



Application for funding by the Investment Fund



I. Purpose of the funding

As part of the funding of LMU Munich as University of Excellence, the University aims to further improve the conditions for performing outstanding research with its overall strategy LMUexcellent. The Investment Fund, in particular, serves to provide specific support for the procurement of external funding that will allow academics to pursue innovative research ideas and establish new research fields. For this purpose, LMU will provide seed funding as part of the Investment Fund for applications for externally funded and evaluated research projects.

The call is directed at all academics of LMU. LMU fosters a culture of internationality, diversity and equality of opportunity and therefore strongly encourages all academics to apply.

II. Funding scope

Depending on the type and the size of the planned third-party funding project (with LMU acting as speaker university) academics may apply for seed funding in the following funding categories:

- a) Seed funding of up to **€ 50.000** plus a reduction of the teaching load of up to **5 semester teaching hours per week** (including funding for a stand-in)

In this category funding may be provided for the procurement of:

- DFG Research Units (Forschungsgruppen)
- DFG Humanities Centres for Advanced Studies (Kolleg-Forschungsgruppen)
- DFG Research Training Groups (Graduiertenkollegs)
- DFG Priority Programmes (Schwerpunktprogramme)
- DFG Reinhart Koselleck Projects
- ERC Advanced Grants
- ERC Consolidator Grants

or comparable third-party funding projects

- b) Seed funding of up to **€ 100.000** plus a reduction of the teaching load of up to **10 semester teaching hours per week** (including funding for a stand-in)

In this category funding may be provided for the procurement of:

- DFG Collaborative Research Centres (Sonderforschungsbereiche)
- DFG Collaborative Research Centres Transregio (Sonderforschungsbereiche Transregio)
- BMBF International Research Schools (Internationale Kollegs für Geistes- und Sozialwissenschaften)
- ERC Synergy Grants

or comparable projects

The funds applied for can be used to cover personnel and material expenses as well as investments. In addition, the funding may include a reduction of the applicant's teaching load as outlined above or a reduction in teaching load distributed among the participating academics, respectively.

Funding will regularly be provided for up to one year once the applicant and the University Governing Board have agreed on a starting date. For the planned procurement of large collaborative research projects (particularly DFG Collaborative Research Centres, DFG Collaborative Research Centres Transregio, DFG Research Units and DFG Research Training Groups), funding will be provided for up to 18 months. The funds may be used flexibly during the funding period.

No additional funds will be provided for renewal applications as part of third-party funding projects that comprise several funding periods. However, principal investigators of such projects may apply for the respective reduction of the teaching load.

The University Governing Board will review the Investment Fund on a regular basis and decide on its long-term continuation as well as any necessary modifications.

III. Selection Criteria

The University Governing Board will select projects on the basis of the following criteria, which must be persuasively addressed in the applications:

- Sufficiently elaborated project plan with respect to the submission of a grant application to an external funding institution
- Academic excellence of the applicant and participating academics relative to her or his/their career stage

IV. Application

Applications in German or English may be submitted to the President on a continuous basis. All applications must be submitted electronically to excellent@lmu.de via the Dean of the respective faculty.

Please address the following points in your application:

- Summary of the project to be submitted to an external funding institution
- Status of the grant application and preliminary work
- Timeline until the planned submission of the grant application
- Short description of the planned use of the funds applied for in the Investment Fund and, if relevant, how the requested reduction of the teaching load will be employed
- CVs of the participating academics

V. Selection procedure

The University Governing Board will decide on the approval of the submitted applications. In rendering its decision, the Board may draw on external expertise and invite applicants to discuss their applications. The University Governing Board expects applicants to submit a grant application to an external funding institution.

VI. Contact Us

For further information you may contact Unit VIII.2 Research Strategy:

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Support for Research Grant Applications at LMU

Division VIII Strategy, Research, Junior Academics offers researchers at LMU individual advice on external funding opportunities. It provides detailed information on the aims and evaluation criteria of national and international funding programs and guides researchers through all stages of the application process. It is recommended that applicants in the Investment Fund consult with the Division regarding their grant applications in good time. More information and contact details of the respective research services advisors are available in LMU's [Serviceportal](#)¹.

¹ https://www.serviceportal.verwaltung.uni-muenchen.de/internationals/research_funding/index.html