

Announcement of New Basic Research Projects for the Second Half of 2025 by the Ministry of Science and ICT

The Ministry of Science and ICT announces the plan of selection and support for new basic research projects in the second half of 2025 as follows.

March 31, 2025

<Participating Ministry> **Minister of the Ministry of Science and ICT** **Sang-Im Yoo**
 <Component of Participating Organization> **President of the National Research Foundation of Korea** **Won-Hwa Hong**

1. Overview of Program

Program Objective

- Contribution to the expansion of future capabilities of science and technology by strengthening creative and challenging basic research and by fostering outstanding researchers.

Application Procedure: Free application

Supporting Programs

- Individual Research Grants**

Program		Program Objectives and Descriptions	Eligible Individuals	Research period (maximum)	Annual research fund budget
Consolidator Grants	Creative Research program	To support small scale research by providing the outstanding researchers with necessarily sufficient support	Faculty members (Tenure track, non-tenure track also known as full-time/non-full-time) in the fields of science and engineering at colleges or universities, and researchers at National (public), government-funded or private research institutes.	1~3 years	appx. 70 million won (direct cost within 56 million won)
Young Scientist Grants	Outstanding Young Scientist Grants (Seed Grants)	To support creative research by young scientists for establishing their research infrastructure and cultivating their excellence in research	Tenure track faculty members in the field of science and engineering at the college or university or full-time tenured researchers at National (public), government-funded or private	1 year	appx. 100 million won (direct cost within 80 million won)

Program	Program Objectives and Descriptions	Eligible Individuals	Research period (maximum)	Annual research fund budget
		research Institutes. Applicants should be within 7 years after obtaining a final doctoral degree or less than 39 years old. ※ The applicants whose first appointment as an assistant professor or above ranking at the Korean college or university is within 5 years, can apply this grant, even if he/she is over 7 years after obtaining a final doctoral degree or over 39 years old.		
Pilot and Feasibility (P&F) Grant	To support pioneering research for the new paradigm shifts, or discovery and establishment of new concepts, rather than the traditional research areas that have been being heavily investigated.	Faculty members (Tenure track, non-tenure track also known as full-time/non-full-time) in the fields of science and engineering at colleges or universities, and researchers at National (public), government-funded or private research institutes.	1~3 years	appx. 100 million won (direct cost within 80 million won)
Basic Research Grants for National Agenda	To support strategic basic research for the 12 national strategic technologies, promising future research areas and others to prepare national and social needs		1~3 years	appx. 200 million won (direct cost within 160 million won)

2. The second half of 2025 New Project Funding proposal

Support plan for the individual program

Project			The number of project selection
Outstanding Grants	Consolidator Grants	Creative Research Program	Appx. 796~885 projects
	Young Scientist Grants	Outstanding Young Scientist Grants(Seed Grants)	Appx. 360~400 projects
	Pilot and Feasibility (P&F) Grant		Appx. 135~150 projects
	Basic Research Grants for National Agenda		Appx. 180~200 projects

※ The numbers and the amounts of New Projects can be adjusted based on the approved government budget.

3. Eligibility for application (performing) and restrictions on participation

Number of applications and assignments

- **(Application) As a Principal Investigator for Individual Research Grant** you may submit the application according to the following principles.

- **(Individual Research Grant, 2nd application)** Only one of Individual Research Grant(Consolidator Grants(Creative Research Program), Outstanding Grants(Outstanding Young Scientist Grants(Seed Grants)), Pilot and Feasibility (P&F) Grant, Basic Research Grants for National Agenda)

※ Those who applied to Support for the Academic Research Innovation and Support for the Next Generation of Academics supported by the Ministry of Education are not allowed to apply to the second Individual Research Grants.

※ Recipients of Individual Research Grants (the first announcement) are not allowed to apply any other new Individual Research Grants at the same year(except P&F Grants).

Classification	Programs		Announcement	The number of application and selected project	Application Date	Starting Date
Individual Research Grant	Consolidator	Creative Research Program	3.31, 2025	Only One	End of April, 2025 ~ middle of May, 2025*	9.1.
	Young Scientist Grants	Outstanding Young Scientist Grants (Seed Grants)				
	Pilot and Feasibility (P&F) Grant					
	Basic Research Grants for National Agenda					

* (p.6) 6. Please refer the application date

Restriction on application and fulfillment

Restriction on the application by those who applied Support for the Academic Research Innovation and Support for the Next Generation of Academics funded by the Ministry of Education in the current year

- Those who applied Support for the Academic Research Innovation and Support for the Next Generation of Academics (as a Principal Investigator) funded by the Ministry of Education in the current year are not allowed to apply the second Individual Research Grant

• Programs that restrict simultaneous application

Classification	Detailed Programs		
Supports by the Ministry of Education	Funding commencement date: '25.6.1.	Support Program for Academic Future Generations	Post-Doc. research support program for Growth
	Funding commencement date:'25.9.1.	Support for the Academic Research Innovation	Research Grants for Overlooked Area, Multidisciplinary Research Support Program, University Research Center (Support) Program - Glocal R&D
		Support Program for Academic Future Generations	Research Subsidies for Master's Students, Research Subsidies for PH.D. Candidates, Post-Doc. Domestic and Overseas Training, Post-Doc. research support program for Growth

- **Restriction on application for researchers applying the projects of the first of the year**
 - Recipients of Individual Research Grants (the first announcement) are not allowed to apply any other new Individual Research Grants at the same year. (except Pilot and Feasibility Grants)
 - ※ If researchers applied for the individual basic research projects (the first announcement) as a Principal Investigator and their applications are under the review, they cannot apply an additional new project.
- **Restriction on application for the researchers applying and conducting ongoing projects**
 - **The principal investigator can conduct only one Individual Research Grant as a principle investigator**
 - ⇒ The principal investigator who is conducting an ongoing Individual Research Grant cannot apply a new Individual Research Grant as a principal investigator. (except Pilot and Feasibility Grants)
 - ※ Individual Research Grant: Outstanding Grants (Global Leader Grants, Consolidator Grants, Hanwoomul-Phagi Basic Research, Outstanding Young Scientist Grants, Sejong Science Fellowship, Broadening Opportunities Grants(General Grants, Starting Grants), Basic Individual Science & Engineering, Balanced Academic Development Program, Support for the Academic Research Innovation, Support Program for Academic Future Generations

Exceptions

- **In the case that the final stage (except annual/phase terminations) of the ongoing project terminates at the end of this year(2025.12.31.)**
 - ※ This is an exception for the policy of 1 Basic Individual Research Grant per 1 investigator. However it is still counted for the maximum number of R&D grant awards (total 5 grants, including 3 grants as a principal investigator)
- **Global Matching Program and Pilot and Feasibility Grants are an exception for the policy of 1 Individual Research Grant per 1 investigator, however it is still counted for the maximum number of R&D grant awards (total 5 grants, including 3 grants as a principal investigator)**
- **Infrastructure Supporting Grants for Young Scientist is an exception from the policy of 1 grant per 1 basic research grant and is not counted for the limit on the maximum number of R&D grant awards (total 5 grants, including 3 grants as a principal investigator) (can be simultaneously applied and selected with Individual Research Grants and/or Group Research Grants)**

- **Common regulation for national R&D**
 - **(Restriction on participation)** The researchers who have been subjected to restriction on participation in national R&D projects can apply and participate to new projects only when the sanction period is finished by the day before the application due date.
 - **(Limitation on the number of R&D project)** The maximum number of projects that researchers can conduct simultaneously is 5, and among the aforementioned 5 projects, the researcher can conduct projects as a principal investigator up to 3 projects.

Major contents of limitations and exception for the number of R&D projects

▶ Article 64 of the Enforcement Decree of the National R&D Innovation Act (Limitation on the number of R&D projects)

- ① The head of central administrative agency can limit the maximum number of R&D projects that researchers can conduct simultaneously is 5, and the researcher can conduct projects as a principal investigator up to 3 projects among the aforementioned 5 projects according to Article 35 Paragraph 1 of the Act.
- ③ When the head of central administrative agency calculates the number of R&D projects under Paragraph 1, the head of central administrative agency can exclude any of the following R&D projects for calculating total number of the projects <revised on 2022. 2. 28., 2022.12.6., 2024.2.6.>
 1. The R&D projects that terminate within 6 months after the R&D application due dates according to Article 9 Paragraph 2 or Article 10 Paragraph 2.
 2. The R&D projects related to preliminary investigations, planning • evaluation studies, or test • examination • analyses
 3. The R&D projects that aim at adjustment and managements of the R&D projects
 4. The R&D projects that are related to the projects for infrastructure building, the projects of Article 5 (1) • (2), higher education support, personnel training, or academic activities, and that do not directly aim at R&D.
 5. The R&D projects related to basic projects of Article 4
 6. The R&D projects that are conducted by R&D institutes under any of following conditions with collaboration with small- and medium-sized enterprises and that the Minister of the ministry of Science and ICT assigned the R&D expenses separately after the consultation with the head of the relevant central administrative agency.
 - a. The R&D institutes that are applied to Article 2 (3) Na to Ba.
 - b. Specialized production and technology institute under Article 42 of the 「Industrial Technology Innovation Promotion Act」
 7. In addition, the R&D projects that are reviewed by the National Science and Technology Advisory Council, because they need to be calculated without being included in the number of R&D projects for the promotion of R&D or other reasons.

Exceptions

• In the case falling under each Provision of Article 64 Paragraph 3 of 「the Enforcement Decree of the National R&D Innovation Act」 (Limitation on the number of R&D projects)

- (according to Provision 4) Infrastructure Supporting Grants for Young Scientist is not counted into the total number of R&D projects
- (according to Provision 7) If the average annual budgets of Individual Research Grants (Global Leader Grants, Consolidator Grants, and Outstanding Young Scientist Grants) are less than 60 million won (direct+indirect), small new grants are not counted into the total number of R&D projects (from 2025 to the end of the project termination)

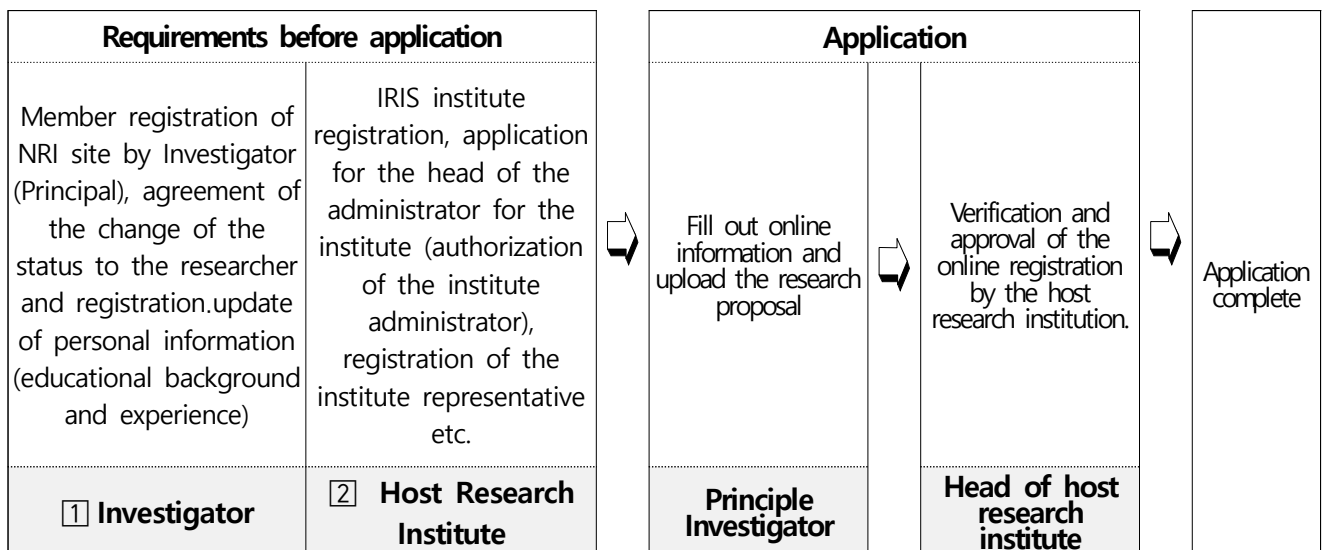
※ Among the Basic Individual Research Grants listed above, **the exclusion of small grants with an average annual budget of less than 60 million won from counting the total number of R&D projects** applies only to the total number of national R&D projects and does not apply to the policy of **1 Basic Individual Research Grant per 1 investigator**.

4. Application procedure

- ▶ 2025 Basic Research Projects, the applications for all projects, should be submitted, evaluated and managed through IRIS* (<https://www.inis.go.kr>) managed by Korea Institute of Science & Technology Evaluation and Planning (KISTEP) instead of existing e-R&D of National Research Foundation of Korea

* IRIS(Integrated R&D Information System): Integrated R&D Information System is an integrated system that is merged into one from the systems that are separately operated by each Ministry and specialized institutes.

- After the principal investigator log in [Integrated R&D Information System \(IRIS, https://www.inis.go.kr\)](https://www.inis.go.kr), fill out online information and upload the research proposal, the principal host institute verify and approve applications.



※ Before submitting the application, please check with the administrators that manages research processes at the host institute about the possibility for the host research institute's approval.

※ Check the attached detailed project application guidelines for details.

- ▶ There are [mandatory requirements before the application of projects through IRIS, please prepare in advance to avoid problems for the project applications.](#)

※ Please refer the detailed contents in [Attachment(Manual 1-1) Mandatory requirements before the application of projects (KISTEP IRIS Operation Team) and [Attachment(Manual 1-2) IRIS membership registration (change status to the researcher) and the manual for researcher information registration

- I (Researcher)** ① IRIS membership registration, ② Agreement for the changes of the status to the researcher in NRI (National Research Information System) tab of IRIS site (Issuance of National Research Number), ③ Mandatory requirements for updating information for educational background/experience* and the achievements of the major research performance** in NRI site

- * In experience information, registration of working (affiliation) departments is mandatory
- ** Update the list of finished, conducting/applying projects for the last 5 years
 - ※ ① and ②: Required for all of the participating researchers including the principal investigator (except student researchers in the pooling system for student stipends), ③: required only for the principal investigator

② (Host Research institute) IRIS institute registration, application for the head of the administrator for the institute (authorization of the institute administrator), registration of the institute representative etc.

- ※ Institute representative and institute (head) administrators are also required to register IRIS membership and to change the status to the researcher (issuance of National Research Number). Since the application of projects cannot be completed unless institute representative registers information, please make it sure to implement the mandatory requirements before the start of the application period.

< Note for host research institute options >

- Upon the application of the projects, the host research institutes are requested to apply as <00 University>, not as <00 University Industry University Cooperation Foundation>.
- Registration for institute information (registration of institute representative, application of head of the administrators, investment of authorization power to the institute administrators etc) of <00 University> is mandatory required.
- University Industry University Cooperation Foundation administrators can authorize the approvals for University Industry University Cooperation Foundation projects as well as the projects applied under the name of the university (00 University)
 - ※ If institute information (representative and head of institute administrators) is currently registered only with <00 University Industry University Cooperation Foundation> and if it is difficult to change information to <00 University> due to time restrictions before the application due date, it is possible to apply as <00 University Industry University Cooperation Foundation>

▶ IRIS Inquires: IRIS call center 1877-2041 or utilize the inquiry board of IRIS homepage.

5. Evaluation process

Program		1st evaluation	2nd evaluation
Consolidator Grants	Creative Research Program	Online evaluation	-
Young Scientist Grants	Outstanding Young Scientist Grants (Seed Grants)	Online evaluation	-
Pilot and Feasibility Grants		Discussion (Special review board)	Online evaluation
Basic Research Grants for National Agenda		Online evaluation	Discussion

- ※ Preliminary review will be conducted after the application is closed. If the application does not meet the application qualification requirements, the application will be excluded from the evaluation.
- ※ It can be changed by detailed evaluation plan and Discussion and presentation can be flexibly operated with on- or off-line based on the situation.
- ※ (Evaluation by Special Review Board) Conducting evaluation by operating Special Review Board consisted mainly with the current (Principal) review board members.

6. Application period

※ Notice

- Applicants should check that the application is marked as “**Application Completed (Submission Completed)**” before the deadline.
(Please note that the application cannot be completely submitted if it is still listed as “In-Process (In the Preparation of the Application)”).
- Changes are not allowed for the data and files submitted after the submission due date of the primary research institutes.

[Individual Research Grant, 2nd] Consolidator Grants(Creative Research Program)

- Principal Investigator Application period : 2025. 4. 24.(Thur) 14:00:00 ~ 2025. 5. 8.(Thur) 18:00:00
- Approval from host institute : 2025. 4. 24.(Thur) 14:00:00 ~ 2025. 5. 12.(Mon) 18:00:00

[Individual Research Grant, 2nd] Outstanding Young Scientist Grants(Seed Grants)

- Principal Investigator Application period : 2025. 4. 24.(Thur) 14:00:00 ~ 2025. 5. 9.(Fri) 18:00:00
- Approval from host institute : 2025. 4. 24.(Thur) 14:00:00 ~ 2025. 5. 13.(Tue) 18:00:00

7. Timeline (Draft)

Timeline	Contents
2025. 3. 31.	Announcements of applications for new projects for 2025(2nd)
2025. 4. 24.	Beginning receipt of applications
2025. 5. 8.	Due date for the application by the Principal Investigator (Consolidator Grants(Creative Research Program))
2025. 5. 9.	Due date for the application by the Principal Investigator (Outstanding Young Scientist Grants(Seed Grants), Basic Research Grants for National Agenda , Pilot and Feasibility Grants)
2025. 5. 12.	Due date for the approval by the primary research institute of the Principal Investigator (Consolidator Grants(Creative Research Program))
2025. 5. 13.	Due date for the approval by the primary research institute of the Principal Investigator (Outstanding Young Scientist Grants(Seed Grants), Basic Research Grants for National Agenda , Pilot and Feasibility Grants)
2025. May~August	Evaluation for the selection
2025. September	Final selection and commencement of the programs (2025.9.1.)

※ The timeline may be subject to change.

8. Other information

Guideline for acknowledgment

- When the outcome of the project is published in a research journal, the paper should include the acknowledgment as shown below.

▶ **In Korean**

이 성과는 정부(과학기술정보통신부)의 재원으로 한국연구재단의 지원을 받아 수행된 연구임 (IRIS 과제번호).

▶ **In English**

This work was supported by the National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF) funded by the Korean government (MSIT) (project management number granted from IRIS).

※ MSIT : Ministry of Science and ICT

※ The phrase “This work” can be replaced with the title to be published in the research journal or registered in the patent document.

Dispatch of researchers to domestic or overseas research institutes

- If a principal investigator is dispatched to a domestic or an overseas research institute over 6 months from the commencement date of the project, a prior approval is necessary for dispatch. However, during the approval processes, if it is determined that conducting the research is impossible, it will be considered whether the project is terminated by a special evaluation process.
- ※ If a principal investigator has already been dispatched on the commencement date of the project, an approval should be acquired from the host institute immediately after the arrangement.

Mandatory online research ethics course

- From 2018, the principal investigator of a basic research project should mandatorily complete the online research ethics course after the commencement of the project.
 - Designated institute of education operation : Korea Institute of Human Resources Development in Science and Technology (<https://alpha-campus.kr/>).
 - Inquiry call about education : KIRD Alpha Campus (1588-5834).

Recommendation for avoiding predatory journals and questionable conferences

- When principal investigators or others publish or present their results supported by National Research Foundation of Korea, they publish or present their results in reputable journals or conferences (avoid predatory journals and questionable conferences), respectively.
 - When principal investigators want his/her joint investigators (including students) to publish their results for the papers, principal investigators should confirm whether the academic organizations are recognized by relevant academic communities.
- ※ Achievements published in predatory journals by principal investigators or investigators may be taken into account for the evaluation during the processes of selections.

Guide for mandatory employment of young people in proportion to the government's contributions

- If the main research institute is an enterprise (company), check the contents of 'Guidelines for the mandatory recruitment of young people in proportion to the governments contributions' in the application request.

9. Inquiries

- Inquiries related to system and policy: Basic research promotion division, Ministry of Science and ICT (044-202-4534)
- Inquiries regarding project application process: Individual Research Grant support team and Group Research Grant support team, NRF

Classification		Division	contacts information
Outstanding Grants	Consolidator Grants	Creative Research Program	042-869-6805
	Young Scientist Grants	Outstanding Young Scientist Grants (Seed Grants)	042-869-6803
	Pilot and Feasibility (P&F) Grant		042-869-6814
	Basic Research Grants for National Agenda		042-869-6808