
ERC calls and proposal preparation

PROOF OF CONCEPT (ERC-2025-POC)

Deadline: 13 March 2025, 18 September 2025

Note: Dates can change, always check the official ERC website.



The grant application is submitted via the [Funding & Tender portal \(F&T\)](#), where you can also find the project proposal template.

When preparing your project proposal, please also refer to the current rules set out in the [ERC Work Programme](#) for the call year.

Valid PIC of Charles University is **999923434**.

ERC-2025 Calls

Starting (ERC-2025-STG)	Open: 10 July 2024	Deadline: 15 October 2024
Consolidator (ERC-2025-COG)	Open: 26 September 2024	Deadline: 14 January 2025
Advanced (ERC-2025-ADG)	Open: 22 May 2025	Deadline: 28 August 2025
Synergy (ERC-2025-SYG)	Open: 11 July 2024	Deadline: 06 November 2024
Proof of Concept (ERC-2025-POC)	Open: 13 November 2024	Deadline: 13 March 2025, 18 September 2025

Preparing and submitting your application

Working on an ERC application requires adequate preparation, initiative and thoroughness on the part of the applicant. Our help lies in fine-tuning a well-prepared text. Beware of basic errors and shortcomings, which can easily be avoided by studying the available documentation. **And do not leave the preparation of your project to the last minute.**

Timeline Step 1: ERC National Information Day

It is a good idea to start with a visit to the [National Information Day on ERC Grants](#), which takes place **every autumn** and is organized by the Technology Centre Prague in cooperation with Charles University.

It will give you an overview of the ERC scheme, and the evaluation method and ERC/ERC CZ project investigators will share their experiences with you. This will give you a more general insight into what the ERC is and how it works.

Step 2: ERC preparatory workshops

If you decide to apply for an ERC grant after the NID, please let us know as soon as possible (the ERC University Consultant is [Veronika Syrovátková](#)). We will let you know the next date of the workshop and how to apply for it.

Workshops in three parts usually take place in **May, June and September**. The **condition for participation** in them is to **prepare a good quality project draft = abstract, CV and track record** in the required quality and format. At the workshop, you are expected to know how the ERC works and to work with concrete project proposals.

Presentation of the main research idea of the PI (1st Workshop)

In a five-minute presentation, you will introduce your main research idea and justify why you are the perfect candidate to address this topic. This is followed by feedback and discussion with the Expert Group and other ERC panel members.

Mock evaluation of project proposals and discussion with ERC grantees (2nd Workshop)
You will try out the role of an evaluator. One project per science domain (PE/LS/SSH) is discussed.
Feedback on part B1 of the project proposal (3rd Workshop)
Discussion with the Expert Group and other relevant experts/experts on your B1.

In the meantime, you can consult with us about the project on an ongoing basis.



We encourage you to **compare your text with an existing ERC application** before sending it to us for comments. Feel free to **approach any of the previous [ERC applicants in the CU](#)** and use their application as a template for your text.

Abstracts of all successful ERC applications are also available online.

Step 3: Submitting the project to an ERC call

Submissions are governed by [Rector's Directive No. 9/2023](#), please be familiar with it.



RD in short:

Agree with the faculty/department on what will happen if you succeed in the ERC Call.

NO LATER THAN A MONTH before the call deadline, send us the **FINAL VERSION** of the project, together with a **request for a HIL** (Host Institution Letter = mandatory attachment of your application).

In the **F&T portal**, do not forget to give us access to your application (role "**Coordinator Contact**").



Remember that excellence is the only evaluation criterion (excellence of you as PI, excellence of your project, whether it is a "high risk, high gain" project, etc.).

Do not submit an ERC application if it is not perfect. This is because there are strict resubmission rules (depending on the evaluation grade, you cannot apply for 1-2 years in subsequent calls). And a bad evaluation will not benefit you in particular.



The CU also tries to **financially motivate ERC applicants to submit high-quality applications** through [Rector's Directive No. 8/2023](#). So, once you have submitted your ERC application, do not hesitate to **apply for this reward**.

Step 4: Mock Interview

This Mock Interview is a special workshop prepared for those who **proceed to the second round**. In this workshop, you present your project within the time limit. The workshop tutors will correct any mistakes your presentation may have, give advice on how best to impress and ask questions you might get during the ERC Interview.



If you make it to the second round:

Check the composition of the panels in previous years (the composition changes every two years). This will give you a better idea of the nature of the questions based on the expertise of the panel members. However, do not contact them under any circumstances as this would be a conflict of interest and your project would have to be excluded!

Be prepared for a tough atmosphere and difficult questions.

Practice your presentation several times.

Make sure you are fully informed of developments in the field since the submission of your proposal.

You can also contact TC Prague - [NCP for ERC](#) .



Take a look at our brochure "**How to write a good ERC proposal**", which we have prepared for you. Here you will find advice and tips on how to go about writing and submitting an ERC grant application for the CU.

[SEE DOCUMENT](#)