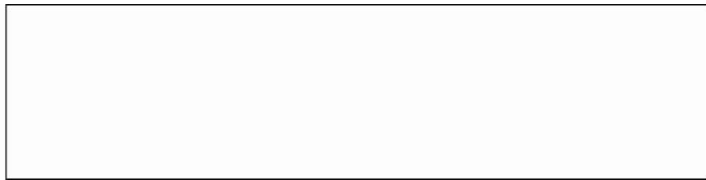




LUDWIG-
MAXIMILIANS-
UNIVERSITÄT
MÜNCHEN



Application for funding by the Knowledge Transfer 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, LMU seeks to improve the career development prospects of early-career researchers as well as to open up alternative career paths outside academia through networking activities with institutions in business as well as society and culture. LMU expects an overall increase in the transfer potential of research projects and will, therefore, provide seed funding as part of the Knowledge Transfer Fund for third-party funding proposals directed at the application or transfer of basic research as well as for patent applications.

This call is directed at all postdoctoral researchers of LMU who have 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 for a planned transfer project aimed at developing an application with a partner from business and society, or at advancing a spin-off. The funding is directed at preparatory activities for the successful procurement of funding by spin-off or other transfer-oriented third-party funding programs as well as for the successful conclusion of a cooperation agreement or exploitation contract.

Postdoctoral researchers may receive funding for material and personnel expenses to be expended within a period of up to one year in order to pursue cost-intensive validation work, to obtain additional external expertise as well as to initiate or continue patent applications. In all cases, prior consultation regarding the planned project with LMU's Transfer Unit is a prerequisite for submitting an application (see VI. Contact Us).

Researchers may apply for seed funding in one of the following three funding categories:

a. **Validation:** total funds of up to € 50,000

Funding may be applied for to support planned applications to spin-off related third-party funding programs with significant potential funding and scope (eligible formats: EXIST Transfer of Research, GO-Bio, m⁴ Award, or programs comparable in type and size) **or** necessary validation work for a collaborative project with at least one specific partner institution from business or society and culture.

b. **External Expertise:** total funds of up to € 15,000

Funding may be applied for to support planned applications to spin-off related third-party funding programs with limited potential funding and scope (eligible formats: EXIST-Gründerstipendium, FLÜGGE, Medical Valley Award, or programs comparable in type and size) **or** for the acquisition of additional external expertise required for the continuation of cooperation negotiations with at least one specific partner institution from business or society and culture.

c. **Patenting:** total funds of up to € 10,000 €

Funding may be applied for to support patent applications or the continuation of patent applications establishing priority.

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 based on applicant's suitability with regard to the implementation of the planned project as well as on the the following criteria, which must be persuasively addressed in the applications:

a. **Spin-offs:**

- Pursuit of a spin-off project at a sufficiently advanced stage
- Prior validation work or the acquisition of external expertise is a prerequisite for either the spin-off or for the submission of an application to a spin-off oriented third-party funding program

b. **Cooperation:**

- Pursuit of a cooperation project with at least one specific partner institution from business or society and culture at a sufficiently advanced stage
- Prior validation work or the acquisition of external expertise is a prerequisite for the establishment of the cooperation

c. **Patents:**

- Presence of an invention and pursuit of a patenting project aimed at its exploitation

IV. Application

Applications in German or English may be submitted to the President on a continuous basis. All applications must be submitted electronically to forschungstransfer@lmu.de via the Dean of the respective faculty. Post-doctoral researchers are additionally required to submit the application via their respective chair/research group.

In addition to proof of consultation on the planned project with the Research and Technology Transfer Unit (see II. Funding scope), applications in the Validation and External Expertise funding categories must also include an external letter of reference from an expert in business and society regarding the applicant's suitability to carry out the project (see III. Selection criteria). Please address the following points in your application:

a. **Validation** (total funds of up to € 50,000)

Spin-off:

- Description of the spin-off project including a business concept (innovation, customer value, market analysis, business plan), presentation of the IP situation as well as the project status and the planned application to a spin-off oriented third-party funding program (see above)
- Proof of scientific feasibility including own preliminary work as well as presentation of the necessary validation work including a timeline and budget plan for the provision of a proof-of-principle
- Demonstration of the necessity of validation work

Cooperation:

- Description of the cooperation project including potential, scope and status of the project
- Clear definition of the work necessary for implementation of the cooperation, including a timeline and budget plan

- Proof of advanced negotiations (i.e. beyond the stage of initial contact) with at least one specific partner from business or society regarding a collaboration directed at the practical application of research results
- Demonstration of the necessity of validation work

b. **External Expertise** (total funds of up to € 15,000):

Spin-off:

- Description of the spin-off project including spin-off potential and project status as well as the planned application to a spin-off oriented third-party funding program (see above)
- Demonstration of the necessity of external expertise

Cooperation:

- Description of the cooperation project including potential, scope and status of the project
- Demonstration of the necessity of external expertise

c. **Patents** (total funds of up to € 10,000):

- Presence of an invention disclosure at LMU (not the University Hospital) which names the applicant as the inventor (a substantial share in the invention in the case of joint inventors) and whose claim has been recommended
- or presence of a patent application establishing priority at LMU (not the University Hospital) as well as a positive search report by the relevant patent office
- Designation of a specific exploitation partner (e.g. a business company, a spin-off or a patent exploitation agency)

V. Selection procedure

The University Governing Board will decide on the approval of the submitted applications. The University Governing Board expects applicants to either submit a proposal to an external funding institution directed at either the application or transfer of basic research, implement a spin-off, or apply for a patent.

VI. Contact Us

For further information you may contact Unit VIII.5 Research and Technology Transfer:

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Support for Research Grant Applications and Research Transfer Projects 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 specific funding programs and guides researchers through all stages of the application process. It is recommended that applicants in the Knowledge Transfer Fund consult with the Division regarding their grant applications in good time.