

National eligibility Austrian participation in HERA JRP's (FWF)

Note that the Austrian participation must fit within the limitations of a HERA JRP Collaborative project. Each HERA JRP collaborative research project:

- a) must be collaborative (involve at least 3 countries);
- b) may include any type of researcher (senior, post-doc, PhD) that is in accordance with national eligibility, but the type of the researcher must be justified;
- c) may not exceed the maximum budget size of 1 M€, the size of the national eligible cost in that will be determined by the national research councils, and salaries will be calculated according to national regulations;
- d) have a maximum length of three years;
- d) must be carried out by a balanced consortium, but distribution of funding over countries may be uneven;
- e) may involve research, researcher training, travel, knowledge transfer and knowledge dissemination.

National eligibility as to who may apply and what costs are eligible, must be checked with the HERA contact person at FWF before a consortium submits the complete HERA JRP pre-proposal to the HERA JRP electronic proposal submission system hosted by ESF.

If a consortium is invited to submit a full HERA JRP proposal, each of the National PIs has to deliver a commitment letter from the appropriate authorities of their university/research institution.

Who can apply?

Any scholar working in Austria who has the necessary qualifications, the required infrastructure and sufficient free capacity to carry out in full the project for which support is requested, may participate in a HERA JRP CRP consortium as Project Leader (PL) or as Principle Investigator (PI).

"Independent scholars" (Selbstantragsteller) are also allowed to apply within a HERA JRP CRP.

Applications may only be submitted by single natural persons. Applications from institutes, institutions or companies are not permitted.

Non-academic partners may be part of a HERA JRP consortium associated partner but cannot function as formal project leader (PL) or principle investigator (PI).

Project Leader (PL): The Project Leader (PL) must be a senior researcher responsible for carrying out the CRP. S/he will be the contact point for the HERA JRP Handling Agency and is responsible for communication with the other Principal Investigators of his/her CRP. In addition, the PL is responsible for leading project activities at his/her own institute and for representing the Collaborative Research Project (CRP) as a whole.

The PL is also responsible for the administrative and financial management of the complete CRP, i.e. if a CRP is granted, the HERA JRP Handling Agency will transfer the full CRP budget to the PL, who will be responsible for distributing funding to the CRP consortium partners.

Finally, the PL is responsible for the intellectual agenda and coherence as well all reporting duties pertaining to the CRP funded within the context of the HERA JRP.

The PL can participate as a PL only in one proposal and only under one of the two themes of the HERA JRP.

Principal Investigator (PI): Each Principal Investigator (PI) is responsible for leading project activities at his/her institute. The PI status is not limited to researchers at any specific career stage. There may be more than one PI per eligible country per CRP, but only one per university/research institution.

PIs are responsible for providing the PL with the required information and financial data in order for the PL to be able to fulfil his/her reporting obligations.

PIs are allowed to be involved in more than one proposal under the following specific conditions:

- the PI needs to inform his/her PLs about the CRP proposals (s)he is involved in;
- the total number of hours the PI participates in the submitted CRP proposal(s) must be lower than the number of hours (s)he is employed by his/her university/research institution.

What types of funding are eligible for Austrian researchers?

Only project specific costs may be requested, i.e. personnel and non-personnel costs that are essential to carry out the project and that go beyond the resources made available from the research institution's so-called "infrastructure".

With the exception of projects submitted by "independent scholars", no personnel costs may be requested for PL and / or PI.

It should be noted that the length of service of scientific co-workers may not exceed six years, irrespective of the extent (full- or part-time) of the contracts held. Applicants who are "independent scholars" are not subject of this restriction.

Please note that provisions for inflation have to be taken into account when applying for personnel; FWF will NOT reimburse the annual increase to the approved personnel costs due to inflation.

- Eligible personnel costs: (maximum project duration 3 years)
 - Contracts of employment (Dienstvertrag) for full- or part-time employees (Post-doc positions, PhD-student positions) according to the current FWF salary scheme including provisions for inflation. It is not permitted to apply for PhD-student positions where the extent of employment exceeds 75% (which corresponds to 30 hours per week).
 - Reimbursement for work on a hourly basis (Geringfügig Beschäftigte).
 - Scholarships (Forschungsbeihilfe) only for people who have not yet completed a Diploma in a relevant subject.
- Eligible material costs are e.g.:
 - At CRP level (will be administrated by the PL)
 - Travel & accommodation & meeting costs
 - Costs for knowledge transfer
 - All joint publication costs (incl. editing and translation costs)
 - At national PI level, the following costs are eligible
 - equipment costs, material costs, travel costs, other costs, contracts for work and services.
- Eligible general costs:

An amount for smaller, unforeseen costs necessary for the project, such as repairs, student assistance etc. are to be calculated as 5% of the total funding requested. No justification for general costs has to be included in the written project description.
- Eligible overhead costs:

A contribution to the indirect cost of the research institution amounting to 20% of all other cost categories is eligible.

Non-permissible costs:

FWF does not finance infrastructure of basic equipment at research institutions. This category includes all facilities that are required for the normal operations of the research institution (such as buildings, installations, communication facilities, scientific equipment considered as infrastructure and so on).

At the Full Proposal stage all Austrian PLs and PIs must again contact FWF. Furthermore each Austrian PL and /or PI must submit a formal commitment letter signed by the proper authorities of the host institute(s) to both FWF and the HERA JRP Handling Agency which states:

- Title of the HERA collaborative research proposal;
- Confirmation of approval with the proposed research and the regulations concerned with the execution of the research by the competent authorities of the university/research institution in which the research will mainly be carried out;
- The proposed budget will be examined by FWF.
- Signature of the main-applicant, the director of the university or research institute involved, date, place and full names.