

## Announcement for New Project Applications Basic Research Programs in Science and Engineering for 2018

The Ministry of Education hereby announces its plan to select and support new projects under the Individual Basic Science and Engineering Research Program and S&E Academic Research Foundation Establishment Program for 2018 under the Ministry of Education.

December 7, 2017

<Representative of the competent ministry>

Kim Sang-gon

Deputy Prime Minister for Social Affairs and Minister of Education

<Representative of the relevant specialized agency>

Cho, Moo Je

President of the National Research Foundation of Korea

### 1. Overview

#### □ Objectives

- This program aims to enhance the qualitative improvement of basic research and increase the national research capacity by promoting creative and exploratory basic research and fostering excellent researchers.

#### □ Target programs

- Individual Program

Programs		Objective and Features	Eligibility	New	Projects	Renewed	Projects
				Annual funds	Duration	Annual funds	Duration
Individual Basic Science and Engineering Research	Grassroots Support	Broadly support individual basic research at the grassroots level in order to expand the infrastructure for transformational research and enhance the national research capacity	Researcher under the Science Promotion Act, article 2 no.5	10-50 million won	1-10 years	10-50 million won	**
	Support Research under Protection		Faculty members (tenure, non-tenure) at local universities*		(2-3 years for SGER)		
	Support Researchers in Local Universities						

\* Local universities exclude the top five universities specializing in science and technology (DGIST, GIST, KAIST, POSTECH, and UNIST).

\*\* A renewed project may apply for the total research period of the relevant new project.

※ The Proposal for Next-generation Researchers and Key Research Institutes in Universities should be written in clear Korean.

### 2. 2018 New Project Funding Scale (plan)

- The new projects of Individual Basic Science and Engineering Research will be supported approximately 2,860 projects, The new project of Nurturing Next-generation Researchers will be supported approximately 535 projects and Key Research Institutes in Universities will be supported approximately 32 projects.

- The guidelines for application, evaluation and selection regarding continuing support for outstanding research of Individual Basic Science and Engineering Research (about 189 projects) will be provided directly to the Principal Investigator in charge of the pertinent research.

(Unit: million won, ea)

Division		Number of Projects	Budget
Individual Research	Individual Basic Science and Engineering Research	About 2,860 (About 189)	107,250 (5,175)
	Nurturing Next-generation Researchers	About 535	22,965
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>About 3,395 (About 189)</b>	<b>130,215 (5,175)</b>
Group Research	Key Research Institutes in Universities	About 32	18,264
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>About 32</b>	<b>18,264</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>About 3,427 (About 189)</b>	<b>154,769 (5,175)</b>

※ Please refer to the attached detailed guidelines for further information.

※ The numbers in ( ) mean Renewed Projects which is all included New Projects.

### 3. Eligibility for Application (Participation) and Restriction from Participation

#### □ Number of projects for application and selection

- (Application) As a principal investigator or a collaborator, the applicant may apply for:

#### <Number of basic research programs for application and selection>

Programs			First half			Second half (Early Sep. 2018)
			First-round (Early Jan. 2018)	Second-round (Early Feb. 2018)	Third-round (Early Mar. 2018)	
Individual Research	Individual Research in Basic Science and Engineering	Grassroots Support, Support Research under Protection, and Support Researchers in Local Universities	-	-	Limited to 1 proposal	-
		Korean-style SGER	Limited to 1 project	-	-	Limited to 1 project (Further notice will be provided)
	Nurturing Next-generation Researchers	Post-Doctoral Training in Korea, Post-Doctoral Training Abroad	Limited to 1 project	-	-	-
		Research Fellows	-	-	Limited to 1 project	-
Group Research	Key Research Institutes in Universities		-	Limited to 1 project*	-	-

\* One Application each for the Key Research Institutes in Universities, Leading Research Center or Basic Science Research Lab and one of group research programs.

※ The application period is subject to change depending on project implementation and budget conditions.

- (Selection) An applicant may be selected for a maximum of one project for an individual research program and one project for a group research program

Division	Project	Selection
Individual Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Individual Research in Basic Science and Engineering</b>(Grassroots Support, Support Research under Protection, and Support Researchers in Local Universities, Korean-style SGER)</li> <li>- <b>Nurturing Next-generation Researchers</b>(Post-Doctoral Training in Korea, Post-Doctoral Training Abroad, Research Fellows)</li> </ul>	Limited to 1 project
Group Research	<b>Key Research Institutes in Universities</b>	Limited to 1 project

- ※ Individual research programs of Ministry of Science and ICT: Young Researchers, Mid-career Researchers, Leading Researchers, and First Research in Life Time, Group research programs of Ministry of Science and ICT : Leading Research Center, Basic Science Research Lab
- ※ If an applicant is selected as a principal investigator or a collaborator for more than one project, a project under the higher-level research program will be selected by priority (Individual Basic Science and Engineering Research > Nurturing Next-generation Researchers)
- ※ If an applicant is selected as an Individual Research program of Ministry of Science and ICT (including a principal investigator or a collaborator), will be excluded from Individual Research program of Ministry of Education selection.

## □ Restriction from application and participation

### ○ Restriction from applications by participants of existing research

- Principal investigators and collaborators\* who are already conducting individual research may not apply as a principal investigator or a collaborator for a new project under an individual research program.

※ Individual research programs: Leading Researchers, Mid-career Researchers (including former Strategic Project), Young Researchers, New Young Investigator, Individual Basic Science and Engineering Research, and Nurturing Next-generation Researchers

- Principal investigators and collaborators who are already conducting group research may not apply as a principal investigator or a collaborator for a new project under a group research project.

※ Group research programs: University-designed Key Research Institutes, Leading Research Center, and Basic Science Research Lab (including former Global Research Lab)

### ○ Only one project per person

- Participants of a project under an individual research program may only conduct one project as the principal investigator or a collaborator\*.

\* Excluding collaborators selected in or before 2015.

- Participants of a project under a group research program may only conduct one project as the principal investigator or a collaborator\*.

### ○ Exception

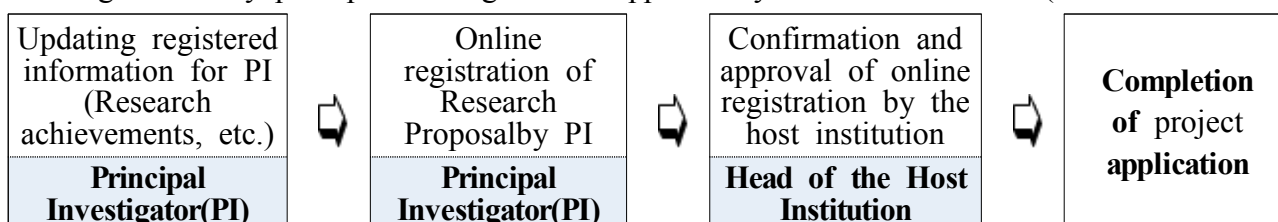
- Researchers whose ongoing project is scheduled to end within 10 months from the commencement date of a new project  
(However, Nurturing Next-generation Researchers Program applies a separate standard.)
- Excluding researchers conducting an X Project or collaborators selected in or before 2015.

○ **Common considerations regarding national R&D program**

- **(Three Projects as a PI and Five Projects as a Collaborator)** The number of R&D projects that researchers may conduct simultaneously is 5 or fewer, among which researchers may only participate as the PI in 3 or fewer projects.
  - ※ Excluding Individual research programs, Nurturing Next-generation Researchers Program applies a separate standard
- **(Applicants restricted from participation)** Researchers restricted from participating in national R&D projects can apply for and participate in new projects only if the restriction period ends before the proposal submission deadline.

## 4. Application Procedure

- Log in and submit an application on the NRF's integrated research support system (<http://ernd.nrf.re.kr>).
- Registration by principal investigator ⇒ Approval by the host institution (affiliated institute)



※ Please refer to the attached detailed guidelines for further information

## 5. Review Process

Division			1 <sup>st</sup> round Review	2 <sup>nd</sup> round Review
Individual Research	Individual Basic Science and Engineering Research	Total research period of 5 years or less	Online document	-
		Total research period of 6 years or more	Discussion	-
		Korean-style SGER	Discussion	Presentation

※ Review processes are subject to change according to the detailed evaluation plan.

## 6. Application Period

Division	First half		Second half
	Individual Basic Science and Engineering Research Program		
	(Sub-programs: Korean-style SGER)	(Sub-programs: Grassroots Support, Support Research under Protection, and Support Researchers in Local Universities)	(Sub-programs: Korean-style SGER)
Application by principal investigator(PI)	Dec. 29, 2017 (Fri.) 09:00 – Jan. 8, 2018 (Mon.) 18:00	Feb. 27, 2018 (Wed.) 09:00 – Mar. 7, 2018 (Wed.) 18:00	Further notice will be provided in May, 2018 (schedule to apply in Jun, 2018)
Approval by the host institution	Dec. 29, 2018 (Fri.) 09:00 – Jan. 10, 2018 (Wed.) 18:00	Feb. 27, 2018 (Wed.) 09:00 – Mar. 9, 2018 (Fri.) 18:00	

※ Host institution may not reject or approve a project during the period in which applications by the principal investigator are submitted and accepted. Principal investigators may not revise an application during the period in which approval is given by the host institution.

## 7. Implementation Timeline (plan)

Timeline	Content
Dec. 2017	· Announcement for New Project in 2018
Jan. 2018– May. 2018	· application for new projects(Korean-style SGER) in the first half of 2018 (Jan.) · application for new projects(Individual Basic Science and Engineering Research Program in the first half of 2018 (Mar.) · Evaluation and selection of the first-round new projects in the first half of 2018 (Jan. – Feb.)
Jun. 2018	· Start for new projects of Individual Basic Science and Engineering Research Program(include Korea-style SGER) (Jun.1) · Application for new project(Korean-style SGER) in the second half of 2018(Jun)
Jul. 2018– Oct. 2018	· Evaluation of the new project(Korean-style SGER)in the second half of 2018 (Jul. – Oct.)
Nov. 2018	· Start for the new project of Korean-style SGER in the second half of 2018 (Nov. 11)

※ The above schedule is subject to change depending on circumstances.

## 8. Inquiries

- Application-related inquiries: National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF)

Division	Contact
Individual Basic Science and Engineering Research	NRF General Research Program Team (042-869-6733, 6734)

- The Guidelines for applications and Forms for New Project, please refer to website address ([www.nrf.re.kr](http://www.nrf.re.kr)). End.