

**Regulations of the “Excellence4Students” competition
for research activities and foreign trips by students of Nicolaus Copernicus University in
Toruń**

**within the framework of the “Excellence Initiative - Research University” programme
(EIRU)**

1. The “Excellence4Students: competition is organised within the “Excellence Initiative – Research University” programme (EIRU), in which the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń (hereinafter referred to as UMK) was granted the status of a Research University by the decision of the Minister of Science and Higher Education.
2. The main organizer of the competition is the Team Evolution of Communication Systems (EVO), which is part of the University Centre of Excellence “Interacting Minds, Societies, Environments (IMSErt)” that operates within the framework of EIRU. This competition is also funded with IMSErt funds.
3. The regulations of the “Excellence4Students” competition provide for the principles and procedures of granting funds for the implementation of student research, the participation of students in foreign conferences and competitions, based on internal competition.
4. One edition of the competition per year is planned, starting from 2021 until the expiry of the Excellence Initiative – Research University programme at Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń.
5. The Excellence4Students competition aims to support initiatives by students engaged in scientific work. These include mainly preliminary, exploratory, pilot research, queries, research trips, or purchase of materials, as well as participation in international conferences and competitions.
6. The competition is targeted at students of the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, whose research interests are centred around the areas on which the EVO team focuses: linguistics, cognitive science, communication (including non-verbal and multimodal communication) and interaction science, evolutionary psychology, and like. Information about the Team can be found at <https://imsert.umk.pl/centrum/zespolevo/>.
7. Only one person can be the applicant in the competition (teams are excluded).
8. Each student is allowed to submit only one application per edition.
9. Funding in the maximum amount of PLN 5000, in the form of a grant, will be granted to the applicant based on the submitted research project and cost estimate.
10. In addition to the funding received, the winners will also cooperate with the EVO Team during the implementation of their projects.
11. Projects that are already financed under another competition are excluded from participation.
12. Applications should be prepared by using appendix no. 1 hereto. Applications should be sent to imsert@umk.pl till 31.01.2021.
13. A complete application in English should include:
 - a) full data of the applicant (name, surname, date of birth, study major, phone number, e-mail address in the USOS system);
 - b) description of planned activities - Individual Research Project;
 - c) approval of the Bioethics Committee (if necessary);
 - d) cost estimate, including materials necessary to implement the research project, travel costs, and other material expenses.

14. The Competition procedure:
 - a) Submitted applications will be evaluated in terms of form and content by the Competition Committee composed of the following members:
 - a. Head of UCE IMSert – prof. Adam Kola;
 - b. EVO Team Leader – prof. Sławomir Wacewicz;
 - c. Member of the Scientific Council of UCE IMSert and member of the EVO Team – prof. Przemysław Żywicznyński;
 - d. EVO Team Member – Marta Sibierska, Ph.D.;
 - e. Representative of UCE IMSert administration – Michał Bomastyk, MA.
 - b) The “met/not met” principle will be used for formal requirements.
 - c) Applications that do not meet the formal requirements will be excluded from further assessment. Applicants may be called to complete the application by the deadline set by the Competition Committee.
 - d) A scale of 0-100 points is adopted for substantive assessment:
 - a. Substantive value of the project (up to 80 points) and the legitimacy of planned expenses (up to 20 points) are taken into account for the evaluation of applications.
 - e) The list of winners will be announced on 19.02.2021 at www.imsert.umk.pl and on the website of the Excellence Initiative. The decisions, together with the evaluation to be found in appendix no 2 hereto, will be sent by e-mail to the address given in the application form.
 - f) The allocated funds must be spent by the end of 2021.
 - g) The grant must be settled in the period 01.01.2022-31.03.2022, based on a final report drafted by the manager, approved by the EVO Team Manager and the Head of the IMSert University Centre of Excellence.
15. When implementing the application, the manager is obliged to follow the procurement procedures in accordance with applicable Public Procurement Regulations. However, to implement a conference trip abroad or competition, the manager is obliged to obtain all approvals provided for in the procedures in force at the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń (Order No. 15 of the Vice-Chancellor of the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń of 12 February 2019 on foreign trips by employees, doctoral students, and students of the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń).
16. The Competition Committee reserves the right to interfere with the budget of the submitted applications.
17. Travel costs are settled based on the expenses actually incurred, in accordance with the procedures in force at the Nicolaus Copernicus University, up to the amount granted.
18. The project manager undertakes to settle the travel costs in accordance with the provisions in force at UMK.
19. The organiser stresses that all materials needed for the implementation of the scientific project must be purchased in accordance with the Public Procurement Law, and the conditions of the project under which the competition is organized.
20. The Commission reserves itself the right to modify any issues related to the implementation of the research project to ensure its security and compliance with applicable law.
21. Applicants are not granted the right to appeal against the decision.
22. The Organiser is entitled to change the provisions hereof, provided that the conditions of participation in the project do not deteriorate. The Organiser shall always inform

the Participants of any changes to the Regulations by posting its new version of the Rules and Regulations at www.umk.pl/idub/ogloszenia.

23. All information related to the competition can be obtained by contacting insert@umk.pl.

**Regulations approved by the vice-rector
for Research and International Cooperation,
Prof. dr hab. Wojciech Wysota**