



Application for funding by the Junior Researcher Fund



I. Purpose of the funding

As part of the funding of LMU Munich as University of Excellence, the University aims to provide ideal research and training conditions for outstanding early-career researchers with its overall strategy LMUexcellent. In particular, the Junior Researcher Fund seeks to improve the career development prospects of early-career researchers and to promote independent applications for third-party funding. For this purpose, LMU will provide seed funding to free up additional time for research as part of the Junior Researcher Fund for applications for externally funded and evaluated research projects.

Both funding lines of this call are directed at postdoctoral researchers of LMU who have gained no more than six years of professional academic experience since having completed their doctorate. Funding line 1 is also directed at junior professors and professors of LMU who have equally gained no more than six years of professional academic experience since having completed their doctorate. LMU fosters a culture of internationality, diversity and equality of opportunity and therefore strongly encourages all academics to apply.

II. Funding scope

Researchers may apply for seed funding in one of the two funding lines listed below. A prerequisite for funding is that LMU or LMU Hospital act as speaker institution, host institution or coordinating partner of the planned project.

Funding line 1: Seed funding



Seed funding for a planned third-party funding project of up to **€ 50,000 in research funds to be expended within a period of up to one year** plus a reduction of the teaching load of up to **5 semester teaching hours per week** (including funding for a stand-in) during the one-year funding period. The funds applied for can be used to cover personnel and material expenses as well as investments.

Funding line 2: Sabbaticals



Seed funding for a planned third-party funding project by way of a **full-time stand-in position for one semester** plus **up to € 15,000 in research funds to be expended within a period of up to one year**. The funds applied for can be used to cover personnel and material expenses as well as investments.

Funding in both funding lines may be provided for the procurement of:

- ERC Starting Grants
 - DFG Emmy Noether Independent Junior Research Groups
 - BMBF Junior Research Groups
 - Sofja Kovalevskaja Awards of the Alexander von Humboldt-Foundation
- or comparable projects

The funds may be used flexibly during a period of up to one year once the applicant and the University Governing Board have agreed on a starting date.

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 relative to her or his career stage. Postdoctoral researchers must submit an internal and an external letter of reference.

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 (postdoctoral researchers are additionally required to submit the application via their respective chair/research group).

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 Junior Researcher Fund and, if relevant, how the requested reduction of the teaching load or stand-in position will be employed
- CV of the applicant

Only for postdoctoral researchers:

- Please enclose an internal and an external letter of reference.

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 Junior Researcher 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