

FWF

Der Wissenschaftsfonds.

FWF funding opportunities



**FUNDING
THE WAY FORWARD**

FWF- Funding Opportunities

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The FWF's corporate policy: Objectives

The FWF is Austria's central funding organization for basic research with the following objectives:

- Strengthen Austria's international research capabilities across all disciplines
- Develop Austria's human resources for research based on the principle of research-driven education
- Promote interaction between scientists/scholars and all other areas of culture, the economy and society

Position

The FWF supports basic research ...

The FWF understands this as “*experimental or theoretical work that primarily leads to new knowledge about the fundamentals of phenomena and observable facts without aiming at a specific application or implementation.*”

... but is open for your application-oriented aspects:

Support for knowledge transfer and science/scholarly communication are an integral part of FWF’s work.

1) According to the definition in the *Frascati Manual* (<http://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/Frascati-Manual.htm>)

Key features of the FWF decision procedure

- Strictly bottom-up approach: no prescribed research topics, no quotas, no preference for specific researchers
- Multiple-party checks in all steps of procedure and decisions
- Close interaction with applicant to maximise transparency
- Independent, international peer review as the basis for quality assurance
- Text of reviews as most important basis for decisions (ratings treated as mere indicators)
- Discussion of and decisions on all projects from all disciplines during an FWF Board meeting with representatives from all disciplines

The FWF Funding Portfolio

The FWF funding portfolio



Exploring new frontiers – Funding of top-quality research

- Stand-Alone Projects
- International Programmes
- Special Research Programmes (SFBs)
- Research Groups
- START Programme**
- Wittgenstein Award
- 1000 Ideas



Cultivating talents – Development of human resources

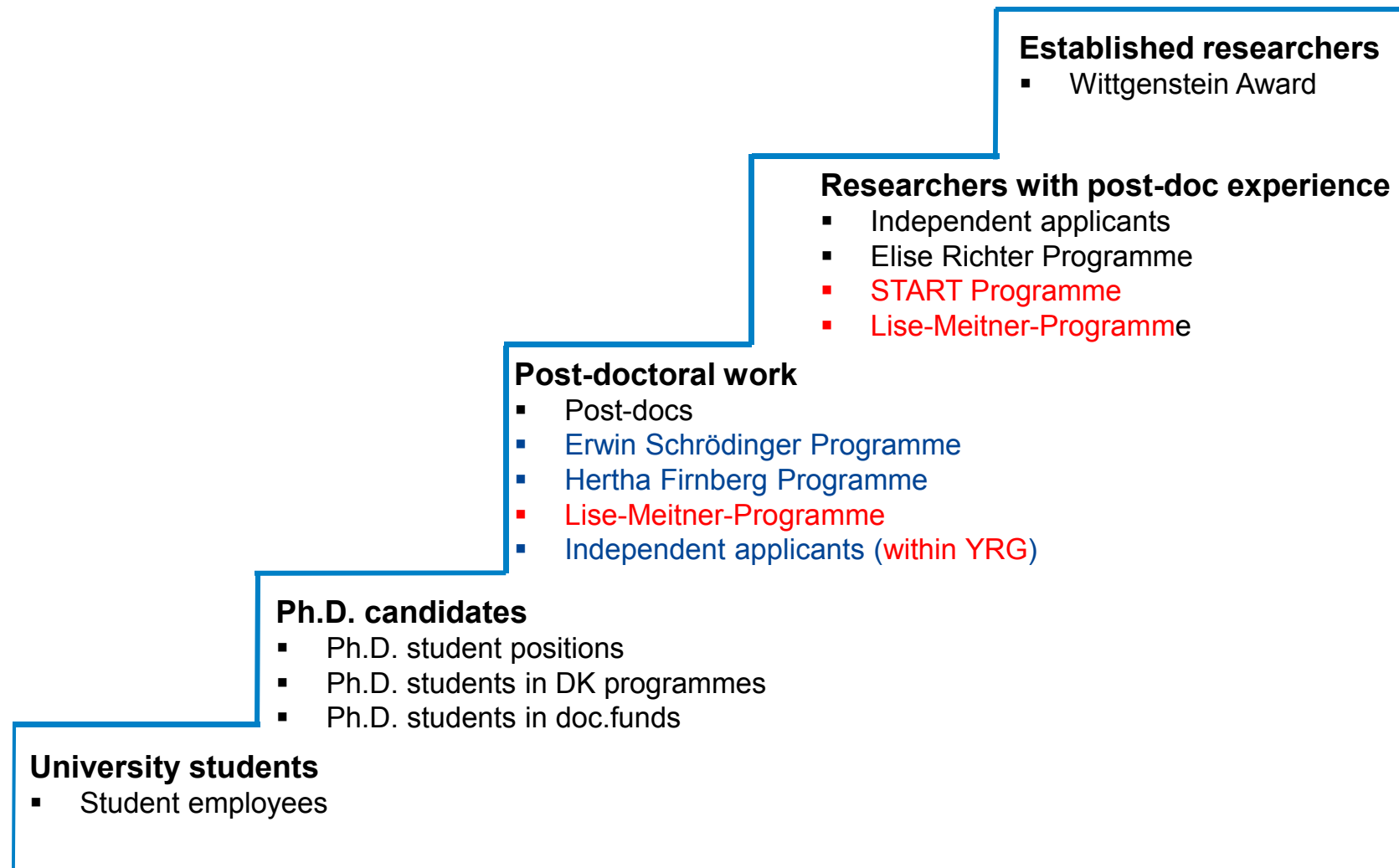
- Doc.funds
- Schrödinger Programme
- Meitner Programme**
- Firnberg Programme
- Richter Programme/Richter PEEK
- Young Independent Researcher Groups**



Realising new ideas – Interactive effects between science and society

- KLIF
- PEEK
- Support for Scientific Publications
- Science Communication Programme
- Top Citizen Science

FWF funding categories by career stage



Principle of territoriality

The applicant's **main residence has been in Austria for at least three of the past ten years** at the time when the application is submitted, and/or the applicant has been **working continuously as a researcher in Austria for at least two consecutive years** preceding the submission of the application.

Exemptions: Lise Meitner Programme, START Programme, Young Independent Researcher Groups; researchers who will be employed (at least 50%) at an Austrian research institution for the planned duration of the project

Development of Human Resources- Cultivating talents

International mobility: **Lise Meitner Programm (Incoming)**

Teamwork: **Young Independent Researcher Groups**



Lise Meitner Programme –

- **Target group**

Highly qualified scientists of any discipline from abroad (no age limit)

- Incoming: Postdocs from abroad
- Reintegration: post-doctoral researchers who have left Austria and wish to return to an Austrian research institution

- **Objectives**

- Strengthening of the quality and the scientific know-how of the Austrian scientific community
- Introduction of new scientific fields into Austria
- Creation of international contacts
- Career development

Lise Meitner Programme – Basic information

- **Submission of applications**
 - on a rolling basis
- **Approval rate**
 - Approximately 28%
- **Grant amount**
 - Postdoc or Senior postdoc salary, removal allowance, lump sum for children accompanying researcher, travel costs, project-specific costs up to €12,000 / year
- **Duration**
 - 24 months
- **Prerequisites**
 - Completion of doctorate
- **Experience in proposed field of research**
 - International publications

Young Independent Researcher Groups

▪ Target group

- An outstanding international team of young researchers in all scientific disciplines, especially in the humanities and social and cultural sciences, form a Young Independent Researcher Group at Austrian research institutions. One researcher acts as the coordinator for the Young Independent Researcher Group.

▪ Objectives

- Promotion of young postdocs (min. 1 year to max. 5 years after doctorate).
- Medium-term research cooperation (4 years) on a complex, current topic in mixed teams of at least 3 to max. 5 researchers.
- Research cooperation should be interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary on innovative subjects.
- The research question is to be deepened or newly consolidated at at least two research institutions or two organisational units of a research institution.

Young Independent Researcher Groups

Basic Information

- **Duration**
 - Maximum four years
- **Amount**
 - Maximum €2,000,000; these funds cover personnel costs for one's own position as well as colleagues (PhDs, postdocs), materials, equipment, travel, other expenses and five percent of general project costs
- **Applications**
 - English guidelines will be published Spring 2020 at the latest (deadline July 2020)
 - in English
- **Allocation**
 - International jury will discuss the individual projects either on the basis of written reviews or after discussion with individual YIRG teams
 - Once a year during the last board meeting by the FWF Board based on the recommendation of the international jury

Promotion of top-quality research

Awards and Prizes: **START Programme**



START Programme

- **Target group**
 - Young, outstanding researchers from all disciplines, no quotas

- **Individual responsibility**
 - Creation, development, and management of a working group

- **Qualification**
 - For a leading position in the science and research system in Austria or abroad

START Programme

Basic information (I)

- **Call**
 - From early July to mid-September; decision in June next year
- **Approval rates**
 - Approx. 8-12%
- **Funding**
 - Personnel and non-personnel costs (min. €800,000 to max. €1.2M)
- **Duration**
 - 72 month (3 + 3 years), interim evaluation after 3 years

START Programme

Basic information (II)

▪ Prerequisites

- Ph.D. completed (certificate received): at least 2 and at most 8 years since completion of Ph.D. as of the application deadline
- Outstanding scientific/scholarly track record, including several international publications in top journals
- Innovative research carried out in Austria or under the aegis of an Austrian research institution

Overview of the FWF's future funding portfolio (as of 2020)

Projects	Careers	Cooperations
STAND-ALONE PROJECTS Projects for all disciplines	DOC.FUNDS Promotion of structured doctoral education	YOUNG INDEPENDENT RESEARCHER GROUPS & RESEARCH GROUPS Promotion of teams from 3-5 PI
	SCHRÖDINGER FELLOWSHIPS Promoting the international mobility of young postdocs	SPECIAL RESEARCH PROGRAMMES (SFB) Promotion of teams from 5-15 PI
	EARLY STAGE POSTDOCS Promotion for postdocs at the start of their careers	
KLIF Clinical research projects	ADVANCED STAGE POSTDOCS Promotion for advanced postdocs	INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES Promotion of international research cooperations
PEEK Projects for the development and enhancement of the arts	WITTGENSTEIN AWARD Award for established top researcher	
1000 IDEAS PROGRAMME Promotion of completely new, daring or particularly original research ideas	AUSTRIA RESEARCH CHAIRS* Recruiting and promoting outstanding professors	#CONNECTINGMINDS** Pilot projects for transdisciplinary research ideas and approaches

* In discussion; depends on the financing through the Excellence Initiative of the federal government.

** Depends on the financing through the National Foundation for Research, Technology and Development.

Early Stage Programme, Planned for spring 2021

Aims

- Maximum support in the postdoc phase at the beginning of the career
- Career development: establishment of an independent research profile on the basis of an independent research project

Target group (Level R2 according to the definition of the EC):

- Highly qualified postdocs (from Austria and abroad) of all disciplines (max. 5 years after completion of their doctoral degree); especially targeted to women

Design of the programme

- Bottom-up / rolling submission / international review / decision by the FWF Board
- Duration: 3 years and project-specific funds (up to €25,000 per year)
- Structured mentoring

The FWF website: The information resource

- FWF-Website: www.fwf.ac.at
- Funding programmes overview
- Application documents
- Principles of the decision-making process
- Contact directory





Der Wissenschaftsfonds.

EXPLORING NEW FRONTIERS

CULTIVATING TALENTS

REALISING NEW IDEAS

Thank you for your attention!

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