

## Horizon Europe: European Research Council (ERC) *Proof of Concept (PoC)*

(Updated March 2024)

<b>Aims</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring the commercial or societal potential of an ERC project</li> <li>• Enabling ERC-funded ideas to progress on the path from ground-breaking research towards innovation</li> </ul>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dedicated to researchers (Principal Investigators) already holding an ERC grant (ongoing or has ended less than 12 months before 1 January of call year)</li> <li>• Synergy Grant PIs are eligible to apply only with the written consent of all PIs in the same project</li> </ul>
<b>Funding</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding for a period of up to 18 months (extensions only exceptionally)</li> <li>• Lump sum of 150,000 EUR</li> </ul>
<b>Conditions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A maximum of three PoC Grants may be awarded per project funded by an ERC Starting, Consolidator or Advanced Grant</li> <li>• A maximum of six PoC Grants may be awarded per project funded by an ERC Synergy Grant</li> </ul>
<b>Host institution</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Established in EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country or it may be an International European Interest Organisation, the European Commission's Joint Research Centre or any other entity created under EU law</li> </ul>
<b>Application</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual call for proposals with two evaluation rounds; applications can be submitted at any time from the opening date until the specified submission deadline</li> <li>• A Principal Investigator may submit only one application per call</li> <li>• Online via the Funding and Tenders Portal (<a href="https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal">https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal</a>)</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Single-step evaluation process (peer review)</li> </ul>
<b>Success rate</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2023: 43%</li> </ul>
<b>Dates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening: 16 November 2023</li> <li>• Cut-off dates: 14 March 2024; 17 September 2024</li> </ul>
<b>Further information</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://erc.europa.eu/apply-grant/proof-concept">https://erc.europa.eu/apply-grant/proof-concept</a></li> <li>• <a href="https://www.euburo.de/en/ncp-erc-proof-of-concept-2452.html">https://www.euburo.de/en/ncp-erc-proof-of-concept-2452.html</a></li> </ul>