

Austrian Science Fund (FWF) –  
Fonds National de la Recherche Luxembourg (FNR)

# CALL FOR PROPOSALS

## Joint Projects

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### 1. Introduction

The *Austrian Science Fund (FWF)* and the *Fonds National de la Recherche Luxembourg (FNR)* jointly offer the possibility to apply for bilateral Luxembourg-Austrian Joint Research Projects. Joint Research Projects should combine the **complementary expertise** of the project partners. The project parts should be **closely integrated** and there should be substantial **scientific input** from both sides.

## 1.1. Thematic scope

The call is open to **all areas of scientific research**, including clinical research.

## 1.2. Project duration

Joint Projects submitted to the call between FNR and FWF can have a maximum duration of **three years**.

## 2. Lead Agency Procedure

Applications will be dealt with following the **Lead Agency Principle**. This means that the joint proposal has to be submitted to **only one** of the two funding organizations. This funding organization in the sequel acts as the Lead Agency and **carries out the international peer-review process**. The Lead Agency will make a **funding suggestion** which is presented to the partner funding organization. The partner funding organization will take its funding decision on the basis of the recommendation of the Lead Agency as well as on the basis of the reviews obtained by the Lead Agency. Typically, the partner funding organization follows the recommendation of the Lead Agency. If approved, the two project parts will be **financed separately** by FWF and FNR respectively

Applications will be dealt with following the **Lead Agency Principle**. The application must be prepared **in accordance with the formal guidelines of the Lead Agency**. The Lead Agency is in charge of carrying out the peer review procedure. Applications will be processed by the Lead Agency according to its standard evaluation and decision making procedures. No earmarked budget is foreseen for this call by FWF and FNR. Projects can have a **maximum duration of three years**. In addition, applicants have to send the **application forms** to the second funding agency involved (for details cf. below). **All fields of basic research** are eligible.

### 2.1. Defining the Lead Agency

In order to clarify which of the two funding agencies will act as the Lead Agency, applicants need to calculate the **person months** of the two project parts beforehand. This calculation must include both personnel that is funded by FNR or FWF *as well as other personnel* contributing to the project. The application/project description must be submitted **only** to the research funding organization that is in charge for **financing the larger project part in terms of person months**. This research funding organization in the sequel acts as the Lead Agency (for details see below).

### 2.2. Cost calculation

The two project parts will be **funded separately** by FNR and FWF respectively. Thus, the costs for the Austrian project part must be calculated in accordance with the [FWF guidelines](#)

for stand-alone projects/Einzelprojekte or, in the case of clinical research, in accordance with the guidelines for the programme for clinical research (KLIF). For the Luxembourgish project part, the FNR cost guidelines apply.

### 3. Deadlines

If FWF acts as the Lead Agency, proposals can be submitted **any time**. There is no deadline.

If FNR acts as Lead Agency, proposals must be submitted to the **annual CORE call**. For details cf. the [FNR website](#).

## 4. How to submit a proposal

### 4.1. FWF acts as Lead Agency

#### 4.1.1. Formal requirements at FWF

Proposals submitted to FWF as Lead Agency must follow the [FWF guidelines for stand-alone projects](#) (for proposals in the area of clinical research see 4.1.1.1). The project description must encompass the entire project, including the Luxembourgish project part.

Proposals submitted to FWF **must include additional information on:**

- **Table** including the **distribution of person months** between the Luxemburg and the Austrian partners (*also including personnel that is not financed by FNR or FWF*)
- The **distribution of work** between the partners
- The **added value** of the cooperation
- **Separate budget justifications** for the Austrian and the Luxembourgish project part, divided by country (both for personnel and non-personnel costs)

The 20 page limit applies.

Proposals can be **online** via <https://elane.fwf.ac.at> (programme category “**I – International Programmes**”).

#### 4.1.1.1. Clinical Research

For proposals in the area of clinical research, the [guidelines of the FWF programme for Clinical Research](#) (KLIF) apply. The Austrian applicant must submit a positive opinion from the relevant **ethics commission** or evidence of a fundamental approval/endorsement by that commission. The document must be sent to FWF together with the other submission documents. The partner in Luxembourg must follow the rules of FNR.

#### 4.1.2. Requirements for Applicants at FNR

Applicants at FNR must submit a **copy of the proposal** that is submitted to FWF together with the FNR **INTER documents** directly to FNR. For more details, please consult the FNR website.

### 4.2. FNR acts as Lead Agency

#### 4.2.1. Formal requirements at FNR

Proposals submitted to FNR must follow the FNR CORE guidelines.

- **Table** including the **distribution of person months** between the partners in Luxembourg and Austria (*also including personnel that is not financed by FNR or FWF*)
- **separate budget justifications** for the Austrian and the Luxembourg part (both for personnel and non-personnel costs)
- The **distribution of work** between the partners
- The **added value** of the co-operation

#### 4.2.2. Requirements for Applicants at FWF

For Austrian applicants the **eligibility criteria** as well as the **cost guidelines** for **“stand-alone projects”** (**“Einzelprojekte”**) or **Clinical Research (KLIF)** apply.

**Austrian applicants** must submit their **administrative and financial data** as well as **abstracts** in accordance with the FWF **guidelines for stand-alone projects online**, using the Elane system (<https://elane.fwf.ac.at>; programme category **“I – International Programmes”**).

##### 4.2.2.1. Clinical Research

For proposals in the area of clinical research, the **guidelines of the FWF programme for Clinical Research (KLIF)** apply with regard to the eligibility criteria as well as the cost guidelines. The Austrian applicant must submit a positive opinion from the relevant ethics commission or evidence of a fundamental approval/endorsement by that commission **at the latest four months after the submission** of the project proposal. The document must be sent to FWF together with the documents listed in 4.2.2. The partner in Luxembourg must follow the rules of FNR.

## 5. Contacts

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