Regulation No 27

Riga, 9 January 2018 (prot. No 2 § 24)

**Regulations Regarding Implementation of the First and Second Project Applications Selection Round of Specific Objective 8.2.1 “To Reduce Fragmentation of Study Programmes and to Strengthen Sharing of Resources” of the Operational Programme “Growth and Employment”**

Issued pursuant to
Section 20, Clauses 6 and 13 of
the Law On Management of the European Union Structural Funds
and the Cohesion Fund in the 2014-2020

Programming Period

**I. General Provisions**

1. This Regulation prescribes:

1.1. the procedures, by which the first and second project applications selection round of Specific Objective 8.2.1 “To Reduce Fragmentation of Study Programmes and to Strengthen Sharing of Resources” of the Operational Programme “Growth and Employment” (hereinafter referred to as specific objective) shall be implemented;

1.2. the objective of the specific objective;

1.3. the funding available to the specific objective and its selection rounds;

1.4. the requirements for the project applicant of the European Social Fund project (hereinafter referred to as the project) and co-operation partners of the project;

1.5. the eligibility conditions of supported activities and costs;

1.6. the conditions and procedures for application of simplified costs;

1.7. the conditions for a unilateral notice of termination of a project implementation agreement and contract.

2.  The following terms are used in this Regulation:

2.1. higher education institution – a higher education institution or a college established by the state or a private person and registered and accredited in the Republic of Latvia according to the set procedure;

2.2. communication and publicity plan – the plan of activities developed by the project applicant, which states that the project applicant and the co-operation partner (when applicable) will ensure the distribution of the results created within the scope of the specific objective project in institutions of the project applicant and the co-operation partner (when applicable) and to other interested parties, as well as describes envisaged target audience reaching, involvement and informing activities during the implementation of the project and after the end of the project;

2.3. joint doctoral study program – a doctoral study programme, which meets the requirements set in Section 55.1 of the Law on Institutions of Higher Education;

2.4. teacher education development plan – a set of measures according to the proposal of the workgroup created by the Ministry of Education and Science for the creation of a conceptually new teacher education system, in order to ensure teacher education meeting the requirements of competency-based education. The teacher education development plan shall be drawn up by the project applicant, who implements study programmes of any level of higher education in the study direction “Education, Pedagogics and Sport”, and shall coordinate it with the Advisory Council for the New Formation of Teacher Education. The plan shall include measures for the development, approbation and accreditation of study programmes for teachers and for the improvement of management of teacher education, as well as shall set the procedure of implementation of the measures and responsible persons;

2.5. The Advisory Council for the New Formation of Teacher Education is a council created by the Ministry of Education and Science, which includes representatives of the Ministry of Education and Science, the National Cultural Centre of Latvia, the Student Union of Latvia, the Mission Possible Foundation, as well as experts of the projects of the National Centre for Education “Competency-Based Approach to the Content of Learning” implemented within the scope of Activity 8.3.1.1 “Approbation and Implementation of Competency-Based General Education Curriculum” of Specific Objective 8.3.1 “To Develop Competency-Based General Education Curriculum” of the Operational Programme “Growth and Employment” and experts of the sector. The work of the Council shall be regulated by the regulations developed and approved by the Ministry of Education and Science;

2.6. teacher education communication and publicity plan – the plan of activities developed by the project applicant, which states that the project applicant and the co-operation partner will ensure the distribution of the results created within the scope of the specific objective project in the institution of the project applicant and the co-operation partner and to other interested parties, as well as describes envisaged target audience reaching, involvement and informing activities during the implementation of the project and after the end of the project. The project applicant shall coordinate the plan with the Advisory Council for the New Formation of Teacher Education;

2.7. pedagogic study programme – a study programme of any level of higher education in the study direction “Education, Pedagogics and Sport”;

2.8. public funding intensity – total amount of funding from the European Social Fund and the state budget funding as a percentage of total eligible costs of the project;

2.9. study programme in a European Union language – a study programme of any level of higher education, which is fully implemented in any of European Union languages, which is not Latvian, according to the requirements set in Section 56(3) of the Law on Institutions of Higher Education. Such a study programme can be implemented also as a joint study programme, with the exception of doctoral study programmes;

2.10. study programmes development and consolidation plan – a study programmes development vision developed by the project applicant, which when broken down into study directions includes the list of study programmes to be newly developed and to be closed, justification, time schedule for the planned activities, co-operation institutions (when applicable), as well as the opinion of respective industry professional organisations in the sector. The project applicant shall coordinate the plan with the commission created by the Ministry of Education and Science, which include representatives of the Ministry of Education and Science, line ministries and industry professional organizations of the sector, and shall submit it to the Ministry of Education and Science by 1 March 2018;

2.11. scientific institution - a scientific institute registered in the Register of Scientific Institutions of the Republic of Latvia (public agency, derived public person or legal person governed by private law) or an institution of higher education.

3. The objective of the specific objective is to reduce fragmentation of study programmes and to strengthen sharing of resources.

4. The target group of the specific objective is higher education institutions.

5. The following monitoring indicators must be achieved within the scope of the specific objective:

5.1.  output indicators:

5.1.1. by 31 December 2023 the number of joint doctoral study programs, the development and implementation of which has been supported by the European Social Fund, is 11, including one – within the scope of the first round and 10 – within the scope of the second round;

5.1.2. within the scope of the first round by 31 December 2023 the number of new pedagogical study programmes, the development and implementation of which has been supported by the European Social Fund, is 22, including by 31 December 2018 – 16;

5.1.3. within the scope of the second round by 31 December 2023 the number of study programmes implemented in European Union languages, the development and implementation of which has been supported by the European Social Fund, is 62;

5.2.  result indicators:

5.2.1. by 31 December 2023 the number of closed study programs, on the basis of which new supported study programmes were developed, is 220, including 50 – within the scope of the first round and 170 – within the scope of the second round;

5.2.2. by 31 December 2023 the number of supported new joint doctoral study programmes, which received accreditation of the European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education (hereinafter referred to the EQAR) agency is 11, including one – within the scope of the first round and 10 – within the scope of the second round;

5.2.3. within the scope of the first round by 31 December 2023 the number of supported new pedagogical study programmes, which received accreditation of the EQAR agency, is 22;

5.2.4. within the scope of the second round by 31 December 2023 the number of supported new study programmes in European Union languages, which received accreditation of the EQAR agency, is 62;

5.3. financial indicator – by 31 December 2018 certified expenses in the amount of 350,000 euro.

6. The functions of the responsible institution within the scope of specific objective shall be carried out by the Ministry of Education and Science.

7. The total planned eligible funding of the specific objective is 10,815,000 euro, which is formed by funding of the European Social Fund – 9,192,750 euro and state budget co-funding – 1,622,250 euro.

8. The total eligible funding available to conclude a project implementation agreement or contract, by 31 December 2018 is 10,142,466 euro, including funding of the European Social Fund of 8,621,096 euro and the co-financing of the state budget – 1,521,370 euro. After 1 January 2019 the responsible institution according to the decision of the European Commission on the fulfilment of the performance framework may propose to increase eligible funding available to the planned maximum amount of funding referred to in Paragraph 7 of this Regulation.

9. The co-operation authority no later than by 31 December 2019 shall be entitled to re-announce the open project applications selection round according to the rules of implementation of projects of the second round, if all the funding available in the first and second round of the specific objective has not been absorbed.

10. The maximum public funding intensity of projects within the scope of the specific objective is 100 percent, which is formed by:

10.1. state budget funding intensity – 15 percent;

10.2. European Social Fund funding intensity – 85 percent.

11. The project applicant of the selection round referred to in Paragraphs [14](https://likumi.lv/ta/id/291823-darbibas-programmas-izaugsme-un-nodarbinatiba-1-1-1-specifiska-atbalsta-merka-palielinat-latvijas-zinatnisko-instituciju#p12) and [22](https://likumi.lv/ta/id/291823-darbibas-programmas-izaugsme-un-nodarbinatiba-1-1-1-specifiska-atbalsta-merka-palielinat-latvijas-zinatnisko-instituciju#p54) of this Regulation, which after the project application has been approved and an agreement or a contract on the implementation of the project has been concluded, is also the beneficiary of funding of the European Social Fund (hereinafter referred to as the beneficiary), shall prepare a project application according to the requirements set in the regulations of the project applications selection round and shall submit it electronically to the co-operation authority, using the Cohesion policy fund management information system for 2014-2020.

12. In order to evaluate the compliance of project applications with quality criteria according to the requirements of the selection round regulations, the co-operation authority shall ensure the selection of proper experts included in the database of experts of the European Commission, using the following selection criteria:

12.1. the expert has doctoral degree;

12.2. the expert had practical or research experience in the development of higher education study content, innovations and management or education technologies in the last four years;

12.3. it is preferable that the expert has experience in research in higher education of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development or other equivalent international-level research.

**II. Conditions of Implementation of Projects of the First Round**

13. The first round shall be implemented in the form of a limited selection of project applications.

14. Project applicants in the first round are:

14.1. Daugavpils University;

14.2. Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music;

14.3. Latvian Academy of Sport Education;

14.4. University of Latvia;

14.5. Liepaja University;

14.6. Rezekne Academy of Technologies.

15. In the first round, the project applicant shall submit one project application, including in it all the planned new pedagogical study programmes in the study direction “Education, Pedagogics and Sport”, and the project shall be implemented in co-operation with those higher education institutions, which are indicated in the teacher education development plan.

16. The total eligible funding available for the first round is 3,000,000 euro, which is formed by funding of the European Social Fund – 2,550,000 euro and state budget co-funding – 450,000 euro.

17. Within the scope of the first round, the total eligible funding available to each project applicant to conclude an agreement on the implementation of the project, shall not exceed:

17.1. for the Daugavpils University – 613,721 euro (funding from the European Social Fund – 521,662.85 euro and co-funding from the State budget – 92,058.15 euro);

17.2. for the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music – 305,006 euro (funding from the European Social Fund – 259,255.10 euro and co-funding from the State budget – 45,750.90 euro);

17.3. for the Latvian Academy of Sport Education – 305,561 euro (funding from the European Social Fund – 259,726.85 euro and co-funding from the State budget – 45,834.15 euro);

17.4. for the University of Latvia – 1,070,458 euro (including funding from the European Social Development Fund – 909,889.30 euro and co-funding from the State budget – 160,568.70 euro);

17.5. for the Liepaja University – 466,782 euro (funding from the European Social Fund – 396,764.70 euro and co-funding from the State budget – 70,017.30 euro);

17.6. for the Rezekne Academy of Technologies – 238,472 euro (funding from the European Social Fund – 202,701.20 euro and co-funding from the State budget – 35,770.80 euro).

18. The project applicant shall prepare and submit to the co-operation authority its project application according to the requirements of the project application selection round regulations. In addition to the requirements set in the selection regulations, the project applicant shall append the following documents:

18.1. the teacher education development plan;

18.2. the teacher education communication and publicity plan;

18.3. a translation of the project application and annexes thereto into English according to provisions of the selection regulations.

19. The following activities shall be supported in the first round:

19.1. development and licensing of new pedagogical study programmes;

19.2. approbation of new pedagogical study programmes, including experience exchange activities and target scholarships for students in second-level professional higher education, master’s or doctoral study programmes;

19.3. accreditation of the study direction “Education, Pedagogics and Sport” in the EQAR agency;

19.4. publicity of the new pedagogical study programmes developed within the scope of the project;

19.5.  project management and ensuring project implementation;

19.6. information and publicity measures on the implementation of the project.

20. The following cost items shall be eligible in the first round:

20.1. direct eligible costs of the project for the implementation of the supported activities referred to in Paragraph [19](https://likumi.lv/ta/id/291823-darbibas-programmas-izaugsme-un-nodarbinatiba-1-1-1-specifiska-atbalsta-merka-palielinat-latvijas-zinatnisko-instituciju#p19)of this Regulation:

20.1.1. direct eligible staff costs:

20.1.1.1. costs for the remuneration of project management staff (with the exception of extra hours) for the implementation of the supported activities specified in Sub-paragraphs 19.5 and 19.6 of this Regulation;

20.1.1.2. costs for the remuneration of project implementation staff (advisers, experts and other specialists, also foreign) (with the exception of extra hours) for the implementation of the supported activities specified in Sub-paragraphs 19.1, 19.2 and 19.4 of this Regulation;

20.1.2. targeted scholarships for students, who were enrolled in the study programmes developed within the scope of the project and make a contribution to the implementation of their approbation, according to the criteria and conditions set in the regulations of the beneficiary:

20.1.2.1. for a student of a second-level professional higher education and a Master’s study programme – up to 199.2 euro per month;

20.1.2.2. for a student of a doctoral study programme – up to 227.6 euro per month;

20.1.3. costs of purchasing or renting equipment, office furniture and devices, computer programmes and licences for the newly created workplaces, including equipment maintenance and repair costs, no more than 3,000 euro per workplace for the entire project implementation period, if project management or implementation staff is employed at least 30 percent of normal working hours on the basis of an employment contract. If the project management or implementation staff is employed part-time or timeshare, the acquisition or rent costs of equipment of the working place shall be eligible in proportion to the distribution of the workload in percentage;

20.1.4. costs of domestic business trips and work travels for the project management and implementation staff for the implementation of the supported activities referred to in Sub-paragraphs 19.1, 19.2, 19.3 and 19.4 of this Regulation according to the laws and regulations on the procedures of compensation of business trips-related costs, if those are justified and related to the implementation of the project;

20.1.5. costs of foreign business trips for the project implementation staff for the implementation of the supported activities referred to in Sub-paragraphs 19.1, 19.2 and 19.3 of this Regulation according to the laws and regulations on the procedures of compensation of business trips-related costs, if those are justified and related to the implementation of the project;

20.1.6. transport costs (cost of fuel, rental of vehicle, purchasing of transport services, fee for the use of public transport) for the implementation of the supported activities referred to in Sub-paragraphs 19.1, 19.2, 19.3 and 19.4 of this Regulation;

20.1.7. costs of services, including translations services for the implementation of the supported activities referred to in Sub-paragraphs 19.1, 19.2 and 19.3 of this Regulation, costs of legal services for the implementation of the supported activities referred to in Sub-paragraph 19.1 of this Regulation, costs of experts, advisers and other specialists, including foreign, for the implementation of the supported activities referred to in Sub-paragraphs 19.1, 19.2 and 19.4 of this Regulation, costs of project management staff for the implementation of the supported activities referred to in Sub-paragraphs 19.5 and 19.6 of this Regulation;

20.1.8. costs related to the organisation and implementation of discussions and experience exchange activities for the implementation of the supported activities referred to in Sub-paragraphs 19.1, 19.2 and 19.4 of this Regulation;

20.1.9. costs of licensing of study programmes, including for the co-operation partner, if it implements a study programme developed within the scope of the project for the implementation of the supported activity referred to in Sub-paragraph 19.1 of this Regulation;

20.1.10. costs of accreditation of the study direction “Education, Pedagogics and Sport” in the EQAR agency, including experts visits (travel costs and hotel according to the laws and regulations on the procedures of compensation of business trips-related costs, or the pricelist of paid services of the EQAR agency, which ensures visits of accreditation experts), for the implementation of the supported activity referred to in Sub-paragraph 19.3 of this Regulation;

20.1.11. publicity costs of the new study programmes developed within the scope of the project for the implementation of the supported activity referred to in Sub-paragraph 19.4 of this Regulation;

20.1.12. costs of information and publicity measures of the project in accordance with the laws and regulations regarding the procedures by which the requirements for communication and visual identity shall be ensured in introduction of the European Union Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund for the 2014-2020 programming period for implementation of the supported activity referred to in Sub-paragraph 19.6 of this Regulation;

20.2. indirect eligible costs of the project for the implementation of the supported activities referred to in Paragraph 19 of this Regulation. They shall be planned as one cost item, applying a flat rate of indirect costs of 15 percent of the direct eligible staff costs referred to in Sub-paragraphs 20.1.1.1 and 20.1.1.2 of this Regulation. The flat rate of indirect costs shall be applied to the staff costs, which occurred on the basis of an employment contract.

**III. Conditions of Implementation of Projects of the Second Round**

21. The second round shall be implemented in the form of open selection of project applications.

22. Project applicants in the second round are higher education institutions, with the exception of agencies – colleges of a higher education established by the state. An agency – college of a higher education established by the state is a beneficiary in the project implemented by the higher education institution, if within the scope of it there are plans to develop study programmes in the agency – college of the higher education institution.

23. The project applicant shall submit a project application and shall implement the project individually or in co-operation with a higher education institution, including a foreign or scientific institution.

24. The project applicant shall submit one project application in the second round. The project application shall include all the study programmes planned within the scope of the second round of the specific objective, with the exception of study programmes in the study direction “Education, Pedagogics and Sport”.

25. The total eligible funding available for the second round is 7,142,466 euro, which is formed by funding of the European Social Fund – 6,071,096 euro and state budget co-funding – 1,071,370 euro.

26. The project applicant shall prepare and submit to the co-operation authority its project application according to the requirements of the project application selection round regulations. In addition to the requirements set in the selection regulations, the project applicant shall append the following documents:

26.1. the study programmes development and consolidation plan;

26.2. the communication and publicity plan;

26.3. a translation of the project application and annexes thereto into English according to provisions of the selection regulations.

27. The following activities shall be supported in the second round:

27.1. development and licensing of new study programmes implemented in European Union languages and joint doctoral study programmes;

27.2. approbation of new study programmes implemented in European Union languages and joint doctoral study programmes, including experience exchange activities;

27.3. accreditation of the study direction corresponding to the study programme developed within the scope of the project in the EQAR agency;

27.4. accreditation of the study programme developed within the scope of the project in an international professional organisation (when applicable);

27.5. international publicity of the new study programmes developed within the scope of the project;

27.6. project management and ensuring project implementation;

27.7. information and publicity measures on the implementation of the project.

28. The following cost items shall be eligible in the second round:

28.1. direct eligible costs of the project for the implementation of the supported activities referred to in Paragraph [27](https://likumi.lv/ta/id/291823-darbibas-programmas-izaugsme-un-nodarbinatiba-1-1-1-specifiska-atbalsta-merka-palielinat-latvijas-zinatnisko-instituciju#p19)of this Regulation:

28.1.1. direct eligible staff costs:

28.1.1.1. costs for the remuneration of project management staff (with the exception of extra hours) for the implementation of the supported activities specified in Sub-paragraphs 27.6 and 27.7 of this Regulation;

28.1.1.2. costs for the remuneration of project implementation staff (advisers, experts and other specialists, also foreign) (with the exception of extra hours) for the implementation of the supported activities specified in Sub-paragraphs 27.1, 27.2 and 27.5 of this Regulation;

28.1.2. costs of purchasing or renting equipment, office furniture and devices, computer programmes and licences for the newly created workplaces, including equipment maintenance and repair costs, no more than 3,000 euro per workplace for the entire project implementation period, if project management or implementation staff is employed at least 30 percent of normal working hours on the basis of an employment contract. If the project management or implementation staff is employed part-time or timeshare, the acquisition or rent costs of equipment of the working place shall be eligible in proportion to the distribution of the workload in percentage;

28.1.3. costs of domestic business trips and work travels for the project management and implementation staff for the implementation of the supported activities referred to in Sub-paragraphs 27.1, 27.2 and 27.3 of this Regulation according to the laws and regulations on the procedures of compensation of business trips-related costs, if those are justified and related to the implementation of the project;

28.1.4. costs of foreign business trips according to the laws and regulations on the procedures of compensation of business trips-related costs, if those are justified and related to the implementation of the project:

28.1.4.1. for the project manager for the implementation of the supported activities specified in Sub-paragraphs 27.5 and 27.6 of this Regulation;

28.1.4.2. for project implementation staff for the implementation of the supported activities specified in Sub-paragraphs 27.1, 27.2, 27.3, 27.4 and 27.5 of this Regulation;

28.1.5. transport costs (cost of fuel, rental of vehicle, purchasing of transport services, fee for the use of public transport) for the implementation of the supported activities referred to in Sub-paragraphs 27.1, 27.2 and 27.3 of this Regulation;

28.1.6. costs of services, including translations services for the implementation of the supported activities referred to in Sub-paragraphs 27.1, 27.2, 27.3, 27.4 and 27.5 of this Regulation, costs of legal services for the implementation of the supported activities referred to in Sub-paragraph 27.1 of this Regulation, costs of experts, advisers and other specialists, including foreign, for the implementation of the supported activities referred to in Sub-paragraphs 27.1, 27.2 and 27.5 of this Regulation, costs of project management staff for the implementation of the supported activities referred to in Sub-paragraphs 27.6 and 27.7 of this Regulation;

28.1.7. costs related to the organisation and implementation of discussions experience exchange activities for the implementation of the supported activities referred to in Sub-paragraphs 27.1, 27.2 and 27.5 of this Regulation;

28.1.8. costs of licensing of the study programme for the implementation of the supported activity referred to in Sub-paragraph 27.1 of this Regulation;

28.1.9. costs of accreditation of the study direction in the EQAR agency, including experts visits (travel costs and hotel according to the laws and regulations on the procedures of compensation of business trips-related costs, or the pricelist of paid services of the EQAR agency, which ensures visits of accreditation experts), for the implementation of the supported activity referred to in Sub-paragraph 27.3 of this Regulation;

28.1.10. costs of accreditation of the study programme in an international professional organisation, including experts visits (travel costs and hotel according to the laws and regulations on the procedures of compensation of business trips-related costs, or the pricelist of paid services of the international professional organisation, which ensures visits of accreditation experts), for the implementation of the supported activity referred to in Sub-paragraph 27.4 of this Regulation;

28.1.11. costs of participation in international professional organisations during the implementation of the project for the implementation of the supported activity referred to in Sub-paragraph 27.4 of this Regulation;

28.1.12. international publicity costs of the new study programme for the implementation of the supported activity referred to in Sub-paragraph 27.5 of this Regulation;

28.1.13. costs of information and publicity measures of the project in accordance with the laws and regulations regarding the procedures by which the requirements for communication and visual identity shall be ensured in introduction of the European Union Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund for the 2014-2020 programming period for implementation of the supported activity referred to in Sub-paragraph 27.7 of this Regulation;

28.2. indirect eligible costs of the project for the performance of the activities referred to in Paragraph 27 of this Regulation. They shall be planned as one cost item, applying a flat rate of indirect costs of 15 percent of the direct eligible staff costs referred to in Sub-paragraphs 28.1.1.1 and 28.1.1.2 of this Regulation. The flat rate of indirect costs shall be applied to the staff costs, which occurred on the basis of an employment contract.

29. The total amount of maximum eligible costs of the project within the scope of the second round shall be determined based on the number of study programmes planned in the project, taking into account that the total eligible funding of the project for the development of one study programme and other supported activities referred to in Paragraph 27 of this Regulation shall not exceed 100,000 euro.

**IV. Conditions of Implementation of the Project and Reception of the Funding**

30. Within the scope of the specific objective the beneficiary shall implement projects, which are not related to the performance of economic activity or are not qualified as aid for commercial activity.

31. The project shall be implemented according to the concluded agreement or contract on the implementation of the project, but not longer than until 30 November 2023.

32. After the approval of the project application, the project applicant shall conclude a co-operation contract with each co-operation partner (when applicable). In addition to the information laid down in the laws and regulations regarding the procedures by which the institutions involved in the management of European Union Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund shall ensure preparation of planning documents and introduction of such funds in the 2014-2020 programming period, the following information shall be included in the contract:

32.1. the supported activities implemented by the co-operation partner and their scope;

32.2. the procedure of making payments for the implementation of the supported activities referred to in Paragraph [19](https://likumi.lv/ta/id/293059-darbibas-programmas-izaugsme-un-nodarbinatiba-8-3-6-specifiska-atbalsta-merka-ieviest-izglitibas-kvalitates-monitoringa#p19) or [27](https://likumi.lv/ta/id/293059-darbibas-programmas-izaugsme-un-nodarbinatiba-8-3-6-specifiska-atbalsta-merka-ieviest-izglitibas-kvalitates-monitoringa#p19) of this Regulation and covering of direct and indirect eligible costs, as well as ineligible costs (when applicable);

32.3. procedure and deadlines of submission of reports and other information.

33. The beneficiary shall be responsible for the fulfilment of duties by the co-operation partners and for the functions implemented in the implementation of the project, including preventing the risk of double funding and ensuring demarcation with other similar or related projects.

34. The beneficiary and co-operation partners (when applicable) shall purchase goods and services necessary for the implementation of the project according to the laws and regulations regulating public procurement.

35. When planning the direct eligible staff costs referred to in Sub-paragraphs 20.1.1.1, 20.1.1.2, 28.1.1.1 and 28.1.1.2 of this Regulation, the beneficiary shall ensure that project management and implementation staff is employed full time, part time or timeshare not less than 30 percent of normal working hours, respectively recording working time of the project management and implementation staff about the functions performed and time worked.

36. The costs referred to in Sub-paragraphs 20.1.8 and 28.1.7 of this Regulation shall not exceed seven percent of total eligible costs of the project, but the costs referred to in Sub-paragraphs 20.1.11 and 28.1.12 of this Regulation shall not exceed five percent of total eligible costs of the project.

37. The beneficiary may include the costs, which exceed the total amount of maximum eligible costs referred to in Paragraph [17](https://likumi.lv/ta/id/281827-darbibas-programmas-izaugsme-un-nodarbinatiba-8-1-3-specifiska-atbalsta-merka-palielinat-modernizeto-profesionalas-izglitibas#p15) or 29 of this Regulation or the cost restrictions referred to in Paragraph 36, when implementing the project, in total project costs as ineligible costs and cover them from its own funds.

38. If the service provider referred to in Sub-paragraphs 20.1.7 and 28.1.6 of this Regulation is not a natural person and is not registered in the State Revenue Service as a self-employed person, employer’s mandatory state social insurance contributions shall also be eligible.

39. Value added tax is eligible costs, if it cannot be recovered in accordance with the laws and regulations of the Republic of Latvia in the field of tax policy.

40. Costs of the beneficiary shall be eligible, if they correspond to the cost items specified in this Regulation and where incurred to:

40.1. within the scope of the first round – from the day of submission of amendments to the Operational Programme “Growth and Employment” to the European Commission;

40.2. within the scope of the second round – from the day of entry of this Regulation into force, with the exception of state colleges, whose costs are eligible from the day of conclusion of the project implementation agreement.

41. Costs of co-operation partners shall be eligible after the conclusion of the co-operation contracts referred to in Paragraph 32 of this Regulation, but not earlier than from the day of conclusion of the project implementation agreement or contract.

42. If an advance payment is intended for the beneficiary during the implementation of the project, it can be paid in instalments. One advance payment shall not exceed 30 percent of the total amount of funding from the European Social Fund and state budget co-financing that was granted to the project. For the beneficiaries, having a status of a derived public person partially funded from the state budget, who implement the project within the scope of the state management tasks delegated to them, the total amount of advance and interim payments can amount to 100 percent of the total amount of funding from the European Social Fund and state budget co-financing that was granted to the project. For the beneficiaries, which are higher education institutions established by private persons, the total amount of advance and interim payments can amount to 90 percent of the total amount of funding from the European Social Fund and state budget co-financing intended for the project.

43. In implementing the project, the beneficiary shall ensure information and publicity measures as defined in Annex XII, Sub-paragraph 2.2 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No  1083/2006, and in the laws and regulations regarding the procedures by which the requirements for communication and visual identity shall be ensured in introduction of the European Union Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund in the 2014-2020 programming period.

44. The beneficiary shall post current information regarding project implementation on its website at least once in three months.

45. Any increase in costs that occurs during the implementation of the project shall be covered by the beneficiary from its own funds.

46. The co-operation authority has the right to unilaterally withdraw from the project implementation agreement or contract in any of the following cases:

46.1. the beneficiary does not fulfil the project implementation agreement or contract, including implementation of the project does not take place according to the deadlines specified in the project or other circumstances have set in, which negatively affect or may affect achievement of the objective of the specific objective referred to in Paragraph 3 of this Regulation and achievement of the supervision indicators referred to in Paragraph 5 of this Regulation;

46.2. in other cases determined in the project implementation agreement or contract.

47. The territory of the Republic of Latvia is the place of project implementation.

Prime Minister,

Acting Minister

of Health Māris Kučinskis

Minister of Education and Science Kārlis Šadurskis