



Industry Internships call

Alliance4Life BRIDGE



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1. Call for Industry Internships

The Industry Internships of the Alliance4Life_BRIDGE project aim to connect industry and healthcare organizations with researchers and foster collaboration, strengthen professional skills, and support career development in both academic and industrial research.

The call enables industry partners to host researchers for **short-term mobility opportunities** within the Alliance4Life network. The Industry Internships are designed to strengthen **academia–industry collaboration**, offering opportunities to exchange knowledge, engage in collaborative problem-solving, build professional networks and develop skills. Applicants are invited to choose the format that best matches their role and development goals.

These internships aim to foster **collaboration and knowledge exchange** through joint, preliminary problem-solving between academia and industry. Each internship should focus on a **specific topic or challenge**, addressed through mutual input from both partners, and may lead to future collaborative projects or joint funding applications.

Alliance4Life is a consortium of 12 life science institutions and universities located in 11 Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries. The following Alliance4Life's member institutions are at the same time beneficiaries of the A4L_BRIDGE project:

- CEITEC Masaryk University (MU), Czechia
- St. Anne's University Hospital Brno/ International Clinical Research Center (ICRC), Czechia
- Biomedical Research Center of the Slovak Academy of Sciences (BMC SAS), Slovakia
- Medical University of Lodz (MUL), Poland
- University of Zagreb School of Medicine, Croatia
- University of Tartu (UT), Estonia
- Vilnius University (VU), Lithuania
- National Institute of Research and Innovation (NIRI), Latvia
- University of Ljubljana (UL), Slovenia
- Semmelweis University (SU), Hungary
- Medical University Sofia (MUS), Bulgaria
- Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy (UMFCD), Romania

2. Who can apply?

Eligible interns are **Academic staff** members of A4L_BRIDGE partner institutions:

- Early-Stage Researchers (ESRs), Ph.D. students, and senior research staff.

Eligible **industry hosts** are members of the A4L_BRIDGE industry partner ecosystem:

- Start-ups, companies, healthcare organisations.

To host an internship, you must be on the A4L_BRIDGE industry partner list. If you are interested in hosting an internship, please contact innovation@niri.lv or any of the contacts listed A4L_BRIDGE partner contacts.

3. Internship Format

Interns, together with their Industry hosts, are invited to **choose the format** that best matches their role and development goals.

3.1 A FOCUSED ONE-WEEK-LONG VISIT TO THE INDUSTRY HOST FOR:

- discussing industry challenges and their potential solutions;
- conducting short-term studies;
- exploring future collaborative projects;
- delivering lectures on subjects of mutual interest.
- In exceptional cases the internship (5 working) days can be distributed within max. 3 months period.

4. Internship Duration

Industry internships:

- The duration of the internship is determined by the sending institution, within its allocated person-weeks.
- Allocation per sending institution: 2 person-weeks

Note: Final duration and format of the internship must be confirmed by the sending institution, taking into account institutional budgets and available person-weeks.

5. What kind of internships are eligible?

- Proposals must clearly describe the objectives of the internship, expected outcomes, and relevance to both the academic intern and the host institution's priorities.
- The internship should focus on a specific topic or problem that will be addressed, taking into account academic and industry feedback, and potentially spurring new ideas for collaborative grant applications or collaborative projects.
- The problem addressed by the internship should be relevant and interesting to both academic and industry partners.
- The problem addressed by the internship could be a solution to a pre-defined industry challenge that the academic partner is thinking of solving, OR an academic topic that is relevant to the industry partner.

- The duration and plans of internships should be realistic and feasible.

6. What are the eligible costs?

Internships will be supported through the A4L_BRIDGE project budget, with funds that have already been specifically pre-allocated to each partner institution to cover the costs of sending their own participant.

Eligible costs include:

- Travel expenses (economy airfare, train, bus, etc.)
- Accommodation and subsistence (daily allowance)
- Other justified mobility-related costs (e.g., local transport)

The salary for the internship period is paid by the sending institution. The amount of funding and expenses covered is subject to regulations at specific (sending) institutions and must be agreed on and confirmed by the sending institution before the start of the internship.

Funding is subject to Horizon Europe cost eligibility criteria, as defined in the Annotated Grant Agreement for the 2021–2027 Work Programme (Version 2.0, 1 April 2025).

7. Application and approval process

Step 1: Submission of the initial application and approval by the sending (home) institution

Candidates must review the list of A4L_BRIDGE industry ecosystems and choose a company where they would like to become an intern. Then the candidate must submit their initial application using the online form available via the Alliance4Life web portal. The application form will ask you to consent to sharing your personal information (CV, email address, phone number), to list your chosen companies, and to describe the value you could bring to them. By completing the online form, applicant's submission will be sent to the designated contact person at the sending institution for confirmation of eligibility and funding availability. Further communication with both the sending and host institutions will continue via email. The applicant's CV should be sent to the designated contact person at the sending institution.

Step 2: Industry Host institution agreement

After eligibility approval by the sending institution, A4L_BRIDGE contact persons will contact the industry host to initiate the Industry Internship opportunity. If the Industry Host agrees, the candidate will be introduced to the host institution via e-mail and must then agree on the internship's dates, duration, and activities.

Step 3: Submission of the final application

Applications can be submitted to the sending institution for consideration only once both the sending and host institutions have agreed on the main conditions outlined above.

Required documents for submission of the final application to the sending (home) institution:

- Final application form (standard template)
- Confirmation from the host institution (e-mail or a free-form signed statement).

Step 4: Central approval of the final application

After evaluation and approval by the sending institution (see Step 3), the final application must be submitted to the assigned representative of the National Institute of Research and Innovation (innovation@niri.lv) within 14 days for central approval. The submission must include a confirmation letter from the sending institution confirming a positive evaluation of the application (e-mail or as a signed free-form statement).

Step 5: Internship Agreement

After central approval, the Internship Agreement must then be signed between the intern, the sending Institution, and the host Institution.

A model Internship Agreement has been drafted as a framework that is both legally appropriate and attractive to our industry partners, ensuring the smooth realization of the programme. The sending institution and the host institution are encouraged to use and modify the existing model agreement according to the needs and specifics for each internship.

The signed Internship Agreement must be sent to the assigned representative of National Institute of Research and Innovation (innovation@niri.lv) within 14 days and before the start of the internship.

Summary of tasks and responsibilities of the involved persons.

Step	Task	Researcher (intern)	Sending institution	A4L BRIDGE contact for the selected Company	Company (host)	A4L BRIDGE expert panel of FG6 members
1	Initial Application	X (prepare)	X (check, collect CV)			
2	Engaging the Company			X	X	
2	Agree on the internship's details	X	X		X	
3	Submission of Final Application	X				
4	Central approval					X
5	Internship Agreement	X	X		X	

8. Deadlines

Call no.	Publication of the call	Final application deadline	Evaluation and notification	Start of the Internships	Final report
1	15 April 2026	14 June 2026	29 June 2026	All projects must be implemented between 1 June 2026 and 31 January 2028	14 February 2028
1	Extended application	31 August 2026	14 September 2026		
2*	18 September 2026	20 November 2026	1 December 2026		
* This and additional calls may be announced depending on the available budget					

9. Selection Criteria

Applications will be reviewed by the expert panel of FG6 technology transfer experts. The expert panel of FG6 technology transfer experts verifies that the applications address the aims of the internship programme outlined under Art. 1 of this Call text and comply with the format outlined under Art 3.1. of this Call text.

The internships are awarded on a “first come, first serve” basis.

10. Evaluation Process

The evaluation will take place in three steps:

- **Administrative check** (done by the sending institution). Formal review to ensure completeness and eligibility. The sending institution confirms employment/affiliation status.
- **Institutional approval**. The sending institution approves the final list of interns based on budget availability.
- **Central approval**. After approval by the sending institution, the final application submission will undergo review by the FG6 expert panel of internal technology transfer experts **to confirm its adherence to the aims of the A4L_BRIDGE industry internships program and the A4L BRIDGE project. Participants may sign the Internship Agreement and proceed only after this approval.**

11. Final Report

Internships must be completed by January 31, 2028. Final Reports and Internship Confirmation Letters must be submitted no later than 14 days after the end of the internship.

The Final Report and the Internship Confirmation Letter must be completed using standard templates available on the website.

The sending institution ensures that the reports are sent to A4L_BRIDGE (lead by National Institute of Research and Innovation, contact person Dr. Anna Stikane, innovation@niri.lv).

12. Contact

For general information regarding the Industry Internship call or in case of any questions, please contact Dr. Anna Stikane, innovation@niri.lv, using ‘A4L_Industry Internships’ identifier in the subject line.

13. Document templates

- **Final internship application form**

Submitted by the applicant to the sending institution after initial eligibility approval and host institution confirmation

- **Model Internship agreement form**

Signed by the applicant, sending institution, and host institution after central approval of the internship. The document must be sent to the National Institute of Research and Innovation within 14 days after signing and before the start of the internship.

- **Internship confirmation letter**

Confirmation from the host institution (e-mail or a free-form signed statement), which is submitted by the applicant as an attachment to the Final internship application form

- **Final internship report form**

Submitted by the applicant to the sending institution immediately after the internship and sent to the National Institute of Research and Innovation no later than 14 days after the end of the internship.