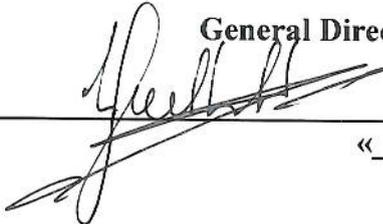


APPROVED BY
General Director of OPTEC LLC



M. Igelnik
« 10 » August 2011

Statute on Grants for Support of Young Scientists of Leading Institutions of Higher Education and Research Centres

Introduction

OPTEC as an exclusive representative of Carl Zeiss AG (Germany) and world brands: Bruker, ThermoFisher Scientific, Raith, Oxford Instruments and 3D Hitech, annually initiates the program of research financial support of young scientists from leading institutions of higher education and research scientific centres of Russian Federation, the Commonwealth of Independent States and Republic of Georgia, awarding individual and group grant-in-aids based on the results of the contest under this Statute.

This program is aimed to support young scientists, enabling them to grow professionally due to possibility of developing new technologies and methods in modern and well-equipped laboratories of their own or other institutions of higher education, non-commercial scientific centres and laboratories, to gain experience of presenting results at Russian and international conferences, publishing results in domestic and foreign editions, as well as stimulation of academic mobility and research infrastructure sharing.

To realize the program, OPTEC announces the contest of applications for grants on researches, publication of research results, and participation in conferences for Master of Science, postgraduates, lecturers, scientific officers, taking part in studies, researches and teaching work.

Statute on Grant

1.1. The grant is established to support young scientists (Master of Science, postgraduates, teachers, scientists) of institutions of higher education and research centres of Russian Federation, the Commonwealth of Independent States and Republic of Georgia, carrying out researches using methods of sample preparation, light, laser scanning, electron and atomic force microscopy by means of high-technology equipment supplied by OPTEC, in the following areas:

- Biology;
- Medicine;
- Chemistry;
- Material science;
- Geology;
- Physics;
- Nanotechnologies.

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- 1.2. The following types of activity are financed under the grant:
- Probation/ trips to the laboratories of other institutions to obtain results using the equipment not available in the applicant's university laboratories;
 - Partial compensation for expenses related to the use of research equipment in the laboratories of other institutions;
 - Payment for publications in print media;
 - Payment of organization fees and travelling and living expenses for participation in conferences with reports/posters;
 - Payment of scholarships for the period of grant realization.
- 1.3. Applicants may be Master of Science, postgraduates, teachers, scientists of research scientific centres, taking part in scientific and teaching work of the university or institute. Applicant's age is below 35.
- 1.4. Application may be submitted both individually and by the group of project participants (three max.). An applicant may submit only one application for participation in this contest.
- 1.5. An application must not contain elements of state secret according to the law of the applicant's state. In this respect, OPTEC is not liable for application content.
- 1.6. Evaluation of grant applications will be carried out with the assistance of experts recognized by the world scientific community – leading specialists in this area of natural science – through preferential voting based on scores given by the expert council members. Application evaluation criteria - see Appendix No. 3
- 1.7. The amount of grant financing is determined on the basis of independent expert council evaluation results and amounts to 3000 – 6500 USD in native currency.
- 1.8. Maximum number of scores is 12.
- 1.9. Grants are awarded by the following scheme:
- 9 scores – 3000 USD
 - 10 scores – 4000 USD
 - 11 scores – 5000 USD
 - 12 scores – 6500 USD
- 1.10. If there are published researches (according to item 1.1.), 1 score is added to the overall score.
- 1.11. Period of projects execution is no more than 12 months.
- 1.12. Performance time is from August 15 to October 1 this year. Announcement of results is until December 1 this year.
- 1.13. The application may be emailed to grant@optecgroup.com (together with scanned copies of the title page signed by the research advisor and recommendations of the Academic Council).
- 1.14. The decision on awarding the grant is sent to the applicant in writing within one month after announcement of results.
- 1.15. The contest results will be posted at www.optecgroup.com, and will be published in newspaper "OPTEC Segodnya".
- 1.16. The application (maximum 5 pages) shall be in Russian and/or English and contain the following information:
- Full name, position of the participant/participants;
 - Telephone, email, postal address of the applicant;
 - Name of the educational institution, department, and subdepartment;
 - Full name, academic degree, academic title of the research advisor
- (See Appendix No. 1 – Title page);

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- Theme of the research (department, laboratory, etc.), under which the contest work is supposed to be executed, objectives and tasks of the proposed research, research timeliness, used methods, expected results, with specification of the research part executed by the applicants;
- Work plan;
- Execution period;
- Amount of the requested financing;
- Estimated expenses;
- Application structure – according to the enclosed form – Appendix No. 2.

- 1.17. The application shall contain the applicant's signature confirming that the applicant has read and understood the Statute on Grants.
- 1.18. Use of any OPTEC equipment in the researches is compulsory.
- 1.19. The application shall be countersigned by the research advisor.
- 1.20. The applicant shall submit the Academic Council recommendation containing the evaluation of the research timeliness and expected result.
- 1.21. Reporting. Upon completion of the project the grant recipient shall present a report on the results (publication, theses published in the conference materials, probation report, and financial report).
- 1.22. The applicant shall refer to the financial support for the execution of the research, development of the laboratory work (laboratory course) in the form of OPTEC grant in all publications of the results of researches carried out due to the grant.

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Title page

Application for the grant

Project name _____
Name of the used equipment _____
Full name of the applicant (applicant)/position _____
Full name, academic degree, academic title, position of the research advisor _____
Signature of the research advisor _____
Name of the institution _____
Postal address, tel., email _____

This is to confirm that I have read and understood the Statute on Grants _____
(signature, printed name)

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Application structure:

1. Title page (separate page)
2. Research theme and tasks (description of the scientific theme under which the research is executed, definition of the contest project tasks)
3. Research timeliness and novelty
4. Work plan (description of work stages, tasks and methods)
5. Used equipment and detailed description of research methods, equipment application
6. Expected results
7. Estimate of expenses (according to the enclosed template)

Expense items	Total
<p>I. Expenses recovery (scholarship), including payroll taxes</p> <p>Project participant wages: List of recipients – full name, amount of monthly or lump-sum payment, work periods.</p> <p>Total wage costs, including taxes</p>	
<p>II.</p> <p>Travel allowance: Full name, travel purpose (conference, probation, etc.), itinerary (from-to), travel period and number of days, ticket prices, expenses for accommodation and meals (daily allowance). Other necessary expenses (organization fee for participation in the conference, etc.).</p> <p>Total travel allowance</p>	
<p>III. Publication expenses</p>	
<p>IV.</p>	
<p>TOTAL</p>	

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Application evaluation criteria

1. Urgency of the designated task (scientific or practical demand):

- High (3 scores)
- Significant (2 scores)
- Insignificant (1 score)
- No (0 score)

2. Fundamental scientific level (scientific novelty) of the conducted researches

- High (3 scores)
- Significant (2 scores)
- Ordinary up-to date research (1 score)
- Out-of-date research (0 score)

3. Applied relevance of researches

- High (implementation of results is already possible at the current stage) (3 scores)
- Medium (implementation is prospective) (2 scores)
- Low (now only hypothetical possibility of implementation) (1 score)

4. Quality of statement of the submitted work (research):

- High (2 scores)
- Medium (1 score)
- Low (0 score)

5. Research related publications:

- Yes (1 score)
- No (0 score)

Maximum number of scores - 12

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