴, using the postal address of the Department of Grant Management: MTA Titkársága, Kutatási Pályázatok Főosztálya, Nádor u. 7., H-1051 Budapest. The complaint shall be decided on by the Chair of the Lendület Committee within 30 days following its receipt, based on a review which shall be limited to matters which are being specifically contested in the complaint. Incomplete complaints, or complaints lodged after the above-mentioned deadline or complaints concerning the scientific evaluation shall be rejected without further examination.

Evaluation of the applications submitted

In the evaluation and ranking of the applications, preference will be given to researchers presently living abroad and having already earned international recognition for their research conducted abroad and who are planning to return to Hungary.

The evaluation of the applications proceeds in two stages in line with the provisions of the Decision 21/2023 (XII.04.) of the President of MTA on the Lendület Programme and of the MTA Lendület Rules of Procedure, both of which are available at MTA's website mta.hu under the heading "Lendület" within the menu item "Call for Papers". At stage one, formally valid applications are reviewed anonymously by at least two external experts, Hungarian and foreign nationals, invited by the Lendület Jury. The external experts review the applications in line with the criteria set out below, specified by the Lendület Jury. In their assessment, reviewers must make it clear whether or not they recommend the applications for funding and also whether or not they consider the requested grant amounts realistic. If they think that the grant amounts requested are not realistic, they may recommend a modification of the grant amounts.

Evaluation criteria:

- A) Comprehensive scientific evaluation of the research project** in terms of the importance, novelty and international competitiveness of the topic, and in terms of expected effectiveness and feasibility

Maximum score: 10 points

⁴ In case the above-mentioned declarations were signed with the electronic signature specified in the relevant legislation, their paper copies do not need to be sent by post.

B) Evaluation of the prospective PI's scientific performance – in terms of achievements summarized in the narrative CV, grants obtained, scientific output and publications (especially in the last five active years)

Maximum score: 10 points

C) Overall evaluation of the application – how strong the basic research aspect of the project is, its relevance for science, societal impact, applicability, the prospective PI's and other project participants' capability to accomplish the research work, how realistic the requested grant amount is, expected efficiency (the ratio of promised results to effort and costs), suitability of the host research entity

Maximum score: 5 points

Maximum scores and points deductions on each aspect must be specifically justified by the reviewers.

Total maximum score: 25 points

D) Statement (yes/no) **as to whether the reviewer recommends the application for funding**, also taking into account the extent to which the host research entity is prepared and suitable to host the project.

E) Statement (yes/no) **as to whether the reviewer considers the budget plan of the application as realistic**. If the reviewer thinks that the budget plan is not realistic, but the application is otherwise worthy of support, the reviewer shall propose another grant amount which they find more realistic and sufficient for the implementation of the research project envisaged.

After collecting the reviews, at stage two of the evaluation process the Lendület Jury invited by the Chair of the Lendület Committee shall evaluate and rank the applications, taking into account the anonymous reviews (descriptive assessments, scores and variations between scores) and the evaluation criteria of preference. The number of applications ranked by the Lendület Jury shall be 30 percent higher than the number of applications that can be funded from the budget earmarked for the Lendület grant scheme.

The Lendület Jury shall propose to the Lendület Committee a list of the applications to be selected for funding as well as the respective grant amounts.

The grantor reserves the right, in the event that the amount of funding awarded differs from the amount requested at the time of submitting the application, to proportionally adjust the items included in the budget plan up to the level of the awarded amount of funding.

The final selection decision shall be made by the Lendület Committee within 120 calendar days after the application submission deadline.

Applicants shall be notified of the call results by the Department of Grant Management via e-mail within 10 working days after the decision has been made. The notification includes the awardee amount of the funding. If the amount of funding actually awarded differs from the amount requested in the application, the applicant must notify the Department of Grant Management within 15 calendar days whether he or she accepts the modified amount of funding. Within 10 working days after the announcement of the call results, applicants will be provided access to the anonymous reviews of their respective applications on the submission portal. A list of the winners, their research themes and the grant amounts awarded will be made public on MTA's website.

Funding conditions for grantees

Where the Host Institution is a legal entity outside the scope of the public finance system run by the State Treasury, the award of the grant is subject to the Host Institution's commitment to submit to the grantor, within 15 working days following receipt of the notification of the positive evaluation of the

application, the authorization letter(s) signed on behalf of the bank where its bank account is being held.

Upon meeting the conditions laid down in the grant award document, the applicant shall be entitled to a non-repayable grant amount, which shall be disbursed in annual instalments. The annual state-funded grant amounts shall be set in view of the part of the budget which has been earmarked for the Lendület grant scheme for the given year.

The detailed rules concerning the disbursement and the use of the state-funded grant amounts as well as the eventual repayment of unduly used grant amounts shall be laid down in the grant award document.

With effect from the starting date of the Lendület grant period, the PI of the Lendület research group concerned will be required to renounce any Bolyai János Research Scholarship they may have obtained previously and to refrain from participating in any running Lendület project.

Upon the entry into force of the grant award document, the PI of the Lendület research group concerned will be required to reside in Hungary.

The grant may be used for personnel, operational and capital expenditures (see *Guide 4*). The grant may cover the remuneration/salary for the PI, including social charges, or a wage supplement. Unless the successful applicant has already been employed by the host research entity at the time of the award of the Lendület grant, the host research entity shall appoint them to full-time public employee status based on the declaration of commitment it has issued as host research entity. If the successful applicant has already been employed by the host research entity at the time of the submission of the application, they may be entitled to a wage increase/wage supplement to be covered from the grant.

It is required that the PI of the research group retain during the Lendület grant period full-time public employee status at the host research entity and that at least 50 percent of the PI's full working time (at least 0.5 FTE) be dedicated to the Lendület project. The FTE value incorporating the PI's involvement in other grants and projects cannot exceed 1 in any period throughout the duration of the Lendület project.

The budget plan of the project may provide for a gross remuneration/salary of HUF 1,600,000/month for the PI, to be covered from the grant. The provision of higher amounts to be covered from the grant may be allowed only in duly justified cases. Such justification has to be specifically presented in the budget plan, and the decision on any higher remuneration/salary shall be made by the Lendület Jury.

Where the applicant has already been employed by the host research entity, they can apply for a wage increase/wage supplement for the extra work performed by selecting from the two options below, the one which is more favourable to them, and in case the applicant is awarded the grant, the host research entity will have to declare the PI's wage increase/wage supplement based on the option the applicant has selected:

1. the PI shall be entitled to a wage increase/wage supplement to be covered from the Lendület grant the amount of which may not exceed **the difference** between the amount of their regular remuneration/salary (including social charges) under the terms of their appointment or employment contract applicable at the date of issue of the grant award document and the maximum amount of remuneration/salary (including social charges) indicated in this call above, or
2. the PI shall receive a gross **wage increase/wage supplement** of HUF 450,000/month to be covered from the Lendület grant.

The PI has to declare in the applicant's declaration and also indicate in the budget plan justification which of the above two options they would select for declaring the wage increase/wage supplement to be covered from the Lendület grant.

In addition to this, the grant may cover, in accordance with what has been set out in the application, the salary of one or more researchers, including related social charges, current expenses such as material and supplies and overheads related to the project, and the purchase of new instruments needed for the research. The PI and the members of the research group may not carry out under any other legal relationship the same research activities as those carried out in the project funded from the Lendület grant.

Where the PI of the Lendület research group obtains an ERC grant during the Lendület grant period, the terms of funding under the grant award document for the Lendület project may, based on a decision of the Chair of the Lendület Committee, be modified accordingly.

The PI of the Lendület research group must prepare a progress report each year on the group's work. These progress reports shall be reviewed by the Lendület Jury and the qualifications shall be decided upon by the Lendület Committee, based on the proposal of the Lendület Jury.

The annual (1st-year, 2nd-year, 4th-year) progress reports will be short summaries of the research work performed and the results achieved. Each report will be the subject of an opinion to be drawn up by one member of the Lendület Jury. The indicative qualification of the progress reports shall be "*successful*" or "*unsuccessful*".

The three-year progress report shall be a detailed summary of the research work completed by the research group in the first three years of the project, highlighting the most important results of international importance, to be complemented with an oral presentation. The final report, to be submitted following the 5th year of the project, shall be a comprehensive account of the performance of the research group, to be complemented with an oral presentation. The three-year progress report and the final report shall each be reviewed by 2 external experts in the first round. The PIs' oral presentations shall be heard and judged by the members of the competent section of the Lendület Jury. The three-year report and the final report shall be qualified as "*successful*" or "*unsuccessful*", and within the former, the categories "*excellent*", "*good*" and "*sufficient*" shall be distinguished.

Researchers applying in a field of the humanities and social sciences may in their application propose a choice as to which of the procedures should be used in applying the major evaluation criteria for the evaluation of the project from the 3rd project year onwards; however, this cannot be changed later:

- in evaluation procedure "A", the evaluation shall be based on the originality of the researcher's own discoveries, theories, interpretations, innovative achievements or the amount of grant funds obtained;
- in evaluation procedure "B", the evaluation criteria shall include the novelty of the research, publication activities, conference papers, international integration, mentoring of young researchers and public outreach.

Based on the reports and their evaluations, the relevant sections of the Lendület Jury shall put forward their proposals regarding the acceptance and qualification of the reports to the Lendület Committee. The Lendület Committee shall formulate its opinion and decide on the qualifications on the basis of the proposals submitted by the sections of the Lendület Jury and the reports themselves. The PI of the research group and the head of the host research entity shall be notified of this qualification decision.

Where it is established in the evaluation that the research group's scientific performance has been "*unsuccessful*" for the first 3 years, the grant amount meant to cover the period from the date of entry into force of the relevant decision of the Lendület Committee up to the end of the 4th year of the project may be used by the group only to such an extent as to cover the documented costs of the phase-out, that is, the costs of the dissolution of the research group.

The PI's are required to apply for one of the calls of the European Research Council (ERC) in the course of their Lendület project and to present their ERC application in their final Lendület report.

Failure in fulfilling this requirement will prevent them from obtaining an “*excellent*” qualification for their Lendület project.

During the grant period, Lendület research groups are expected to draw up their independent research programmes, to act as advisors to students preparing for university-level scientific competitions or preparing their PhD dissertations, and they are expected to make every effort for their own successful participation in Hungarian and international research grant calls.

The PI shall ensure that the data of any publication (and in the case of collections of articles any of the articles included therein) produced and published using the Lendület grant are uploaded in digital format to the system of MTMT operated by the MTA Library and Information Centre (“MTA Könyvtár és Információs Központ”, hereinafter referred to as “MTA KIK”), as well as in PDF/A format to the institutional repository classified by MTA KIK REAL or by MTMT’s Repository Classification Board (“MTMT Repozitóriumminősítő Bizottsága”) no later than the date when the final report is submitted, or in the case of publications released following the submission of the final report, within 30 days from their release. The final report, once its qualification has been done, shall be uploaded to the REAL repository.

Publications prepared within the framework of the Lendület Programme shall contain as affiliation the Lendület research group concerned, with its name written in full. The full name of the research group shall consist of the acronym of the grantor, MTA, and that of the host research entity, joined with a dash, the name of the Lendület Programme and the name of the research group: in Hungarian e.g. MTA–XXX Lendület Alpha Kutatócsoport, in English e.g. MTA–XXX Lendület “Momentum” Alpha Research Group.

In any publication issued as part of the Lendület project, the PI shall make sure that a statement appears in the publication saying this document has been issued with the support of MTA within the framework of the Lendület Programme.

Further information

MTA hereby informs applicants of the following:

- a) The Hungarian State Treasury operates a monitoring system regarding budgetary funding and is involved in the coordination of the use of budgetary support funds. A support decision not registered in the monitoring system may not serve as a basis for valid funding.
- b) By providing data for the monitoring system, MTA shall ensure that in the case of funding through a grant process, the data of the call for applications are published on the relevant website, as are all data related to facts occurring or conditions determined by MTA in connection with the use of the grant amount, as well as data related to facts and conditions concerning the legal relationship between grantor and grantee, the provision of the grant amount, and any reporting requirement. The data registered in the monitoring system may be deleted after 5 years from the last calendar day of the year in which the decision of support was made.
- c) The legal provisions on the right to informational self-determination set out what shall be considered as data of public interest. The data which would not qualify as such in the first place but are being processed by an individual or a body
 - who/which is in charge of the preparation of the call for applications;
 - who/which is in charge of the announcement of the call for applications;
 - who/which is in charge of the preparation of the decision on the award of the grant;
 - who/which is in charge of the decision-making, and which are related to the call for applications or to the application process or to the decision on the award of the grant shall be considered data which are public on grounds of public interest, provided that they are not to be considered sensitive or special personal data.

- d) MTA shall check the use of the grant in line with the terms of the grant award document, pursuant to the provisions of Government Decree 368/2011 (XII. 31.) on the implementation of the Act on Public Finances.
- e) The annual amount used from the grant may, as a result of changes in the relevant legislation, be different from the grant amount awarded. Where changes in the relevant legislation result in reduction of the grant amount awarded, the grantor shall exclude its liability for any damage ensuing therefrom.

The aim of and legal basis for the processing of personal data during the call procedure

1. The personal data given by the applicant shall be processed for the purposes of the conduct of the call procedure by the Department of Grant Management at the Secretariat of MTA within the Consolidated Grant Management Framework (“Egyeséges Pályázati Keretrendszer”, “EPK”) of MTA. These personal data will be accessible to the competent organisational units of the Secretariat of MTA based on the MTA’s statutes and rules of procedures, as well as to reviewers participating in the evaluation process of the applications, in so much as it is needed for the performance of their duties defined by law. The personal data of the grantees will be processed by the host research entity concerned in order to conclude the contract of employment and by the Secretariat of MTA in order to issue the grant award document and to process the financial reports related to the grant.
2. The legal basis for the processing of personal data is the fulfilment of the data controller’s public duty as provided for in Act XL of 1994 on the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, pursuant to Article 6 (1) e) of the GDPR, whereby processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest.
3. Any changes in the personal data of the applicant should be communicated at the following e-mail address: lendulet@tikarsag.mta.hu.
4. The guideline on MTA’s data processing policy is available at the bottom of MTA’s website <https://mta.hu/english>, under “Information” by selecting “Privacy policy”.

Budapest, 18 December 2025

László Péter Kollár
Secretary-General
of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences