



Austrian Science Fund (FWF)– National Research, Development and Innovation Office (NKFIH) 2021 CALL FOR PROPOSALS Joint Projects

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1. Introduction

The *Austrian Science Fund (FWF)* and the *National Research, Development and Innovation Office (NKFIH)* of Hungary jointly offer the possibility to apply for **bilateral Austrian-Hungarian Joint Research Projects**. The project parts in Austria and Hungary should be

closely integrated and combine complementary expertise such that one part could not be carried out without the other, and there should be substantial scientific/scholarly input from both sides.

2. Call procedure

Project applications must be submitted **in parallel** to FWF (Austrian team) and to NKFIH (Hungarian team) **in accordance with each agency's application guidelines**. Applications will be processed independently by both organisations according to their standard evaluation and decision-making procedures. In cases where a joint project is approved, the two parts of the project are funded separately by FWF and NKFIH.

Applications to FWF must include a **letter of intent** (letter or e-mail) in which the project partner confirms his/her intention to submit a matching parallel application to NKFIH.

3. Deadline

Proposals for joint projects must be submitted at the same time to FWF and NKFIH no later than **18 March 2021 (FWF: date of postmark)** with due attention to the requirements of both partners.

Note: for proposals in the area of clinical research, 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.

4. Subject areas

The call is open to all fields of basic research, including clinical research.¹

5. Project duration

Joint projects submitted in response to the FWF/NKFIH call may have a maximum duration **of 4 years**. The proposed project duration of both project parts must be identical.

¹ For the distinction between basic research and clinical research (KLIF programme), please see <http://www.fwf.ac.at/en/research-funding/fwf-programmes/programme-clinical-research-klif/>

6. Proposal preparation

To apply for a joint project, parallel applications to NKFIH and FWF are required in accordance with the guidelines specified by NKFIH and FWF.

The Austrian team must prepare their proposal in accordance with the [FWF Application Guidelines for Stand-Alone Projects](#) or, in case of clinical research proposals, those of the [clinical research programme](#). The project description must encompass **the entire Austrian-Hungarian project** in which the connection between the two project parts and the resources to be deployed on each side should be clearly described.

The **project description** (no more than 20 pages) submitted to FWF must include additional information on:

- The **distribution of work** between the partners
- The **added value** of the cooperation

In order to be considered complete, the application on the Austrian side must include:

- All of the necessary **administrative and financial data and forms** as well as an **academic abstract in English, annexes 1–4** which must be attached to the **project description (proposal.pdf)**, and other **attachments** to be uploaded individually (in accordance with FWF guidelines)
- The **CV and publication list of the applicant in Hungary** (in accordance with FWF guidelines)
- The **PDF cover sheet**, which has to be filled out, signed, stamped, and sent to FWF by conventional mail or as an e-mail attachment (PDF file with a qualified electronic signature). The application is not officially considered to be “submitted” until FWF receives the cover sheet

The NKFIH documentation and guidelines for the call can be downloaded [here](#).

6.1 Cost calculation

The two project parts will be funded separately by FWF and NKFIH respectively. Thus, the costs for the Austrian project part must be calculated in accordance with the [FWF Application Guidelines for Stand-Alone Projects](#) or, in case of clinical research proposals, those of the [clinical research programme](#). Only project-specific costs (including general costs) can be requested from FWF. For the Hungarian project part, the NKFIH cost guidelines apply.

6.2 How to submit a proposal

Joint proposals must be submitted to FWF and NKFIH with due attention to the regulations and call deadlines of each partner. The titles of the two applications must be **identical**. Applications submitted by one side only will not be accepted.

Applications to FWF must be submitted online at <https://elane.fwf.ac.at> by **18 March 2021 at the latest**. When submitting the application, applicants must choose the “**I – International Projects**” programme.

Please note that the [signed PDF cover sheet](#) which is generated **at the end** of the online submission process must be **submitted to FWF by 18 March 2021 at the latest** (see also Section 2.2.3. of the [FWF Application Guidelines for Stand-Alone Projects](#)) or, in case of clinical research proposals, Section 2.2.3 of the [clinical research programme](#). An online submission submitted by the deadline but without a signed cover sheet will not be processed. Please note that the cover sheet must bear the original signatures of the applicant and a representative of the host institution.

After submission, applicants to FWF are required to rectify any errors in their applications within 10 days after being notified of the errors by the FWF office. Please note that the FWF policy on the restriction of the number of ongoing projects and the submission of funding applications applies (see [here](#)).

The NKFIH regulations for the submission of applications can be found [here](#).

7. Evaluation and funding decisions

FWF and NKFIH evaluate the applications independently and take their funding decisions separately on the basis of the reviews received. At FWF, joint projects in cooperation with partner organisations abroad will be reviewed in competition with all other (national) proposals. A joint project can be funded only if it is approved by both funding organisations.

It is expected that the results of this call will be available **by the end of October 2021**.

8. Contact details

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