

EUROHPC JU CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR AI AND DATA-INTENSIVE APPLICATIONS ACCESS MODE

Full Call Details

The information provided below is a compilation of information that is important for applying to the AI and Data-Intensive Applications Access call. The main purpose is to provide this information in a single page complementing the information provided in the EuroHPC JU [Access Policy](#) and the [Terms of Reference](#).

DESCRIPTION

The AI and Data-Intensive Applications Access mode is intended to serve Industry organisations, Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs), startups, as well as public sector entities, requiring access to supercomputing resources to perform Artificial Intelligence and Data Intensive activities.

CUT OFFS AND TIMELINES

The Call for Proposals for EuroHPC JU AI and Data-Intensive Applications Access Mode is continuously open, with a maximum time-to-resources-access (start-date) of 1 month after the cut-off date. The allocations are granted for one (1) year (single-year access).

The overall tentative cut-off dates/periods for 2024 are:

- 15 April 2024 – 10:00 AM Luxembourg time
- 14 June 2024 – 10:00 AM Luxembourg time
- August 2024 – 10:00 AM Luxembourg time
- October 2024 – 10:00 AM Luxembourg time
- December 2024 – 10:00 AM Luxembourg time

Timeline for awarding AI and Data-Intensive Applications Access Mode:

Cut-off period	Communication of allocation decision	Allocation period for awarded proposals	Submission of Final Reports	Type of Access
April 2024	Mid-May 2024	June 2024- June 2025	Within three (3) months after the completion of the project	Single-year access
June 2024	Mid-July 2024	August 2024 – August 2025		

August 2024	Mid-September 2024	October 2024 – October 2025		
October 2024	Mid-November 2024	December 2024 – December 2025		
December 2024	Mid-January 2025	February 2025 – February 2026		

Please see also flowcharts in Annex 2.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Applicants from industry organisations, Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs), startups, as well as public sector entities and research organisations are eligible to apply as long as:

- the organisation is established or located in an EU Member State or in a country associated to the Digital Europe Programme or to Horizon Europe, or where applicable, organisations residing, established or located in an EU Member State or in a country associated to Horizon 2020;
- the Principal Investigator has an employment contract in the organisation at the time of proposal submission and valid for at least 3 months after the end of the allocation period; and
- for what concerns access to commercial companies and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), the relevant Horizon 2020 rules of participation shall be applied.

For further details see Section 2– “Eligibility criteria” in the AI and Data-Intensive Applications Access call [“Terms of Reference”](#) document.

SUBMISSION PROPOSALS

All proposals consist of 2 parts: an online form and the [‘Project Scope and Plan’](#) document.

Please keep in mind that the used Project Scope and Plan document should be the most recent version uploaded in the designated cut-off page. Any inconsistency with the latest version of the document and its contents will result in an administrative rejection of the proposal.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA AND THE SCORING SYSTEM

The proposals are evaluated according to three criteria:

- **Excellence** – aims to evaluate the quality and merit of the project.
- **Innovation and Impact** – intends to assess the innovative nature, the potential impacts and contributions of the project.
- **Quality and Efficiency of the Implementation** – intends to evaluate the quality and feasibility of the work plan in order to deliver the project successfully.

The scores are given per criterion and can be decimal numbers from 0-5. In order to pass the evaluation, each criterion must be graded with a minimum 3, but the overall score sum of all three criteria must be minimum 10.

Proposals will be granted access on a first-come-first-served basis until the allocated resources for the specific cut-off have been depleted, provided the peer-review process is passed successfully.

For further details see Section 3 in the AI and Data-Intensive Applications Access call [“Terms of Reference”](#) document.

THE PEER-REVIEW PROCESS

The Peer-Review process for proposals submitted to the AI and Data-Intensive Applications Access call follows the next workflow:

1. Administrative check

The Peer-Review office checks the proposals in two parts: the online submission form and the Project Scope and Plan document. The proposals are assessed for any administrative inconsistency. The proposals must pass the administrative check in order to proceed to next evaluation steps. Proposals that have been administratively rejected will not proceed further and are advised to be resubmitted to another cut-off taking into consideration any comments provided by the Peer-Review office.

2. Technical assessment

The Hosting Entities evaluate the technical feasibility of the proposals submitted to their systems. The proposals can be technically accepted or rejected. In case the proposal has been rejected, it will not be awarded.

3. Experts evaluation

Each proposal is peer-reviewed by 2 recognized independent experts against the 3 set criteria: Excellence, Innovation and Impact, Quality and Efficiency of the Implementation. Proposals ranked under the quality cut-off threshold will not be awarded, even if there are resources available on the systems.

4. Resources distribution list

Proposals will be granted access on a first-come-first-served basis until the allocated resources for the specific cut-off have been depleted, provided the peer-review process is passed successfully.

5. Communication of results

The Peer-Review office will communicate the final results to all applicants. They will receive an email with the final decision regarding their proposal; the same outcome can also be seen in the Peer-Review Platform.

6. Award acceptance

The applicants should, if awarded resources, accept the award in the Peer-Review platform. This action will trigger a notification to the Hosting Entities to officially contact the applicants regarding the access to their systems.

OBLIGATIONS FOR AWARDED PROJECTS

REPORTING

For all awarded projects, the Principal Investigator (PI) has to submit a Final Report within three (3) months of the completion of an allocation, using the proper EuroHPC JU template, with the results obtained through the access to the EuroHPC JU systems, as well as qualitative feedback on the use of the resources.

This report needs to be submitted via the Peer-Review portal within the Final Report step of the application. Alternatively, it can be sent to EuroHPC Peer-Review (access@eurohpc-ju.europa.eu). Failure to submit a Final Report may disqualify future proposal submissions to EuroHPC JU by any member of the research group.

The templates for the **Final Report** are available for download:

[AI and Data-Intensive Applications Access - Final Report](#)

DISSEMINATION

Applicants allow EuroHPC JU to publish the Final Report as well as PIs and team members name, surname, affiliation and country of the institution of the awarded projects as of one year from the end date of the allocation period. Applicants commit to collaborate with EuroHPC JU, upon its request, in the preparation of dissemination material. The applicant commits to not use the project results for military purposes.

EXTENSION

The total awarded resources (total computer time and/or expert support) cannot be changed. If applicants are unable to use their awarded resources due to a technical problem, the Peer-Review office (access@eurohpc-ju.europa.eu) must be notified as soon as possible and in any case during the allocation period. Details regarding extension requests are detailed in the [Access Policy](#).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Applicants must acknowledge EuroHPC JU in all publications that describe results obtained using EuroHPC JU resources. Acknowledgement should be made of the role of the HPC Centre and EuroHPC JU and of the relevant partners involved in the pilot use case for joint data storage in all publications which include the results above mentioned. Users shall use the following wording in such acknowledgement in all such papers and other publications:

We acknowledge EuroHPC Joint Undertaking for awarding the project ID EHPC-AI-XXXXAXX-XXX access to [resource-name hosted by at site, country]. Use as many instances of the pattern [resource-name hosted by at site, country] as the number of systems awarded via EuroHPC JU.

Please follow these examples:

- Vega at IZUM, Slovenia
- Karolina at IT4Innovations, Czech Republic
- MeluXina at LuxProvide, Luxembourg
- LUMI at CSC, Finland
- Leonardo at CINECA, Italy
- MareNostrum5 at BSC, Spain

ANNEX 1

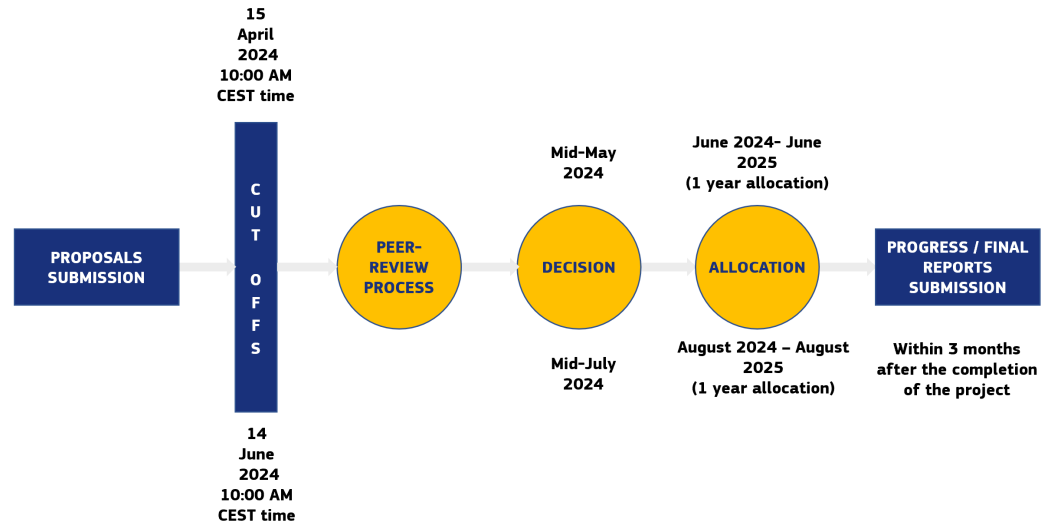
EUROHPC SYSTEMS AVAILABLE AND NODE HOURS

IMPORTANT UPDATE: Please note that the resources requests should be done in node hours.

System	Site (Country)	Architecture	Total resources offered (node hours)	Fixed Allocation (node hours)
<u>MNS ACC</u>	BSC (ES)	BullSequana XH3000	129,377	32,000
<u>Leonardo Booster</u>	CINECA (IT)	BullSequana XH2000	545,865	50,000
<u>LUMI-G</u>	CSC (FI)	HPE Cray EX	351,455	35,000
<u>MeluXina GPU</u>	LuxProvide (LU)	BullSequana XH2000	25,000	25,000
<u>Karolina GPU</u>	VSB-TUO, IT4Innovations, (CZ)	HPE Apollo 2000Gen10 Plus and HPE Apollo 6500	7,500	7,500
<u>Vega GPU</u>	IZUM Maribor (SI)	BullSequana XH2000	7,100	7,100

ANNEX 2

TIMELINES OF THE CALL



THE PEER-REVIEW PROCESS

A diagram of the Peer-Review process is displayed below:

