

U.S. – Latvia Scientist Travel Grant Opportunity

Announcement and Guidelines

The Governments of Latvia and the United States would like to announce a grant opportunity for Latvian scientists to travel to the United States and American scientists to travel to Latvia in order to pursue cooperative research projects. *Grants of up to US\$10,000* will be available on a competitive basis to pay for travel expenses of scientists from Latvia to the United States and the United States to Latvia in order to provide researchers considering a joint researcher project an opportunity to meet in person and discuss and finalize a cooperative research project.

Eligibility:

Early- to mid-career scientists conducting research within the natural and physical sciences (including agricultural sciences, astronomy, atmospheric sciences, biological and life sciences, chemistry, energetics, geology, geography and physics) are eligible to apply.

Guidelines:

1. Proposals must be submitted, via e-mail, fax or post **no later than September 10, 2004**. Proposals should be submitted to the contact provided at the bottom of the announcement. Awards will be announced before October 5, and all applicants will be notified of the results.
2. Proposals must be based upon a firm potential for research collaboration. The primary objective of the travel will be for the partners to meet in person and discuss in details the project and determine how to go forward with proposals for funding and research itself. Thus, contact must have already been established with the partner researcher before the application is submitted.
3. Projects must involve at least one Latvian scientists visiting his/her American counterpart in the United States AND at least one American scientist visiting his/her counterpart in Latvia.
4. Length of stay can be anywhere from 10 days to one month in duration.
5. The maximum request of \$10,000 per project. Lesser amounts may be requested. A project may be awarded a lesser amount than requested, should the granting committee deem it appropriate.
6. The applicant may also propose attending a professional conference, symposium or workshop within his/her field in the host country in addition to the meeting at the partner institution. Travel to **ONLY** a professional conference, symposium or workshop will **NOT** be supported.
7. Travel may take place anytime after the awarding of the grant. However, travel must be completed by July 31, 2005.
8. A final report on the project is required, and must be submitted within 30 days after travel is completed. The reports should provide a review of activities conducted under the grant and state the future plans for cooperation. The reports should not be more than 2 pages.

Application Requirements:

Each application must be **written in English** and contain the following information:

1. Project application, signed by both primary applicants, stating intent
2. Name, position and contact information for primary applicants – one primary applicant from each side.
3. Curriculum Vitae of the primary applicants.
4. Project title – for the cooperative research being explored.
5. Short description of the cooperative project that is being pursued during the visit. The description should be no longer than two pages.
6. Detailed outline of the proposed budget, including the amount being requested and other funding sources (if any). The budget needs to include airfare, anticipated domestic transportation costs, lodging expenses, meals, and any other miscellaneous expenses (state specifically). NOTE: This budget is for the travel grant only, not the cooperative research project's proposed budget.

Selection/Awarding:

1. The applications will be awarded on a competitive basis.
2. The applications will be judged on the quality of the research project and its potential to result in cooperative research between the U.S. and Latvia.

Any questions regarding the grants and the application process should be directed to:

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Ministry of Science and Education
Tel: +371 7047896
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or

Nanna Nyholm
Regional Environmental Office
U.S. Embassy Copenhagen
Tel: +45 3555 3144 ext. 294
E-mail: nyholmna@state.gov

Applications should be submitted **no later than September 10, 2004** to:

The Ministry of Science and Education
2 Valnu Street, Riga, LV- 1050, Latvia