PROVISIONS OF THE “RESEARCH INTERNSHIPS IN WORLD LABORATORIES”

Program – 2022

**I. GENERAL CONDITIONS**

1. 1. The “Research Internships in World Laboratories” program provides 10 grants for summer internships in leading scientific and research laboratories of the world (hereinafter – the Program), lasting up to 90 days;
	2. The Program is aimed at supporting talented Kazakhstani students and active research specialists who plan on pursuing a PhD degree in the future and engaging in scientific activities in Kazakhstan;
	3. The purpose of the program is to increase the competitiveness of Kazakhstani students and research specialists in applying for PhD programs through the provision of opportunities to work in the best scientific and research laboratories of the world;
	4. Participants of the program are citizens of the Republic of Kazakhstan:

1.4.1. baccalaureate students, except for first and last years;

1.4.2. masters, excluding the last course;

1.4.3. bachelor’s degrees in medical schools, except for the first year, if internship is compulsory;

1.4.4. interns, except for the last course of study.

in accordance with the classification for the training of specialists in the following fields:

a. 6B05 Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Statistics

b. 6B06 Information and Communication Technologies

c. 6B07 Engineering, manufacturing and construction industries

d. 6B10 Healthcare.

**II. IMPLEMENTATION STAGES OF THE PROGRAM:**

* 1. The program is long-term and realized in several stages:

The first stage – competitive selection of the program winners;

The second stage – preparatory stage and internship enrollment:

1. the winners independently look for their own research supervisors and laboratories;
2. the winners prepare all necessary documentation (essays, recommendations, translation of scientific works);
3. winners independently obtain their visa and look for accommodation for the duration of the internship.

At this stage the Foundation accompanies and advises the Program winners.

The third stage – the internship.

* 1. To conduct the competitive selection, an Expert Council which selects participants is formed.

The decision of the Expert Council is submitted to the Board of Trustees for review;

* 1. The decision of the Board of Trustees is approved by the Foundation in the form of an officially certified list of Program winners. The list of winners is published on the Foundation's website;
	2. Applications are accepted in Kazakh, Russian and English. Russian is the working language of the program;
	3. The Foundation has the right to refuse the provision of funds without citing the reasons of refusal;
	4. The Foundation has the right to redistribute the grants, between undergraduate and graduate students, depending on the quality of the received applications;
	5. The Foundation reserves the right to grant less than 10 grants, if the number of highly qualified contestants in the final stage of the competition is inferior to this number.

**III COMPETITIVE SELECTION OF PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS:**

* 1. Requirements for the competition participants**:**
		1. The candidate has to be a citizen of the Republic of Kazakhstan;
		2. The candidate has to be:
1. an active researcher (degree of education not higher than a master's degree) working at a Kazakh university, research institute, academy, laboratory, etc.;
2. a student of the 2-3 year bachelor's degree;
3. 2-5 bachelor's degree courses for medical universities, in which internship training is mandatory;
4. 1st year of Master's degree;
5. interns, not the last year;

studying exclusively at a Kazakh university in the following fields:

* 1. 6B05 Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Statistics
	2. 6B06 Information and Communication Technologies
	3. 6B07 Engineering, manufacturing and construction industries
	4. 6B10 Healthcare.
		1. The candidate's GPA should be 3.3 and above;
		2. The candidate should have achievements in various scientific Olympiads and competitions;
		3. The candidate’s command of the English language should be at a B1 level or above, confirmed by:
	5. an IELTS certificate – minimum 6.0;
	6. a TOEFL iBT certificate – minimum 80;
	7. a secondary or higher education taught fully in English.
		1. The candidate should be expressing an interest in a particular scientific field, and provide appropriate evidence:
1. scientific articles;
2. results of any research;
3. etc.
	* 1. The candidate should demonstrate an interest in entering a PhD program and a desire to engage in scientific activities in Kazakhstan.
	1. To participate in this competition, the applicant has to:
		1. Fill in an online application form on the Foundation's website – yessenovfoundation.org
		2. Attach to the application form:

Mandatory documents:

1. ID scan;
2. An essay on the following topic: "Innovative ideas for the popularization of science and the development of education, science or production in the field of their specialization in Kazakhstan." (text in the edited document);
3. Transcripts (all semesters of study);
4. Bachelor's degree diploma with grades (for Master’s students and research specialists) or a diploma from the last place of study (undergraduate students) – no more than 1 document;
5. Curriculum Vitae.

Additional documents:

1. Certificates in Science – no more than 3 certificates\*;
2. Certificates in active involvement in public life and volunteering – no more than 2 certificates\*;
3. Publications – no more than 2 publications\*
4. Recommendation of a research supervisor/the vice-rector or rector of the university – no more than 1 document.

*\*The Foundation considers a limited number of certificates. A candidate has to independently select certificates, which best reflect his/her achievements.*

* 1. Applications are accepted on the Foundation's website **from November 8 to December 9, 2021.**

**Applications will be accepted till December 9, 2021, 15:00 Nur Sultan time (GMT+6);**

* 1. By submitting an application on the Foundation's website, the candidate confirms his/her acceptance of and readiness to fully comply with the conditions of the competition;
	2. Holders of a grant from previous years are not eligible for the 2022 grant.

**IV. COMPETITION STAGES**

* 1. The competition consists of 2 rounds; the strongest applicants are selected at the end of each round:
	2. The first round is an applications evaluation:

Applications received within the deadline are reviewed and evaluated by Foundation's employees and independent experts in the period from **10 to 29 December, 2021;**

Applications are evaluated in accordance with the following criteria:

1. candidate's academic performance;
2. quality of filling in the application;
3. scientific and social achievements of the candidate;
4. level of interest in the program;
5. level of interest in further scientific activity.
	1. The second round - online interview:

Candidates who have passed the first stage of selection are allowed into this stage; This interview assesses the following student qualities:

1. Leadership skills;
2. Clarity and reasoning in setting objectives;
3. learning and ability to quickly absorb and analyse new information;
4. communication capacity;
5. ability to adapt to new situations and to find innovative solutions;
6. Professional qualities;
7. courtesy and courtesy;
8. commitment;
9. flexibility and the ability to accept others' views;
10. self-criticism, the ability to see one’s mistakes and admit them;
11. level of emotional intelligence;
12. level of empathy;
13. and others.

The interview aimed at identifying the personal qualities of candidates will be held in the period from **10 to 26 January, 2022**;

* 1. Candidates who have successfully passed all stages of the competitive selection become the winners of the program.

The Foundation reserves the right to send test assignments.

* 1. The Foundation reserves the right not to explain the reasons and reasons for the decisions taken to grant grants.
	2. The list of winners of the contest is published on the website and official pages of the Foundation’s social networks **on January 31, 2022.**

**V. SPONSORSHIP PROVISION**

* 1. Grants are provided to the winners of the program on the basis of a sponsorship agreement;
	2. The grant covers the following expenses:
1. round-trip airfare;
2. visa and health insurance costs;
3. PCR testing
4. Quarantine hotel accommodation (maximum 2 weeks);
5. Accommodation and utilities;
6. meals (approved rate: 40 USD per day, from the date of actual arrival at the location of the internship, for a total period not exceeding 90 days);
7. airport-accommodation-airport transfer.

The total amount of the grant cannot exceed 3 800 000 tenge.

* 1. A grant recipient who has concluded the sponsorship agreement is obliged to comply with the following terms of the agreement:
1. To undergo the internship in accordance with the established rules of the receiving laboratory;
2. responsibly fulfill all professional requirements of the internship;
3. Promptly report all major problems encountered during the internship (financial, organizational, logistical or pandemic and DR related);
4. Publish at least 2 posts in their social networks about the internship with the foundation during the internship;
5. Upon completion of the internship, be in contact with representatives of the foundation;
6. contribute to the writing of his own success story by providing photographs showing the internship process and his stay in the laboratory,
7. Inform all interested potential participants of the fund’s future competitions about their experience and activities;
8. Inform the Foundation of the outcome of the internship by submitting relevant reports;
9. Provide appropriate financial and creative reports in accordance with the time limits specified in the treaty.
	1. The winner of the competition is independently responsible for obtaining the vaccine in accordance with the conditions of the country of the internship.