

## **IOCB Bridging Support for Young Investigators (IOCB BridgeY)**

### **Purpose:**

The IOCB Bridging Support for Young Investigators is targeted at early career researchers, who have submitted a proposal for an independent project to a national or international funding agency (e.g. GA ČR, ERC, etc.) and have been unable to obtain the funding as a result of competition against more senior researchers. The internal IOCB BridgeY support should be used to complete preliminary results, validate hypotheses or finish off publications, which are generally the most common criticisms used by referees to justify rejection of a proposal. The IOCB BridgeY support is available for a maximum of one year and is not transferable. The IOCB BridgeY support will be terminated early if external funding is granted. BridgeY can only be awarded once to the applicant, only in very exceptional and justified cases is it possible to submit a second application.

### **Eligibility:**

- The applicant must demonstrate the submission of an unsuccessful project proposal to an external funding agency.
- The applicant requesting the IOCB BridgeY must be negotiated with his/her IOCB group leader.
- The applicant must be the lead applicant of the external application.

### **Financial means:**

- 1) Eligible costs:
  - a) Operational costs – up to 100% of the first year (12 months) operational costs requested by the original research proposal (i.e., GA ČR = consumables: material costs, service costs and other non-consumable costs, or travel necessary for the project implementation).
  - b) Personnel costs only for the applicant (up to a necessary and proportionate level, up to a maximum of 100 % of for the first year (12 months) amount and capacity requested by the original project application; must be consulted with the applicant's IOCB group leader.
  - c) Potentially also personnel costs for students directly involved in the project - the applicant must justify their involvement (up to a necessary and proportionate level, up to a maximum of 100 % of for the first year (12 months) amount and capacity requested by the original project application)
- 2) Ineligible costs: overhead costs, investments, publication's cost and result presentation's costs, including travel to conferences, personnel costs for other workers listed in the original project proposal.

### **Proposal requirements:**

- Justification letter giving a reason for applying – signed by the applicant and his/her group leader.
- A copy of the project proposal submitted to the external funding agency call.
- The evaluation reports of the external funding agency (Protocol and all Reviews).
- Proposed financial budget requested from the IOCB BridgeY support.
- Specifics of further applications submitted to fund the same project through another funding agency (title of the project, name of funding agency, the role of the applicant, duration of the project, requested budget, expected date of result announcement).

### **Evaluation criteria:**

- Quality and significance of the project.
- The applicant's experience in obtaining external funding.
- The applicant's potential for obtaining external funding in the future.

The decision to award the IOCB BridgeY lies with the IOCB director.

**Deadlines and submission procedure:**

- For unsuccessful **GAČR grants the applications for IOCB BridgeY must be submitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> December of the given calendar year**. Other applications can be submitted on a rolling basis upon the publication of the call results by each funding agency.
- If an IOCB BridgeY application, covering an unsuccessful GAČR project, is successful, the funding will be granted from January of the following year. Funding of other projects will be started on a rolling basis.
- Application should be sent electronically to: [IOCBgrants@uochb.cas.cz](mailto:IOCBgrants@uochb.cas.cz).

**Reporting:**

- The final report must be submitted within three months of the end of the IOCB Bridge support. The report should be about 1-2 pages and should summarize the results as well as possible plans for further work to be undertaken.
- The report should be sent electronically to: [IOCBgrants@uochb.cas.cz](mailto:IOCBgrants@uochb.cas.cz) .
- Within 1 year of the end of the IOCB BridgeY support, the investigator should submit a project proposal to an external funding agency.