

LIFT_C Call for Project Proposals

Twice a year, the LIT (Linz Institute of Technology) issues a "Call for Proposals" that includes special calls featuring more defined and distinctive objectives.

As part of an ongoing process to introduce and establish the Linz Institute for Transformative Change (LIFT_C), the institute intends to create JKU "Chairs of Excellence" and announce research calls designed to support a higher degree of interdisciplinary collaboration.

The current performance agreement with the Austrian Ministry of Science, Education & Research places the Linz Institute for Transformative Change (LIFT_C) at the crossroads in a pivotal position to not only identify, but also address, social and global challenges by conducting research from various perspectives that include standpoints in social sciences, business, law, medicine, natural sciences, engineering, and ethics.

The Linz Institute for Transformative Change focuses on the conditions, consequences, and impact of systemic change processes and transformation. The resulting cross-disciplinary interaction creates hands-on opportunities and space to support interdisciplinary and innovative cutting-edge research designed to master complex, 21st century challenges together.

Topics

The call is open to all areas in science, engineering, and technology without restrictions to particular topics. The projects should, however, complement and strengthen existing areas in engineering, natural sciences, social sciences, medicine, and legal sciences at the JKU, **focusing on Transformative Change**. Implications on technology and industry are to be clearly communicated. Only those projects with an interdisciplinary character are eligible for consideration.

Funding

Funding of up to € 200,000 per project application is available.

Researchers

Researchers (those already holding a Ph.D. or graduates in Human Medicine) are invited to submit a project proposal to receive funding under the JKU LIFT_C program. The JKU LIT focuses on and supports outstanding, application-oriented research in all areas of science and technology along the complete innovation chain with an emphasis on high-risk – high-gain projects. The JKU LIT encourages collaborative and inter-disciplinary/multi-disciplinary research.

The JKU LIT is open to all researchers (from the JKU as well as from other institutions) however, **if selected for funding, researchers from other institutions will have to move to Linz and accept employment at the JKU for the duration of the project**. In addition, permanent JKU employees (*Stammpersonal*) may take part in the JKU LIT call but their efforts must be in-kind (requesting no salary beyond full-time employment) as part of the correct financial administrative procedure.

Location

The project must identify a hosting JKU institute/department and a point of contact (the institute or department head). The host is required to provide office space and any other infrastructure. We recommend adding a Letter of Confirmation issued by the hosting institute/department to the proposal.

Participation by Industrial Companies

The JKU LIT allows industrial companies to take part and encourages industrial project partners to assist in co-funding the project. However, the JKU LIT does not permit industrial partners to be funded.

The Submission Process

Applicants are required to submit a written proposal that follows a template (in English). The project proposal should include a funding plan that covers salaries (please include an approximate annual salary increase of 3%) and reasonable allowances for consumables; travel, and small equipment to be funded in exceptional cases only. The project proposals will be peer-reviewed by an external panel of internationally renowned researchers. The JKU Rectorate will render a final decision in regard to funding.

The criteria used to evaluate whether or not a project is eligible for funding will be based on the application's scientific excellence, the applicant's outstanding scientific and academic background and record, the project's technical applicability, and its inter-disciplinary/multi-disciplinary approach.

The proposal deadline is January 31, 2023. Each project proposal must be submitted in English and include a standard cover sheet clearly identifying the type of project, the principal investigator (that individual will also be a JKU LIT project leader), the project's duration, the requested amount of funding for the project, the contact information of the JKU institute/department hosting the project, the contact information of the industrial company assisting in the project (if applicable), the project's primary objectives, any major equipment expected/needed, and a short abstract.

Evaluation

Applications will be reviewed by an external panel of experts nominated by JKU departments. The JKU Rectorate will render a final decision by no later than the end of March 2023.

Please see: jku.at/lit for detailed information about funding guidelines.

Please also submit a brief description of your proposal (see the PPT template proposal "in a nutshell" at jku.at/lit).

Send your application to: lit@jku.at by January 31, 2023.