Q&A

Basic Idea and General Information

- Funding is provided by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science, Research & Economy and the State of Upper Austria
- The call is open to everyone who has already obtained a PhD degree
- Topics are not limited to topics listed in the call
- A PI may only submit one proposal per year (i.e. submit to every second call) - focus on the best idea one has (except Co-PI /Co-Funding Projects, presuming the application is subject to a new approach). A PI may have only one funded project at the same time.

Costs

- Personnel (Personalkostensätze [Austrian Science Fund])
- Other: Miscellaneous expenses
- Co Funding: nice to have but not a requirement

We finance a maximum of 10-15 projects per funding round.

1. When will decisions be rendered?

   - The Austrian Science Fund review process is approximately 4-5 months + a few weeks to render the decision.

2. Young Career Projects – The call states that early career researchers (those who have obtained PhD within the past 5 years) can take part – How strict is the 5 year time period?

   - Exceptions can be made in some cases (maternity leave, long illness, …)

3. Is there a maximum budget limit?

   - The maximum amount of funding per project is € 200.000 (except “incoming Scientists: € 300.000, -
   - If there are two smaller excellent projects vs. one larger project that has same budget needs and they are equally good, then we will most likely choose to fund the two smaller projects. Hence, be frugal with that amount you ask for.

4. What are the rules regarding equipment?

   - Talk to your institute/department first before requesting equipment
   - Smaller equipment will be allowed (up to a max. amount of € 1.500). The price(s) for larger equipment may need to be negotiated. Please be clear if the project cannot succeed unless the equipment is purchased.
   - Budget for Equipment has to be applied for in section C Budget

5. Funding other institutions

   - We do not normally provide funding for other organisations or universities unless it is for goods or services (i.e., access to machines, etc.)
1. Funding for external personnel costs will not be provided (there is no funding for scientists from other organisations).

6. Review

- Reviewers can be excluded.

7. Personnel Expenses

- Permanent JKU staff will not be funded
- PI co-funding is possible (i.e., 75% Austrian Science Fund and 25% LIT is ok) but it is not possible to fund beyond full employment.
- The personnel costs that can be requested for doctoral candidates are limited to a maximum of 30 hours/week. Additional funding may be provided through other means but it is not possible to fund beyond full employment.

8. IPR

- The intellectual property of inventions belongs to JKU.

9. CV Section – Who Should Complete the Forms for an Interdisciplinary Project?

- 1 person must be designated as the project leader (PI)
- Add CVs of PI and all of the partners
- There are several groups within LIT and every PI will serve as group leader (rotation of group leader).

10. Longer Project Perspective (longer than 2 years)

- Reviewers have to assess the project’s long term vision; if there is no long term vision → application rejection
- You cannot have a follow-up LIT project on the same idea!

11. If funding is available for 2 years, will it be a problem if the project does not begin during the first year?

- The project has to start within 6 months of approval
- Please remember: any money not used after 3 years must to be paid back to the ministry
- You can state your funding budget without providing any deadlines in regards as to how you spend it within the project’s approved period.

12. Project Preference

- The project should be technologically relevant, at least in a few years
- We will try to keep the subject area as broad as possible.

13. Collaboration and Seed Projects

- Can be anyone – also at other universities
- Funding, however, is only available to those at the JKU.

14. Does LIT provide funding for visiting external collaborators?

- Yes (for reasonable travel and living expenses)
15. Can we collaborate with scientists at other institutions?

- Absolutely, but they need to acquire their own funding. Funds provided by LIT may not be used to pay external personnel costs.

16. PI Salary

- Please use standard Austrian Science Fund salaries. A higher salary may be negotiable under exceptional circumstances.

17. Location

- The project should identify a hosting JKU institute/department with a point of contact (head of institute or head of department)
- Office space and other infrastructure must be provided by this host.
- JKU internal applicants: please include the relevant confirmation by the head of institute or department “Befürwortung des Projektantrags und Bestätigung über die Bereitstellung von Stammpersonal & Infrastruktur für das Projekt“ in your application.
  External Applicants, please complete section H if already available

Next Call deadlines:
- 23 April 2018
- November 2018
- April 2019