



Instructions on applying the Nordic grants for the support of scientific research on human gut microbiota

1. The scope and schedule

The purpose of the Biocodex Nordic grants is to advance scientific research in the field of microbiota and to support research proposals under the theme “*MICROBIOTA IN HUMAN HEALTH AND DISEASE*”.

The grant is funded by the Company’s non-profit Biocodex Microbiota Foundation (BMF).

The grant amount in the Nordic-Baltic region is fixed as follows (VAT and potential overhead included): 40,000 €.

The grant is open for applications starting in October 2023. The application period is open until 29.2.2024.

2. The Scientific Committee

Biocodex Nordics has assembled a Scientific Committee that operates independently without Biocodex involvement. The Scientific Committee will decide the grant awardee in the Nordic-Baltic region without Biocodex involvement.

3. The application process

The proposed research project must be presented with all budgetary and time details as defined in the Application form (APPENDIX 1).

The Applicant must complete the application form available on <https://www.biocodexmicrobiotafoundation.com/national-call-projects/nordics> to be able to be considered for the grant. The form must be filled in English. The grant application form (including attachments) should be sent by an email to: medical@biocodex.fi

The maximum accepted duration of the project will be 3 years.

4. The review of applications

All applications will be reviewed by the Nordic Scientific Committee according to the following criteria:

- Proposal's consistency with the theme *Microbiota in Human Health and Disease*
- Originality and scientific quality of the research proposal
- Feasibility of the research proposal
- Qualifications of the Applicant

Members of the Scientific Committee will not contribute to the evaluation and ranking of their own projects or any other projects with a potential conflict of interest.

5. The award process

The awarded Applicant agrees to provide the Biocodex Microbiota Foundation with a final report within the six months following the end of the project. If the project is longer than one year, the Applicant agrees to provide the Biocodex Microbiota Foundation a short interim report annually at each anniversary date.

The Company and the Applicant are informed by the Scientific Committee about its decisions and the Applicant agrees to present the project in the presence of a Biocodex Medical and Management representative according to the mutually agreed time and place.

The Applicant shall be entitled to reimbursement for travel, accommodation and meal expenses, if requested to travel by the Company. The expenses shall not be more than reasonable and should be reimbursed for adequate receipts.

According to the EFPIA article 11 on donations and grants that support healthcare or research the following rules must be obeyed; Donations and grants (in cash or in kind or otherwise) to institutions, organizations or associations that are comprised of healthcare professionals and/or that provide healthcare or conduct research (that are not otherwise covered by the EFPIA HCP Code or the EFPIA PO Code are only allowed if: (i) they are made for the purpose of supporting healthcare or research; (ii) they are documented and kept on record by the donor/grantor; and (iii) they do not constitute an inducement to recommend, prescribe, purchase, supply, sell or administer specific medicinal products. Donations and grants to individual healthcare professionals are not permitted under this section.

All grants will be paid to the Applicants research institution and not directly to the Applicant. Biocodex Microbiota Foundation is a non-profit organization and thus, the institution overhead costs cannot be more than 10%.

6. Payment

The Scientific Committee reserves a decision period to carefully review all applications. The awardees will be informed on the decision by the end of April 2024.

After the decisions, grants will be paid by the Biocodex Microbiota Foundation into the Applicant's institutional bank account.

The payment of grants will be made as a single instalment for one-year project. If the project proposal is longer than one year, the instalments are done once a year, according to the provisional budget, under the condition that Biocodex Microbiota Foundation receives annual interim reports.

7. Transparency

The Applicant understands and agrees that the Company and/ or the Biocodex Microbiota Foundation:

- a) is entitled to keep publicly available and updated records of their direct and indirect financial or other similar support given to medical or healthcare associations including the Applicant;
- b) must publish the economic benefits targeted at healthcare organizations or professionals who have their principal place of business, work address or registered domicile in Europe; and
- c) is authorized to save the necessary personal data for administrative purposes. Each Party shall process personal data under the Agreement in compliance with the national and EU laws and regulations on data protection.
- d) The Applicants authorize the Biocodex Microbiota Foundation to publicize its support for their proposal and grants both on the Biocodex Microbiota Foundation website and through other means by uploading the non-confidential summary of the proposal.
- e) The Applicant will acknowledge Biocodex Microbiota Foundation's support in any communication or publication of their work with the following sentence: "this work was (partially) supported by the Biocodex Microbiota Foundation".

8. Other available grants by Biocodex Microbiota Foundation

More information on other available Biocodex Microbiota Foundation grants is available on the foundation's webpage: <https://www.biocodexmicrobiotafoundation.com/>

The yearly international research grant covers a specific theme chosen by an International Scientific Committee. This grant is open for applications until the end of November 2023 under the theme "*ROLE OF GUT MICROBIOTA IN THE MECHANISMS OF PAIN*". The annual international grant is 200,000 €. The Applicant is eligible to apply for the international grant on Biocodex Microbiota Foundation webpage under international calls for projects.