

European Research Council (ERC) ERC Plus Grants 2026 (Plus)

Updated January 2026

Aim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding of frontier research in any field of research that cannot be realised with a regular ERC grant
Target group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Researchers who demonstrate exceptional scientific excellence at the forefront of their field • Researchers of any nationality, career stage and age
Time commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum 30% on the ERC project and minimum 50% in Europe
Host institution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located in EU-Member States or Associated Countries to Horizon Europe
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding for a minimum of 4 years and up to 7 years • Max. 7 million EUR (no additional funding, no pro rata reduction) • Lump sum funding model
Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 210 million EUR for an estimated number of 30 (!) grants
Application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual call for proposals • One-stage proposal submission via the Funding and Tenders Portal • New part of application: "Statement of Vision" (about one half page) to be evaluated in step 1
Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two-stage evaluation process • Evaluation by peer review panels, no overlap between Step 1 and Step 2, assisted by remote external experts (in 2026: Advanced Grant Panels in Step 1) • Interview at the second step of evaluation
Next call for proposals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening: 2 June 2026 • Submission deadline: 2 September 2026
Success rates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First call, no success rates available, estimated number of grants is very low