UNIWERSYTET JAGIELLOŃSKI
W KRAKOWIE

Prorektor ds. badań naukowych

1027.0643.26.2021

AANOUNCEMENT
OF THE JAGIELLONIAN UNIVERSITY VICE-RECTOR
FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH
on 19 April 2021

on: submitting applications for Hosting Institutions under the ARTIQ Joint Undertaking - AI Centers of Excellence (CD AI).

I would like to kindly inform you that the National Center for Research and Development (NCBiR) has launched a call for applications for **Hosting Institutions** as part of the ARTIQ AI Centers of Excellence joint venture.

AI Centers of Excellence is a joint initiative of the National Science Center and the National Center for Research and Development concerning the creation of Centers of Excellence dedicated to AI (CD AI).

The rules for applying for the competition are available at:
• NCBiR: https://www.gov.pl/web/ncbr/artiq-centra-doskonalosci-ai
• NCN: http://www.ncn.gov.pl/aktualnosci/2021-04-09-ARTIQ-zapowiedz-i-nabor-zgloszen
• Center for Administrative Support for Projects: www.cawp.uj.edu.pl tab "Open calls" - "NCBiR calls" and "NCN calls"

Program description:
NCBiR, in cooperation with the NCN, plans to organize a competition under which projects will be selected for funding that will contribute most to achieving the goal of the joint venture, which is to increase Poland's scientific and R&D potential in the field of artificial intelligence.
The goal will be achieved through the creation of three AI Centers of Excellence, understood as highly specialized research teams operating at Polish entities, led by high-class scientists of international renown and distinguished scientific, implementation and organizational achievements.

In each of the AI Centers of Excellence created, research teams focused on Leaders acquired from abroad will conduct basic research, industrial research, development or pre-implementation works in the field of AI as part of innovative projects, leading to quantifiable implementation effects.

The first stage of the project is the selection of Hosting Institutions for the joint venture ARTIQ AI Centers of Excellence.

Before the main competition is announced, a potential study is carried out in the form of applications for Hosting Institutions.
The list of Hosting Institutions will be published on the websites of NCBiR and NCN. The published list will help the future Leader find the entity where the AI Center of Excellence will be established.

The future Leader may establish cooperation with one of the Hosting Institutions from the list or submit an application in the call for application in cooperation with an entity not mentioned on the list that meets the requirements for the Hosting Institution specified in the Regulations for recruiting applications for Hosting Institutions.

Applications for Hosting Institutions will be assessed by the NCBiR only in terms of meeting the formal requirements according to the criteria set out in Appendix 2 to the Regulations for the recruitment of applications for Hosting Institutions.

The deadline for submitting applications to the NCBiR is 11 May 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

Each entity may submit more than one notification, with the proviso that one notification may correspond to one organizational unit of a given entity.

Conditions for participation:
In the event of creating a CD, the Hosting Institution undertakes to:
  a. ensuring optimal conditions for conducting research, including office / laboratory space necessary to conduct research;
  b. providing administrative and financial services and support for the center, including support related to the Leader's arrival and stay in Poland (this may include childcare and / or help for the Leader's partner in finding suitable accommodation - if applicable);
  c. ensuring full-time employment; an administrative coordinator dedicated exclusively to the center for the entire financing period of the project, fluent in Polish and English.

Due to the rules of participation in the program, the decision to submit an application is made each time by the JU Vice-Rector for Research.

The second stage of the project will be the announcement of the competition and the selection and funding of activities for three AI Centers of Excellence.

In the call for application, the applicant will be the Host Institution, which will submit the application for co-financing in cooperation with the Leader (the Leader will be assigned the role of the Project Manager).

The leader will be the Project Manager, a scientist with international experience and achievements in the field of artificial intelligence, including successes in cooperation with a business that: has at least a doctoral degree (obtained a doctoral degree up to 8 years); two years before the closing of the call for applications, he did not live, work or study in Poland, and did not manage a grant implemented in Poland.

According to the assumption of the program, CD AI will be embedded in the organizational structures of the Hosting Institutions, which, as beneficiaries of the joint venture, would be responsible for creating appropriate conditions for research teams and their leaders to implement projects.

The funds under the competition will be allocated to financing three CD AI's - up to PLN 20 million for each of them, including up to PLN 1 million of support for establishing special purpose vehicles from the NCBiR budget.
The NCN will finance basic research in the amount of up to PLN 5 million, and the NCBiR will finance industrial research, development or pre-implementation works in the amount of up to PLN 14 million under the project.

AI CD's budget will be supported with additional funds from Hosting Institutions in the amount of at least PLN 100,000 annually on average for each Center of Excellence.
The budget may also be supplemented with other services provided by the Hosting Institution on its own.

The funds may be used to finance:
  a. Leader's remuneration;
  b. remuneration for the research team, including scholarships;
  c. purchase costs of research equipment, devices and software;
  d. depreciation costs;
  e. other costs directly related to the research.

The level of co-financing for research units for the implementation of works under the project is up to 100% of eligible costs. Research units may only implement the project as part of non-economic activities.

The joint venture does not provide for granting public aid and settlement of indirect costs.

Other important information:
- The project may run for 60 months.
- The division of property rights to the results of R&D works and related access rights, resulting from the project, is agreed between the Hosting Institution and the Leader and is specified in the conditional cooperation agreement concluded between the Hosting Institution and the Leader.
- The costs of relocation for the Leader (if it is necessary to move to the city where the AI Center is located) are covered as part of the Host Institution's contribution. The amount of the lump sum in EUR depends on the Leader's place of residence and the number of family members accompanying him in Poland.

The method and form of submitting applications:
Candidates for Hosting Institutions may submit applications only via ePUAP (Electronic Platform of Public Administration Services, ePUAP: / NCBiR / SkrytkaESP). The call for applications lasts until 11 May 2021, at 4 p.m.

After obtaining the approval of the JU Vice-Rector for Research, the application will be sent by CAWP to the address of the Electronic Inbox ESP (ePUAP) NCBiR. The CAWP call supervisor will inform the unit about sending the application.

Internal JU regulations:
Pursuant to Regulation No. 56 of the Rector of the Jagiellonian University of 11 July 2016 on: *Regulations for the preparation and implementation of projects financed from external sources at the Jagiellonian University,* JU units interested in participating in the call for proposals are requested to send to the e-mail address of the call supervisor at CAWP:

• **by 30 April 2021** - **a draft version of the application** in electronic form (in the form of a PDF file), in order to verify compliance with the competition rules and in formal terms

• **by 6 May 2021 - the final version of the application** (electronic version sent as a PDF file - a document signed with an electronic qualified signature or in the form of a scan with signatures or a hard copy with signatures - signatures required: Project Manager and Head of the JU organizational unit (Dean or Director / Head of another organizational unit) together with an unsigned version of the application (electronic version in the form of a PDF file and in the form of an editable file, e.g. doc).

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the preparation of the application, please contact the supervisor of the competition at CAWP, Natalia Łakomy, phone: 12 663 38 27, natalia.lakomy@uj.edu.pl