FWF funding opportunities

National and European Funding Opportunities
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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?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Choice of Theme</th>
<th>Bottom up</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type of Research</td>
<td>Fundamental research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eligibility</td>
<td>Principle of territoriality (except: Lise Meitner Programme)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding Quotas</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processing Time</td>
<td>4-6 months ((4,6) months)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deadlines</td>
<td>None, except for: Special Research and Doctoral Programmes, Career Development Programmes, START and Wittgenstein, Programme for Arts-based research (PEEK) (6-8 months)</td>
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### What principles govern the review procedure?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principle</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quality standard</td>
<td>international scientific community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer review</td>
<td>exclusively outside Austria (ca. 35% USA/CDN, 35% EU, 18% D/CH, 12% rest)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FWF Reporters</td>
<td>nomination of referees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FWF Executive Board</td>
<td>request for reviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of reviews</td>
<td>at least 2 (according to requested funding)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meetings</td>
<td>5 times/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decisions</td>
<td>Executive Board based on the reviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justification</td>
<td>excerpts from the reviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ex post evaluation</td>
<td>peer review of the final reports</td>
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The „core“ of the FWF funding machine

FWF Decision Board
27 reporters (Univ.Prof.),
27 alternates (Univ.Prof.)

FWF Office
89 members of staff

45 persons for direct project support
Scientific project officers & administrative project officers
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

Undergraduate level
- Student collaboration
- Composition of thesis

Graduate level
- Doctoral candidates in FWF projects
- Doctoral candidates in FWF Doctoral Programme

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

With post-doctoral experience
- Independent proposal of stand-alone project
- Elise Richter Programme
- START Programme

For experienced researchers
- Wittgenstein Award
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:

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START Programme

Programme management:

Mario Mandl: +43-1-5056740- 8605 (mario.mandl@fwf.ac.at)
Thank you for your attention!
Wir stärken die Wissenschaften in Österreich.

Neues entdecken
Talente fördern
Ideen umsetzen