

Questions and answers regarding open call for proposals for the National Scientific Program “P. BERON”

04.08.2022

1. Question

I want to ask you about the eligibility conditions for applying for National Research Program P. Beron and especially in my case which is as follows.

I was a post-doctoral research assistant in Armagh Observatory, Northern Ireland, the UK for two consecutive contracts starting in April 2015 and finishing at the end of September 2021. Initially, the contracts were twice for 3 years, but the second one was extended by half a year due to the COVID pandemic. During that period I was on unpaid leave at my institute at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. Still, for the same reason as this research program, i.e. my integration coming back to Bulgaria, I was employed half-time (4 hrs per day) since January 2021. From October 2021 I'm full-time employed as an associate professor at the same institute.

So my question is whether I should count my half-time employment between January 2021 and September 2021 for the eligibility criteria, as I was employed in Bulgaria but was not here physically. Because If I count this, I was working for more than 12 months in Bulgaria in the last 3 years and will not be eligible, but if not I should be eligible!

Answer

In Eligibility conditions is written:

“The researcher cannot have resided or carried out his/her main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Bulgaria for more than 12 months in the three years immediately before the call deadline”. Since You were employed in Bulgaria more than 12 months in the last three years immediately before the call deadline, you are not eligible for this program.

12.09.2022

2. Question

I worked as a postdoc at the Research Institute for Radiation Biology and Medicine, Hiroshima University, Japan, from 2014 until the end of 2021. I relocated back to Bulgaria in the spring of 2022 and started work at the National Centre for Radiobiology and Radiation Protection (NCRRP) in the middle of June 2022 (three months ago). My position at the NCRRP is not permanent, I was hired as a substitute to a person in maternity leave. In this case, am I eligible to apply for Petar Beron funding with the NCRRP being my host organization, given that I am technically already employed at the same organization.

If I am eligible, and I am successful in obtaining a Petar Beron fellowship, will I have to switch from one form of employment to another, and what will be my position in my institute?

Answer

You are eligible since you have resided in Bulgaria less than 12 months in the last three years. If you are successful, you will be employ as a researcher in the host institution for the period of the project signing an employment contract.

16.09.2022

3. Question

Which documents from Part A-BG, Part A-EN, B1, B2 and Declaration Personal Data (or all) should be signed electronically? I understand that the signed Prilojenie_1 and Prilojenie_2 have to be submitted via post to FNI's address.

Answer

For every document you have a choice – to sign electronically or to sign by hand, scan and upload the document. Finally, the proposal should be signed electronically by the head of the host organization and send via the system “Management System of National Investments” (SUNI). Regarding the declarations of host institution (Prilojenie_1 and Prilojenie_2) you can send them via post.

4. Question

In the submission system SUNI, in part 2. Applicant data, it is not quite clear what should be input - the address for correspondence of the host organization or the address of the applicant for Petar Beron fellowship. The email appearing after login is the email of the applicant, but BULSTAT, etc. is for the host organization.

Answer

Yes, indeed in this part 2. Applicant data, the email appearing after login is the email of the applicant, but BULSTAT, etc. is for the host organization.