

LMU-NTU Joint Seed Funding Call for Proposals 2026 (guidelines)

National Taiwan University (NTU) and Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (LMU) established a joint seed funding program to encourage and support bilateral collaboration. The joint seed funding program aims to provide seed funding for new and initial collaboration and foster sustainable partnerships between the two universities.

The funding mainly supports travels and costs associated with the organization of seminars, workshops, events as well as mobility in order to help faculty in both institutions to deepen their understanding of complementary interests and strengths.

NTU and LMU have together committed to fund up to three selected proposals and offer **12,000 euros (NTD \$400,000) per selected proposal combined**. In other words, each university will offer **up to 6,000 euros (NTD \$200,000) per selected proposal**. Applications should be jointly submitted by NTU and LMU faculty. NTU Office of International Affairs (OIA) and LMU International Office will administer the program.

1. Eligibility

- 1.1 At LMU, applicants must be professors or academic staff with long-term appointment during the funding period.
- 1.2 At NTU, applicants must be tenured-track faculty members and not on sabbatical leave for the duration of the funding period.
- 1.3 Each project must have at least one NTU principal investigator (PI) and one LMU PI.
- 1.4 Application from all fields and disciplines are welcomed.

2. Funding Information

- 2.1 Total funding available for each round is 36,000 euros, approximately NTD \$1,200,000, shared equally by NTU and LMU.
- 2.2 Funding amount per selected proposal is up to 12,000 euros, approximately NTD \$400,000, and NTU and LMU will jointly fund up to three projects. In other words, each university will offer up to 6,000 euros, approximately NTD \$200,000, per selected proposal.
- 2.3 Each selected proposal will receive an even distribution of funding from NTU and LMU to their respective faculty.
- 2.4 The actual amount of funding available and number of projects funded in each round will be reviewed and determined annually by mutual agreement between NTU and LMU.
- 2.5 Funding period is one year, starting from January 1 and ending on December 31 of the same year. Unless jointly approved by the coordinators, there will be no extensions beyond this timeframe. Funding not spent by the end of the funding period must be returned.
- 2.6 Funding covers the related members and mobilities of the project, such as travel expenses, workshops and conferences, symposiums and lectures. The implementation will be based on the regulations of funding of both parties.

3. Application Information

- 3.1 All proposals must be jointly submitted by NTU faculty member(s) and LMU faculty member(s).
- 3.2 To apply, NTU and LMU PIs should only submit one joint project proposal, including project proposal form, CVs of PIs and collaborator(s), and letter of support from lab/faculty director of PIs, through LMU's online application portal: **LMU application portal - strategic partnerships.**
- 3.3 Late application will not be considered.

4. Selection and Result Notification

- 4.1 Proposal selection will be made by a joint selection committee consisting of NTU and LMU representatives.
- 4.2 Selection of representatives will be coordinated by NTU OIA and the LMU International Office.
- 4.3 The joint selection committee reserve the final authority over the proposal selection taking into account university and faculty strategic priorities and the availability of funding.
- 4.4 Priority will be given to proposals relevant to United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.
- 4.5 Priority will be given to interdisciplinary proposals.
- 4.6 Priority will be given to applicants who have not received previous support within this funding scheme.
- 4.7 Successful applicants will receive a letter of award outlining the process to accept the funding.

5. Intellectual Property

- 5.1 For purposes of this program, intellectual property will remain with the university that generated such intellectual property.
- 5.2 In the event that new intellectual property will be generated jointly by the universities from the seed funding, both universities will agree to reach a mutually beneficial agreement with respect to intellectual property ownership, management, protection and further development and exploitation.

6. Recipient Obligation

- 6.1 Recipients must mention the funding in all appropriate media, including any events arising from activities supported by this funding should include an acknowledgement of "NTU-LMU Joint Seed Funding Program" and any publications/presentations arising from activities supported by this funding should include acknowledgement of "This publication/presentation is supported in part by the Joint Seed Funding Program between National Taiwan University and the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München"
- 6.2 Recipients must submit a final report within three months of the end of the funding period, describing the results of the funding project (include actions taken, contacts made, challenges or difficulties met, and upcoming strategy and activities to materialize or strengthen the cooperation) and future projects related thereto.
- 6.3 Recipients must comply with all relevant laws and university regulations, including those relating to intellectual property, codes of conduct, etc.

7. Important Dates

Milestones	Dates
Call for proposals published	1 September 2025
Proposal submission deadline	7 November 2025
Result notification	December 2025
Start of funding period	1 January 2026
End of funding period	31 December 2026

8. Coordinator

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