



# LEGAL BULLETIN

## NICOLAUS COPERNICUS UNIVERSITY IN TORUŃ

Year 2022; item 137

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**Order No. 84**

**by the Rector of Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń**

of 25 April 2022

**Rules of competition for selecting research teams representing emerging research fields  
under the “Excellence Initiative – Research University” program**

Pursuant to § 52 section 3 of the Resolution No. 37 by the NCU Senate of 16 April 2019 Statute of Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń (NCU Legal Bulletin of 2019, item 120 as amended) in relations to Order No. 229 by the NCU Rector of 16 November 2021 Organizational and management rules for “Excellence Initiative – Research University” program at Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń (NCU Legal Bulletin of 2021, item. 374 as amended)

**it is provided** as follows:

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### **Chapter 1**

#### **Aim and objective of the competition**

##### **§ 1**

1. The competition is organized under the “Excellence Initiative – research university” program (IDUB), in which Nicolaus Copernicus University, hereinafter referred to as “University”, by the decision of the Minister of Science and Higher Education, obtained the status of a Research University.
2. The purpose of the competition is to select 12 research teams within emerging research fields (EF) - 4 in each of the field groups, i.e., in the field of Humanities, Social Sciences and Arts, in the field of Life Sciences, and in the field of Science and Technology.
3. Research teams within the emerging research fields are characterized by significant scientific potential confirmed by publications in internationally recognized journals and monographs published by prestigious publishing houses, especially those prepared in cooperation with scholars from renowned foreign universities.
4. The condition for a team to enter the competition is to submit a plan for the development of scientific potential for a period of 3 years, i.e. from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2025. The teams that win the competition shall be granted the status of a new research team within the emerging research field at the University.
5. The winners of the competition shall receive support during the 3 years of their operation, i.e. from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2025. Each research team within the emerging research field shall receive financial support in the amount of PLN 1,000,000.00, of which

no less than 8% shall be allocated to support researchers outside the team whose work is thematically related to activities within the Emerging Fields.

6. Any research team within an emerging research field may receive additional financial support allocated to:
  - 1) funding for publications, in accordance with the rules set forth in the regulations for funding publication costs under the "Excellence Initiative - Research University" program (PLN 600,000.00 available to all research teams within the framework of emerging research fields);
  - 2) financing the costs of maintenance or expansion of scientific apparatus for EF (PLN 3,600,000.00 at the disposal of all research teams within the emerging research fields);
  - 3) financing mobility for University employees traveling to foreign centers and foreign researchers visiting the University (PLN 2,250,000.00 at the disposal of all research teams within emerging research fields).
7. The functioning of the research team within the emerging research field shall be subject to annual monitoring by the Scientific Councils for Research Fields (annual report in accordance with the formula set forth in Annex No. 3) and will be evaluated in the last quarter of 2025 according to the achievements of the team in relation to the development plan underlying the status of the research team within the emerging research field.

## **Chapter 2**

### **Rules of the competition**

#### § 2

1. The competition is open to research teams operating at the University, which
2. in the last 5 years have demonstrated documented scientific activity - raising funds for scientific research, carrying out research projects and activity in increasing the internationalization of research at the University. The competition is open to interdisciplinary teams.
3. The submitted team composition must list all persons who will be involved in the work of the team from January 1, 2023.
4. The team shall consist of 10 to 20 people. Each reporting research team shall include in its composition: research and research-didactic staff employed at the University, including staff up to 7 years after the doctorate, and at least two doctoral students from the University's doctoral schools. In addition, i.e. above the upper limit of seats, students of the University may be included in the team. An employee, doctoral student or student of the University may be a member of only one team forming the EF.
5. A member of a research team within an emerging research field may not simultaneously be a member of any of the university Excellence Centers established within the framework of IDUB.
6. Each submitted team shall indicate a candidate for the head of the research team within the emerging research field. Within the framework of the planned research teams within the emerging research fields, independent research groups may be distinguished, thematically and scientifically related to the team's area of activity. Should the proposed research team within the emerging research field be interdisciplinary in nature and formed from several smaller groups, the leader of each of these groups should be identified.

## **Chapter 3**

### **The course of the competition**

#### § 3

1. Applications to the competition within relevant Scientific Councils for a Field of Science, i.e. the Council for the Field of Humanities, Social Sciences and Arts, the Council for Science and Technology and The Council for Life Sciences, according to the template which is included as Annex No. 1 to these rules are submitted online, within the deadline indicated in IDUB timetable. The template is available at [www.umk.pl/idub](http://www.umk.pl/idub).
2. An application submitted in English shall include:
  - 1) the name of the team, the name of the candidate for team leader, the list of team members and research groups included in the team, specifying the position (employee, including employee up to 7 years after the doctorate, doctoral student, student) and the role in the team, if specified;
  - 2) indication of the main research area to which the research team will be assigned within the emerging research field (the field of humanities, social sciences, and arts, the field of life sciences, or the field of science and technology) and the research areas defining the specificity of the research conducted in the team, selected from the list of the so-called Research Areas according to Web of Science (min. 2 and max. 5); in the event that at least one Research Area overlaps with those assigned to the University Excellence Centers established under IDUB, it should be explained how the new research team will complement the existing research supported by the University in this area;
  - 3) a list of a maximum of 20 scientific publications of team members from the last 5 years; the list can only include scientific articles that have appeared in journals listed in Q1 and Q2 according to Web of Science, as well as monographs and edited monographs from level II of the MEiN list; the list should document the research activities of all team members, excluding doctoral students and undergraduates;
  - 4) a list of the 10 most important scientific achievements of team members in the last 5 years, including awards won, research projects obtained, grants, patents and commercialization of research findings;
  - 5) a list of the 10 most important scientific activities carried out in the last 5 years, including cooperation with foreign partners (the name of the institution and country should be given), organized conferences, workshops, summer schools;
  - 6) description of the team's planned scientific development in terms of: internationalization of research, seeking external funding for research in the next 3 years and in the long term, as well as the development of research staff up to 7 years after the doctorate, doctoral students and students; the description should explain the significance of the proposed research in world science and its relevance;
  - 7) plans for using the support that IDUB program provides;
  - 8) GDPR consent statements from all team members.
3. The description referred to in section 2 item 6 should include the development indicators that the team plans to achieve during the program period (i.e., from 1.01.2023 to 31.12.2025), including: the planned number of scientific articles in Q1 or Q2 according to Web of Science, the planned number of monographs and edited monographs from level II of the MEiN list, the planned number of applications in competitions for national and international grants, the planned number of patents and patent applications, and the number of conferences and other scientific events the team plans to organize. An obligatory element

of the development plan is the submission of an application in the Prelude-Bis competition organized by the National Science Center.

4. The submitted applications are evaluated in terms of form and content by the relevant councils for fields of science.
5. In the case of the formal requirement, the principle of "meets/does not meet" applies; the substantive evaluation of the application is conducted according to the following criteria:
  - 1) evaluation of the accomplishments of the research team members: maximum 35 points;
  - 2) evaluation of activities planned for implementation: maximum 25 pts;
  - 3) evaluation of past effectiveness in obtaining external funds, patents and commercialization of research results: maximum 25 points;
  - 4) assessment of the extent of international cooperation of the research team members, documented by international publications and projects: maximum 15 pts.
6. Applications that do not meet formal requirements shall not be subject to substantive evaluation; in justified cases, it is permissible to call on applicants to supplement their applications within 48 hours.
7. Applications shall be evaluated and a ranking list shall be prepared by the relevant council for a field of science, which shall recommend no more than five awardees in a given field group who received the best results in the competition procedure.
8. The decision to award funding is made by the Rector on the basis of the submitted ranking lists, after consulting with the IDUB coordination team.
9. The list of winners shall be announced at [www.umk.pl/idub](http://www.umk.pl/idub) by the date indicated in the announcement, and those participating in the competition shall receive the decision together with the application evaluation chart (according to the template specified in Annex 2) by e-mail to the address from which the team's application to the competition was sent.
10. From a negative decision of the Rector, the applicant is entitled to a request for reconsideration filed in writing within 7 days of the date of delivery of the decision to the address [ef@umk.pl](mailto:ef@umk.pl).
11. The decision of the Rector issued as a result of an application for reconsideration shall be final.

#### **Chapter 4** **Final provisions**

##### § 4

1. Questions regarding the project may be sent to: [ef@umk.pl](mailto:ef@umk.pl)
2. Sending an application is equivalent to acceptance of these Rules.

##### § 5

The Order comes into force on 25 April 2022.

**R E C T O R**

**Professor Andrzej Sokala, PhD**