

Q&A

Basic Idea and General Information

- Funding is provided by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research 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
- Please bear in mind that the PI's employment contract has to last until the end of the project period
- Nomination of a potential PI who could take over the project lead any time in case the PI might not be able to proceed until the end of the project due to various reasons is required
- Double/Multiple submissions of the proposal to other funding agencies have to be indicated. Otherwise the application cannot be considered for funding
- Costs
 - Personnel (Personalkostensätze [Austrian Science Fund](#))
 - Travel
 - Other: Miscellaneous expenses
 - Equipment
 - Co-Funding: welcome, but not required

1. When will decisions be rendered?

- Austrian Science Fund (FWF) review process generally requires around 6 months

2. How strict is the page limit?

- The page limit must be strictly adhered to. Proposals with more pages are truncated at page limit
Please take this into consideration
Young Career Projects, Incoming Scientist Projects and Seed Projects require a max. 10-page proposal (section A. proposal + section B. budget). Front page, and sections C. until sections H/I. are additional to the 10-page proposal

3. 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,...)

4. 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

5. 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 B. Budget

6. 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.)
- Funding for external personnel costs will not be provided (there is no funding for scientists from other organisations)

7. Review

- Reviewers can be excluded.

8. 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

9. IPR

- The intellectual property of inventions belongs to JKU

10. 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

11. 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!

12. If funding is available for 2 years (3 years Incoming Scientists), will it be a problem if the project does not begin right after approval?

- Either/or: The beginning of the project can be postponed by up to a maximum of 6 months after the approval date. A cost-neutral extension may be granted only once and up to a maximum of 6 months. A postponed beginning of the project is not compatible with a cost-neutral extension.
- Please remember: any money not used at the latest 3 years after approval must to be paid back to the ministry

13. 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

14. Collaboration and Seed Projects

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

15. Does LIT provide funding for visiting external collaborators?

- Yes (for reasonable travel and living expenses)

16. 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

17. PI Salary

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

18. 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 I. if already available

Next Call deadlines:

- 12. April 2021
- Tba, presumably spring 2022