

## FWF funding opportunities

National and European Funding Opportunities  
Conference

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## Aims

- A brief overview on some of the guiding principles of the FWF as a funding agency
- An overview of the diversity of available funding programmes
- Exemplary information on some specific FWF programmes

## The FWF's responsibilities as defined by the Mission Statement

### Promotion of

- high quality scientific research
- training and education by means of research
- science communication, science-friendly culture and knowledge transfer

## Scientific research – the FWF definition

The FWF understands **scientific research** (fundamental or basic research) to mean research that aims not to make a profit but instead to develop scientific knowledge; its value relates primarily to its importance for science.

## What are the general principles behind applications?

choice of theme	⇒	bottom up
type of research	⇒	fundamental research
eligibility	⇒	principle of territoriality (except: Lise Meitner Programme)
funding quotas	⇒	none
processing time	⇒	4-6 months (Ø 4,6 months)
language	⇒	English
deadlines	⇒	none, except for: Special Research and Doctoral Programmes, Career Development Programmes, START and Wittgenstein, Programme for Arts-based research (PEEK) (6-8 months)

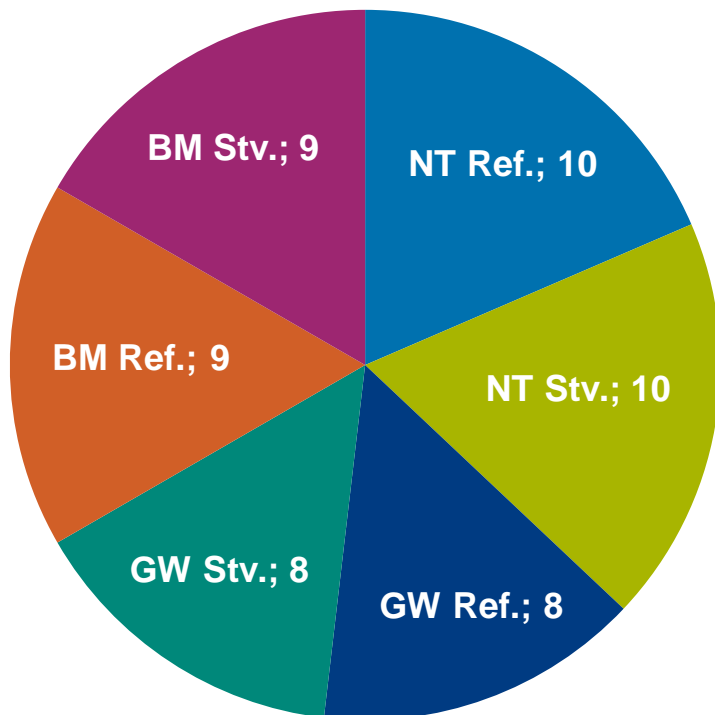
## What principles govern the review procedure?

Quality standard	⇒	international scientific community
Peer review	⇒	exclusively outside Austria (ca. 35% USA/CDN, 35% EU, 18% D/CH, 12% rest);
FWF Reporters	⇒	nomination of referees
FWF Executive Board	⇒	request for reviews
Number of reviews	⇒	at least 2 (according to requested funding)
Meetings	⇒	5 times/year
Decisions	⇒	Executive Board based on the reviews
Justification	⇒	excerpts from the reviews
ex post evaluation	⇒	peer review of the final reports

## The „core“ of the FWF funding machine

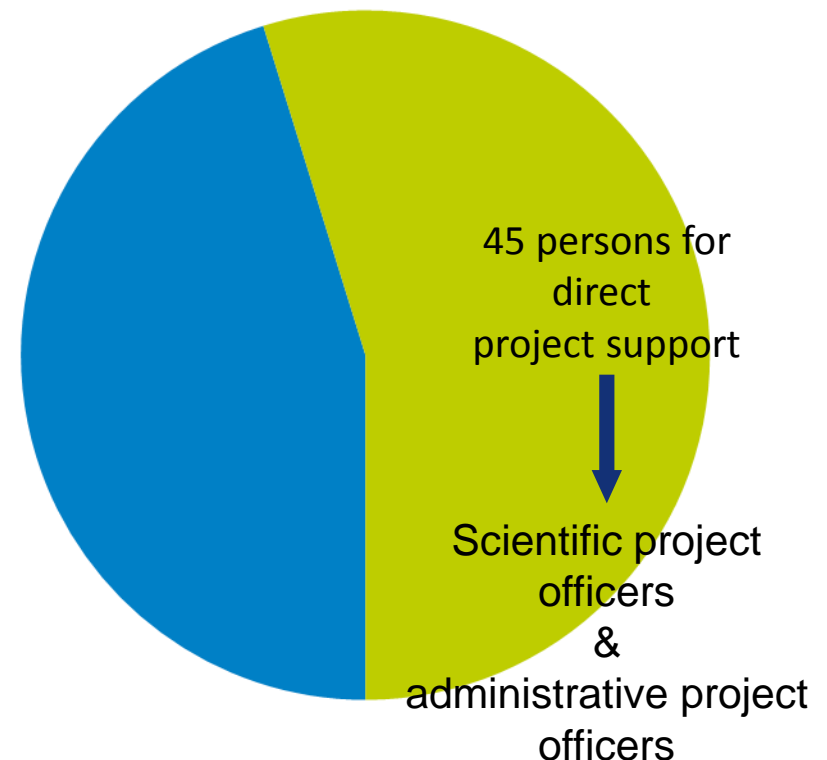
### FWF Decision Board

27 reporters (Univ.Prof.),  
27 alternates (Univ.Prof.)



### FWF Office

89 members of staff



## The FWF Funding Programmes



### EXPLORING NEW FRONTIERS – FUNDING OF TOP-QUALITY RESEARCH

Stand-alone Projects  
International Programmes  
Special Research Programmes  
**START Programme**  
Wittgenstein Award



### CULTIVATING TALENTS - DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Doctoral Programmes  
Schrödinger Programme  
**Meitner Programme**  
Firnberg Programme  
Richter Programme



### REALIZING IDEAS – ENHANCEMENT OF THE INTERACTIVE EFFECTS OF SCIENCE WITH SOCIETY

KLIF  
PEEK  
Support for Scientific Publications and for Science Communication



## FWF-Funding categories according to career levels

For experienced researchers

- Wittgenstein Award

With post-doctoral experience

- Independent proposal of stand-alone project
- Elise Richter Programme
- START Programme

Post-doctoral level

- Postdoc within FWF project
- Erwin Schrödinger Programme
- Hertha Firnberg Programme
- Independent proposal of stand-alone project

Graduate level

- Doctoral candidates in FWF projects
- Doctoral candidates in FWF Doctoral Programme

Undergraduate level

- Student collaboration
- Composition of thesis

## Mobility - Career Stage (Young) Postdocs

### Lise Meitner Programme – incoming

- (12-24 months)
  
- **Target group**
  - highly qualified scientists of any discipline
  - non resident in Austria
  - no age limit
  
- **Aims**
  - strengthening of the quality and the scientific know-how of the Austrian scientific community
  - creation of international contacts

## Lise Meitner Programme

### ▪ Requirements

- completed doctoral studies
- experience in the field of the planned research project
- must be active in their fields (publication record in international peer-reviewed journals; depends on discipline)
- no age limit: track record must correlate with academic CV (time spent raising children and on non-typical career paths will be taken into account)
- reverse principle of territoriality: non resident in Austria for 3 years during the past 10 years

### ▪ Programme specific

- co-applicant at the Austrian host research institution (= host); letter of recommendation; justification for selecting the applicant (“What kind of additional or new input can be expected?”)

## Lise-Meitner-Programme

- **application:** on rolling basis, no deadlines
- **success rate:** ca. 30%
- **funding:** contract of employment postdoc (€ 60.610 p.a ) or senior postdoc (€ 66.680 p.a.), removal allowance (€ 2.200), children allowance (€ 1.500 p.a./child), lump sum travel subsidies (€ up to € 1.350 depending on distance), additional money up to € 10.000 p.a.
- **duration:** 12 – 24 months

## Top-quality Research

### START Programme (incoming or domestic)

- (6 years)
  
- **Target group**
  - outstanding young researchers of any discipline
  
- **Aims**
  - creation or expansion of independent research groups
  - financial security for a period of six years
  - qualification for leading scientific positions in Austria or abroad

## START-Programme

- **Requirements**

- PhD or MD between 2 and 10 years after doctorate, will be shortened step-by-step to 2 and 8 years, time spent raising children will be taken into account
- project must be carried out in Austria
- outstanding track record, international top publications
- prove of scientific independence and availability to perform research for the entire project duration
- research stay abroad
- no full professorship
- letter of recommendation by department head or group leader

## START-Programme

- **call** ⇒ end of July – end of September/beginning of October
- **success rate**: ca. 10 – 15 %
- **decision**: based on at least 4 written reviews, suggestion by FWF board (May), **international jury** (June)
- **„short list“** ⇒ list proposed by FWF board ⇒ final selection of candidates for hearing by international jury
- **hearing** ⇒ first day of meeting of international jury
- **selection awardees** ⇒ second day of meeting
- **parallel submission** ⇒ ERC StG bzw. ERC CoG
- **funding**: € 800.000 (min.) – 1.200.000 (max.), personnel and other project specific costs (for entire period), no personnel costs for project leaders (except for independent scientists: senior postdoc)
- **duration**: 6 years (interim evaluation after 3 years)

## Mobility and Women's Programmes (for Meitner)

### Administrative and operative project support:

Reinhard Schmidt: +43-1-5056740-8504 (reinhard.schmidt@fwf.ac.at)

Robert Gass: +43-1-5056740-8502 (robert.gass@fwf.ac.at)

Susanne Woytacek: +43-1-5056740-8505 (susanne.woytacek@fwf.ac.at)

Alexander Hanisch: +43-1-5056740-8506 (alexander.hanisch@fwf.ac.at)

### Programme management/scientific project support:

Lidia Eva Wysocki : +43-1-5056740-8503 (LidiaEva.Wysocki@fwf.ac.at)

Barbara Zimmermann: +43-1-5056740-8501 (barbara.zimmermann@fwf.ac.at)

## START Programme

### Programme management:

Mario Mandl: +43-1-5056740- 8605 (mario.mandl@fwf.ac.at)



**Thank you for your attention!**

**NEUES ENTDECKEN**

**TALENTE FÖRDERN**

**IDEEN UMSETZEN**

**WIR STÄRKEN  
DIE WISSENSCHAFTEN  
IN ÖSTERREICH.**