

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

„TUKE–OU Young Researchers’ Grant”

Research and Development Grant for 2026

The Technical University of Košice (TUKE) and Óbuda University (OU) announce a joint call for research funding for the year 2026.

1. Purpose of the Grant

The purpose of this call is to support the scientific career of young researchers and lecturers, as well as to strengthen professional cooperation between the two institutions. The program encourages the achievement of high-quality scientific results, with particular emphasis on jointly authored publications in prestigious (Q1-ranked) journals in the Web of Science.

The program runs for 2 years, with a total budget of EUR 100,000, provided jointly and equally by TUKE and OU from their own budgets. The funding aims to provide the necessary financial background for research activities and to enhance the scientific performance and international visibility of the universities.

2. Eligibility

One applicant from TUKE and one applicant from OU, both young researchers or lecturers, may jointly submit a proposal, provided they meet the following criteria:

- Under 40 years of age,
 - Active PhD student, or obtained PhD degree no more than 10 years ago,
 - Actively engaged in research at the respective institutions,
 - Willing to cooperate with a partner from the other university.
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3. Form, Amount, and Conditions of Support

- **Amount:** EUR 20,000 / supported project
- **Duration:** 2 years
- **Mandatory commitments:** At least 1 jointly authored publication in a Q1-ranked scientific journal in the Web of Science database according to the JIF metric, AND
 - 1 scientific article published in Acta Polytechnica Hungarica, OR
 - 2 joint IEEE conference publications at IEEE HS-organized conferences.

4. Required Documents

1. Completed application form,
2. Joint research plan of the two institutions' researchers (max. 5 pages),
3. CV of the applicants,
4. Letter of support from the head of the respective organizational unit (for both applicants),
5. Declaration of acceptance of the application conditions

5. Submission

Applications must be submitted electronically to:

tuke-ou-grant@uni-obuda.hu

6. Deadlines

- **Submission deadline:** 30 November 2025
- **Expected announcement of results:** January 2026 (during the SAMI 2026 conference)
- **Implementation period:** 1 February 2026 – 31 January 2028.

7. Evaluation

Proposals will be evaluated by a joint evaluation committee of 4–6 members, appointed by the rectors of TUKE and OU.

Evaluation criteria:

- Relevance to the research areas of the universities
 - Alignment with the Hungarian Neumann János Program and OU's strategic research priorities (artificial intelligence, biomedical engineering, robotics, cybersecurity, green energy, smart architecture),
- International relevance of the research topic,
- Long-term potential and future funding opportunities,
- Added value for cooperation between the institutions.

8. Available Budget and Number of Supported Projects

- **Funding pool:**
 - TUKE: up to EUR 50,000 / 2 years
 - OU: up to EUR 50,000 / 2 years
 - **Number of supported projects:** up to 5 joint projects
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9. Use of Funding

Funding can be used freely within university and legal frameworks (e.g., salaries, equipment purchases, travel, and other operational costs).

Disbursement of the funding: on the project start date, each university will make the grant available in accordance with its own internal financial and administrative regulations.

Each university will provide EUR 10,000 per project to its own researcher, to be used within their own institution.

10. Obligations of Funded Applicants

- Fulfil the publication requirements in Section 3,
 - Indicate both universities as affiliations in publications
 - Acknowledge funding in publications: “The research was supported by the TUKE-OU Young Researchers’ Grant.”
 - Submit a final report by 31 January 2028, including:
 - A short (max. 2 pages) summary of scientific results
 - The manuscript(s) of publications or the final version if already published,
 - A financial statement on the use of the funds.
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11. Eligibility for Utilizing the Support

- A condition for utilizing the support is the fulfilment of the undertaken obligations until the end of the support period.
- In case of failure to fulfil the obligations, the applicant will be excluded from the program for three years.
- Eligibility automatically terminates if the applicant’s employment relationship with the university concerned in the application ends.