



FORSCHUNG AUSTRIA

Zukunft verbindet.

Call Guidelines

Forschung Austria grant programme for internationalisation within the brainpower austria initiative

Objectives of the joint Forschung Austria and brainpower austria initiative

brainpower austria is an initiative launched by the Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology (BMVIT) that has the aim of actively and individually supporting top researchers of all nationalities not currently resident in Austria in their search for a job in Austria.

The aim of the Forschung Austria grant programme, which is carried out as part of the brainpower austria initiative, is to continue to develop the internationalisation of the economy related non-university research institutions. The geographical focus – 67% of financing - is on the new member states and the candidate countries (Bulgaria, Estonia, Croatia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Serbia, Montenegro) and on Russia, 33% of financing are provided for grants for the rest of the world. The BMVIT and Forschung Austria (FA) are thus intending to contribute to positioning Austria as a top research location in Europe and to strengthening networking activities with the new member states and candidate countries.

It is also planned to initiate networks in these countries involving Austrian researchers and researchers interested in Austria association by making use of tools, databases and services offered by brainpower austria. The data collected in the project using brainpower tools will be available to all FA members and brainpower austria and will thus facilitate R&D cooperation with the “New Europe“, thus providing access to these highly qualified human resources for researchers as well as for brainpower austria and FA members.

General conditions

The grant programme is an FA-internal competitive call aimed at supporting international mobility of researchers working at the FA institutions.

Procedure

The decision about which projects will be funded is usually made three times a year at least by a jury. The competitive nature of the call ensures that projects can be easily compared with each other and that a decision about funding can be reached quickly. A jury consisting of one representative from each FA institution and external experts (Erber, Siemens) will assess and select the applications to ensure the transparency of the allocation of funds. The minutes of the jury meeting are signed and approved electronically, presented to FA's board of directors and decided in consultation with the BMVIT.



The allocation procedure is to be concluded within 4 weeks after decision about which projects will be funded.

Eligibility

All FA companies.

Objectives

- Strengthening FA researchers' quality and scientific expertise
- Creating long-term and subject-related international contacts and networking (evidence of continuing collaboration)
- Promoting collaboration in leading research institutions abroad that are relevant to FA institutions
- Facilitating access to new research areas, methods and procedures that are relevant to FA institutions, in order for returning colleagues to be able to provide significant R&D input into their FA institutions
- Facilitating access to new research areas, methods and procedures that are relevant to FA institutions (by temporarily including international visiting researchers in FA institutions in different legal forms, e.g. grants, contract work, temporary employment etc.)

Fundable projects / requirements

- Grants at relevant scientific establishments
- Participation in relevant projects/programmes – either FA employees working at R&D institutions/universities abroad or international researchers working at FA companies
- Undertaking relevant postgraduate training

Selection criteria

- Topics relating to interdisciplinary research foci of FA institutions will be treated preferentially
- Reasons for the benefit of the cooperation for FA institution (e.g. evidence of access to new methods or procedures, and relation to previous research activities)
- Evidence of long-term association with foreign organisation (e.g. expression of interest by partner organisation in this regard)
- Reasons for choice – in the case of FA employees, indicating connection with previous activities, presenting career plan; in the case of postgraduate study, outline of benefit for career
- Evidence of applicant's professional excellence
- Registration in the brainpower researcher database
- Projects taking into consideration the gender mainstreaming approach will be given preferential treatment
- Projects promoting life-long learning will be given preferential treatment



Duration

Min. 1 month

Max. 12 months

Funding volume for 2008 and 2009

300,000 euros (200,000 euros for the new member states and the candidate countries, 100,000 euros for the rest of the world)

Costs eligible for funding

- Personnel costs (gross salary x 1.5 x months)
- Travel costs as actually incurred (including travel costs of FA project team member to home institution of visiting scientist)
- Housing allowance of € 400/month

Amount of funding

Max. 50,000 euros

Minimum project size

5,000 euros of costs eligible for funding

Funding intensity

Max. 75% of costs eligible for funding

Submission

Three times a year at least

Decision

The minutes of the jury meeting are signed and approved electronically, presented to FA's board of directors and decided in consultation with the BMVIT. The allocation procedure is to be concluded within 4 weeks after decision about which projects will be funded.

Payment

70% of the allocated funding will be paid on account at the beginning of the project (evidence is required that work has actually started), the remainder after completion of the project upon production of evidence of costs and a brief report of the results, which also addresses the network activities with respect to brainpower austria. Registration in the brainpower database prior to commencement of the grant (see above) is obligatory.

Documents to be submitted

- Description of project for which funding is sought (incl. specification of costs and time frame)
- Description of scientific benefit with reference to the conformity of the programme and selection criteria of the call
- Relevance for organisational unit / programme line of organisational unit



FORSCHUNG AUSTRIA

Zukunft verbindet.

- CV of candidate incl. relevance to career plan in case of FA employees and connection to previous activity
- Name of person responsible / mentor in FA organisational unit
- Outline of the synergies of content as well of respective allowances if the work is planned in addition to already existing projects
- Co-financing commitment by applicant FA institution

Contact

Maria Maurer (ARC)

Tel.: 050550 – 2032