



## **Call for Applications: Junior Group Leader Position in the Mechanisms Underlying Major Lifestyle Diseases**

**Employer:** Institute of Physiology of the Czech Academy of Sciences

**Location:** Prague, Czech Republic (European Union)

**Salary:** \$4.400/month (negotiable) + up to 6 weeks of paid vacation

**Closing date:** 31 August 2025

**Website:** <https://fgu.cas.cz/en>

The Institute of Physiology of the Czech Academy of Sciences (IPHYS) is one of the leading biomedical research institutions in the Czech Republic. We are seeking an exceptional early-career scientist to establish an independent research program within our diverse and supportive environment that values excellence and work-life balance.

This call is specifically aimed at researchers currently based at U.S. universities or scientific institutions who plan to return to Europe to launch their independent academic careers. We welcome applications from postdoctoral researchers and junior scientists who are highly motivated, and committed to pursuing ambitious projects that address the pathophysiological mechanisms of major lifestyle-related diseases, including diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, and neurodegenerative disorders. We also encourage proposals in other areas that align with the Institute's scientific mission, such as described in more detail at <https://fgu.cas.cz/en/research-and-laboratories/research/research-topics>. We particularly encourage candidates working in molecular, cellular, or developmental biology, physiology, biochemistry, or clinically oriented biomedical research to apply.

With over 70 years of tradition in biomedical research, IPHYS offers a uniquely collaborative and intellectually stimulating environment in the heart of one of Europe's most beautiful and historically rich cities. The Institute fosters strong partnerships with leading clinical and research institutions, including the Institute of Clinical and Experimental Medicine and the Institute of Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry, creating a vibrant ecosystem for translational science. Researchers benefit from access to state-of-the-art core facilities, including platforms for metabolomics (metabolic cages, lipidomics, fluxomics), proteomics, and advanced microscopy. In addition, the Institute houses a newly renovated animal facility equipped to support studies involving mice, rats, zebrafish, and rabbits.

Eligible candidates must hold a Ph.D., M.D., or an equivalent doctoral degree awarded no more than 12 years prior to January 31, 2025, excluding parental leave. Applicants should have a strong track record of impactful research in metabolism or the pathophysiology of major diseases, demonstrate excellent communication skills, and embrace a collaborative, interdisciplinary approach to science. Candidates must currently be employed by or affiliated with a U.S.-based university or independent research institution. In addition, they should be competitive for external funding opportunities such as from the European Research Council (ERC), or Czech Science Foundation, to which successful applicants will be encouraged to apply.

Candidates will be evaluated based on academic merit, the quality and originality of their proposed research, publication record, and the strength of their postdoctoral training. Particular consideration will be given to applicants who demonstrate intellectual independence, such as through corresponding-author publications or evidence of success in securing independent funding.



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

Applications must include a curriculum vitae, a two-page research proposal (single-spaced, 11-point font), a copy of the Ph.D. diploma or equivalent certification, and two letters of recommendation. All documents should be in English and submitted electronically to **fgu@fgu.cas.cz** by **August 31, 2025**. Short-listed candidates will be notified by **October 1, 2025**, and invited to submit a full proposal (maximum six A4 pages) within 30 days. Final candidates will be then invited to present a public in-person lecture and interview at the Institute of Physiology.

The selected Junior Research Group Leader is expected to take up the position as soon as possible, but no later than **June 30, 2026**. The appointment will include a start-up package for three to five years, covering the salary of the group leader, two Ph.D. students, and one laboratory technician. It also includes newly renovated laboratory space and an annual operational and equipment budget of at least \$20,000 per year to support the establishment of the group's research activities. The total level of financial support will be negotiable, based on the overall quality of the selected candidate and their research proposal. Following the initial term, the Junior Group Leader will have the opportunity to apply for a permanent position at the Institute.

Further information about the position and application process is available at: <https://fgu.cas.cz/en/students-and-career/career/junior-research-group-leader/>.