

CRITERIA FOR COMPETITIVE SELECTION OF RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS PRESENTED FOR THE RUSSIAN SCIENCE FOUNDATION COMPETITION

These criteria were adopted in accordance with Article 11, Part 9, Point 3 of the Russian Federation's Federal Law No. 291-FZ "On the Russian Science Foundation and Introducing Changes to Certain Acts of the Russian Federation" dated 2 November 2013. The criteria is used to carry out expert evaluation of research and technical programs and projects (hereinafter – projects) when they are undergoing competitive selection by the Russian Science Foundation (hereinafter – the competition and the Foundation, respectively).

1. Project topics relevant to the research areas supported by the Foundation.

Evaluates the relevancy of the topics of projects submitted to the research areas (scientific classifier) supported by the Foundation.

2. Professional skill level of the project leader and research team.

Evaluates the professional and creative skill level of the project leader, their research team and their potential in terms of the possibility of successful completion of the project and history of success.

The following can be used to assess the professional skill level of the leader (research team):

- information about the project leader (research team)(academic credentials, titles, membership in leading scientific communities, awards and prizes for scientific activities, participation on editorial boards of leading peer-reviewed scientific publications);

- list of the leader's and key research team members' major publications over the past five years (theses, publications in leading peer-reviewed scientific journals, publications in journals indexed in citation systems such as Web of Science, Scopus, Russian Science Citation Index);

- information about the leader's (or research team members') scientific experience and completed scientific projects (previously received grants and completed scientific projects) -over the past five years;

- information about the leader's and other main project investigators' participation in educational training activities (guiding post-graduate students, developing and giving new educational courses in Russian and foreign universities);

- other additional information which, in the project leader's opinion, could be useful in deciding whether it is economically justifiable to finance the project in question.

3. Scientific validity of the project.

Evaluates the scientific content of the project, including the scientific significance, relevancy of the project topic, scope of the assigned tasks, degree of scientific originality of the research, complexity of the research, grasp of information on the current state of research on the project topic, proposed methods and approaches, probability of the project's success and obtaining anticipated results, material and

technical foundation, use of shared use centers and unique installations and testing devices, information and other resources to successfully complete the project.

4. Significance of the project results.

Evaluates the scientific and social significance of the completed project's results, including: how the results correspond to the international research level, the possibility of the practical use of the project results in economic or social spheres, publications and other methods of disclosing the results of the completed project (including theses, publication in leading peer-edited scientific journals, publication in journals indexed in citation systems such as Web of Science, Scopus, Russian Science Citation Index), commitment to engaging young scientists and specialists, post-graduate and undergraduate students to work on the project.

5. Quality of project planning

Evaluates the quality of the project management, including assessing the leader's ability to manage the project, the appropriateness of the selection of the research team specialists and the resources used to complete the project, relevance and completeness of the project work plan's stated objectives, justification of the proposed acquisition of equipment, as well as for the planned business trips (expeditions) for the project, the sufficiency and validity of the amount of project funding requested.