WE STRENGTHEN SCIENCE AND THE HUMANITIES IN AUSTRIA.

FWF Programmes
Contents

- Overview of FWF funding portfolio
- Information on specific programmes

Objectives

- Key Points of different programmes
- What are the particular aspects to pay attention to
- Identification of the appropriate programme

The FWF funding portfolio

Exploring new frontiers – Funding of top-quality research
- Stand-Alone Projects
- International Programmes
- Special Research Programmes (SFBs)
- START Programme
- Wittgenstein Award

Cultivating talents – Development of human resources
- Doctoral Programmes (DK)
- Schrödinger Programme
- Meitner Programme
- Firnberg Programme
- Richter Programme

Realising new ideas – Interactive effects between science and society
- KLIF
- PEEK
- Support for Scientific Publications
- Science Communication Programme
-
FWF funding categories by career stage

For established researchers
- Wittgenstein Award

With postdoc experience
- FWF-Fellow (Independent applicant)
- Elise Richter Programme
- START Programme

Postdoctoral work
- Postdocs
- Erwin Schrödinger Programme
- Hertha Firnberg Programme
- FWF-Fellow (Independent applicant)

During Ph.D. studies
- Ph.D. student positions
- Ph.D. students in DK programmes

During university studies
- Student employees

Promotion of top-quality research

- Stand-Alone Projects
Stand-Alone Projects – Basic information (1)

- **Programme**
  Research projects limited to 3 years' duration with Ø 100,000 € per year (generally 1 Postdoc + 1 Ph.D. candidate + 10-15% other costs)
- **Submission** on a rolling basis
- **Project leaders:**
  - if employed at an Austrian research institution: international publications corresponding to the career stage
  - **FWF fellows** ("independent applicants"): Personnel costs for project leader are financed from the project budget. Prerequisite: Fulfilment of **territoriality principle**, that is, the applicant's main residence must have been in Austria for at least 3 of the last 10 years, or the applicant must have been working in science in Austria for at least 2 consecutive years prior to submitting the application.

Stand-Alone Projects – Basic information (2)

- **Salaries:**
  - **FWF Fellow** / "independent applicant": Postdoc or Senior Postdoc salary
  - **Project employees:**
    Postdoc, PhD student, student employee, BMA, CTA, TF
- **Number of reviews:** at least 2 reviews up to €350,000, progressive increases above that level
- **Processing time** → 3 to 6 months, Ø 4.3 months
Content of project descriptions

- Quality of the project
  - Position/value in international research landscape
  - Innovative aspects
  - Significance of expected results
  - Clarity of research goals (hypotheses)
  - Appropriateness of the methods chosen (including work/time planning and planned dissemination strategies)
  - Quality of cooperation arrangements (national and international)

- Quality of human resources
  - Scientific quality / potential of the scientists involved and significance of project for their career development

- Broader implications
  - Impact on other disciplines or applications

- Financial aspects
  - Information on the research institution and the funding requested

FWF evaluation form – Stand-alone Projects

I. Evaluation of particular aspects of the proposal*

| Importance to the international scientific community in the field(s) concerned | □ |
| Extent to which the project could break new ground scientifically (innovative aspects) | □ |
| Importance of the expected results for the discipline (based on the project described) | □ |
| Clarity of the goals (hypotheses and research questions) | □ |
| Appropriateness of the methods (work plan, time plan, dissemination strategy) | □ |
| Scientific quality / potential of the applicant | □ |
| Quality of the cooperations (both national and international) | □ |
| Appropriateness of the financial planning | □ |

*1 indicates excellent; 2 – very good; 3 – good; 4 – average; and 5 – poor

II. Overall evaluation of the proposed research

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Very good</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recommendation: Acceptance □ Rejection □
Notes on the FWF evaluation form (1)

Overall rating of research project

Explanation of scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Quality</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100-95</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>In light of the scholar's academic age, the application is among the top 5% in the discipline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-80</td>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>Top 20%; minor improvements suggested</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75-60</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Substantial changes recommended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-35</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>Fundamental revision required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-10</td>
<td>Inadequate</td>
<td>The proposed research project is not competitive at the international level.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes on the FWF evaluation form (2)

Standardised reasons for rejection in decision letters

1. The FWF Board considered the application worthy of funding but could not approve the grant due to the budgetary situation and competition among applicants. If the project is resubmitted, its strengths should be emphasised even further.

2. The FWF Board considered the application worthy of funding but could not approve the grant due to the budgetary situation and competition among applicants. If the project is resubmitted, its strengths should be emphasised even further, and the suggestions and criticism provided by the reviewers should be taken into account.

3. The application was rejected by the FWF Board. If the project is resubmitted, the suggestions and criticism provided by the reviewers should be taken into account in a thorough revision of the application.

4. The application was rejected by the FWF Board. In the FWF Board's opinion, the criticism voiced in the peer reviews is so severe that the applicant is advised not to resubmit the project.
Promotion of top-quality research

- Awards and Prizes: START Programme

START Programme – Objectives

- **Target group**: Young, outstanding researchers of all disciplines, no quotas
- **Individual responsibility**: Creation/development and management of a working group
- **Qualification**: For a leading position in the science and research system in Austria or abroad
START-Programme – Basic information (1)

- **Call**: from early July to mid of September, Decision: in June next year
- **Approval rates**: ca. 8 – 12 %
- **Funding**: personnel and non-personnel costs (min 800,000 € to max 1.2 Mio. €)
- **Duration**: 72 month (3 + 3 years), interim evaluation after 3 years

START-Programme – Basic information (2)

- **Prerequisites**
  - Ph.D. completed (certificate received): at least 2 to a maximum of 8 years since completion of Ph.D. as of the application deadline
  - Outstanding scientific/scholarly track record, including several international publications in top journals
  - Innovative research carried out in Austria or under responsibility of an Austrian research institution
START-Programme

- Programme-specific requirements
  - Parts of territoriality principle are cancelled ("incoming programme")
  - Parallel submission: ERC StG or ERC CoG
  - Parts may be submitted as Stand-Alone, Clinical, International, Elise Richter or Lise Meitner proposals
  - Decision: international jury (renown scientists form outside of Austria, [www.fwf.ac.at/de/portrait/jury.html](http://www.fwf.ac.at/de/portrait/jury.html))

- Criteria for formal requirements
  - Letter of recommendation: from head of institution or group leader at relevant institution
  - No changes after submission of the application
  - Amount requested min 0.8 to max 1.2 Mio € for 6 years
4. Final recommendation (please mark by a cross)

Acceptance  Rejection
Promotion of top-quality research

- International Programmes

International Programmes

- Target group
  - Scientists from all scientific disciplines in Austria

- Aim
  - Funding of closely integrated, bi- or multilateral cooperative projects (partly thematically focused calls)
International Programmes – Programme types

- **Joint Projects & Joint Seminars**
  parallel proposals submitted to FWF and to the international partner organisation (in accordance with national rules)

- **Joint Projects - Lead Agency procedure**
  one joint proposal submitted to Lead Agency only (either FWF or intl. partner organisation) in accordance with its rules

- **ERA-Net Calls**
  joint proposals for multilateral projects, to be submitted to the respective call secretariat in accordance with the rules of the respective call

---

**Programme-Management**

*Strategy Departement for Internationale*

- **Joint Projects - Lead Agency Procedure, Joint Seminars**
  Christoph Bärenreuter: 01 – 5056740-8702

  **ERA-Net - Coordination**
  Reinhard Belocky: 01 – 5056740-8701

- **Joint Projects**
  Beatrice Lawal: 01 – 5056740-8703

**Project Officer**

*Administrative, Operational and Scientific Project Officer*

see [http://www.fwf.ac.at/en/contact/index-fach.html](http://www.fwf.ac.at/en/contact/index-fach.html)
Development of Human Resources

- International mobility: Erwin-Schrödinger-Programm

Erwin Schrödinger Programme – Objectives

- Target group
  - Young, highly qualified postdocs from all disciplines (no age limit)

- Objective
  - To enable scientists/researchers to work at leading research facilities abroad and to acquire international experience in the postdoc phase
  - To explore new scientific/scholarly approaches for Austrian science and research
Erwin Schrödinger Programme – Basic information (I)

- **Submission of applications**: on a rolling basis
- **Approval rate**: Approximately 50% (highest approval rate at FWF)
- **Grant amount**: 32,000 – 42,600 € / year (tax-exempt); travel costs (up to 1,800 € depending on destination); lump sum for children accompanying researcher (up to 3,600 € / year); conference attendance (up to 1,800 € / year); pension insurance contributions
- **Return phase** in Austria with senior postdoc salary plus 10,000 € / year in project-specific costs
- **Duration**: 10 to 24 months (abroad) + 6 to 12 months (return phase)

Erwin Schrödinger Programme – Basic information (II)

- **Prerequisites**
  - Completion of doctorate (for degree programmes in medicine in Austria, only certain curricula are eligible: N, O, Q 201; N, Q 094; N, O 790 or N 090)
  - Experience in proposed field of research
  - International publications
- **Programme-specific requirements**
  - Reasons for selecting the research institution abroad + invitation
  - Recommendation of Austrian research institution and information about opportunities upon return / requested return phase
  - Explanation of how the know-how gained through the fellowship can be used later in Austria
Erwin Schrödinger Programme

- Criteria for project descriptions
  - Ethical issues
  - Reason for selection of research institution abroad
  - Information on return phase; implementation of know-how in Austria

- Criteria for formal requirements
  - Declaration from host institution
  - Declaration regarding ethics (with questionnaire)
  - Invitation of research institution abroad
  - Affirmation of the research institution (return phase)

FWF evaluation form „Schrödinger“

I. Evaluation of particular aspects of the proposal*

| Importance to the international scientific/scholarly community in the field(s) concerned |  
| Clarity of the goals (hypotheses or research questions) |  
| Appropriateness of methods (including work/time plan, dissemination strategies) |  
| Appropriateness of the chosen host institution |  
| Scientific/Scholarly qualifications and potential of the applicant |  
| Expected importance of the project for the career development of the applicant |  

*1 indicates excellent; 2 – very good; 3 – good; 4 – average; and 5 – poor

II. Overall evaluation of the proposed research

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Very good</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Poor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>75</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>60</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>45</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recommendation: Acceptance ☐ Rejection ☐
Development of Human Resources

- International mobility: Lise Meitner Programm (Incoming)

Lise Meitner Programme – Objectives

- **Target group**
  - Highly qualified scientists of any discipline from abroad (no age limit)

- **Objective**
  - Strengthening of the quality and the scientific know-how of the Austrian scientific community
  - Introduction of new scientific fields into Austria
  - Creation of international contacts
Lise Meitner Programme – Basic information (I)

- **Submission of applications**: on a rolling basis
- **Approval rate**: Approximately 30%
- **Grant amount**: Postdoc or Senior postdoc salary, removal allowance, lump sum for children accompanying researcher, travel costs, project-specific costs up to 10,000 € / year
- **Duration**: 12 – 24 months

Lise Meitner Programme – Basic information (II)

- **Prerequisites**
  - Completion of doctorate
  - Experience in proposed field of research
  - International publications
  - “Inverse” principle of territoriality (= must have been based in Austria for less than 3 years of the last 10 years, or less than 2 consecutive years prior to submitting the application)
- **Programme-specific requirements**
  - Co-applicant at the Austrian research institution (= host)
  - Justification for selecting the applicant (“What kind of additional or new input can be expected by the applicant?”)
Lise Meitner Programme

- **Criteria for project descriptions**
  - Innovative aspects, with particular reference to the potential input for the Austrian host institute
  - Ethical issues
  - Reason for selection of the Austrian research institution

- **Criteria for formal requirements**
  - Application forms: Declaration regarding ethics
  - Academic CV (no more than 3 pages) of applicant and co-applicant
  - Recommendation from the Austrian research institution (co-applicant) incl. justification for selecting the applicant and importance of the research proposal within the framework of the programme’s objectives
  - Additional recommendation (optional)

FWF evaluation form „Meitner“

1. Evaluation of specific aspects of the proposal

- Importance to the international scientific community in the field(s) concerned
- Clarity of the goals (hypotheses and research questions)
- Appropriateness of the methods chosen (including work/time plan, dissemination strategy)
- Scientific/Scholarly qualifications and potential of the applicant
- Scientific/Scholarly qualifications and potential of the co-applicant
- Scientific/Scholarly input of the applicant to the Austrian host institution

*1 indicates excellent; 2 – very good; 3 – good; 4 – average; and 5 – poor

2. Overall evaluation of the proposed research

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Very good</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Poor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recommendation: Acceptance [ ] Rejection [ ]
Development of Human Resources

- Career Development for Female Scientists: Hertha-Firnberg-Programm; Elise-Richter-Programm

Women's Programmes: Why?

- **Advantages:**
  - Ceremonial awarding of grants
  - PR measures to enhance visibility of successful women in research
  - No age limits
  - Flexible programme design (Elise Richter Programme)
  - Funding of coaching / HR development measures
  - Annual networking workshops
  - child allowance of EUR 9,600.00 (gross) per child per year until the third birthday of the child for project leaders with a 100% employment contract
Career development for women in research

- In this two-stage career development scheme, the FWF provides outstanding female scholars who wish to pursue an academic career with an opportunity to apply for a total of six years of funding.
- The FWF's career development programme for women in research is divided into two parts:
  - *Hertha Firnberg* postdoc programme to support women at the beginning of their academic careers
  - *Elise Richter* senior postdoc programme to help women gain the qualifications necessary for a professorship in Austria or abroad.

Hertha Firnberg Programme – Objectives

- **Target group**
  - Postdocs of all disciplines; applicants must not already hold a permanent position at a research institution.
- **Objective**
  - To provide as much support as possible at the beginning of a female scholar’s academic career or upon her return from maternity leave
  - To enhance career opportunities for women in science and academia
  - To enhance the integration of women in research
Hertha Firnberg Programme – Basic information (I)

- **Calls**: 2 calls per year (spring/fall), decisions announced in November / June
- **Approval rate**: Approx. 30%
- **Grant amount**: Postdoc salary, + 12,000 € / year
- **Project duration**: 3 years, including possibility of 12 months abroad (with consent of employer (“Entsendung”); reasons and invitation must be enclosed with application)

Hertha Firnberg Programme – Basic information (II)

- **Prerequisites**
  - International publications
  - Doctorate
- **Programme-specific requirements**
  - Co-applicant (mentor) at the host research institution
  - Letter of support from research institution
  - Career plan (signed by the co-applicant and head of research institution)
  - Letter of support regarding funds for teaching
Hertha-Firnberg-Programm

- **Criteria for project descriptions**
  - Institutional integration, available infrastructure and personnel
  - Scope and significance of national and international cooperation arrangements

- **Criteria for formal requirements**
  - Programme-specific data with declaration from co-applicant
  - Applicant’s career plan
  - Co-applicant’s CV and list of publications
  - Letter of recommendation from co-applicant
  - Letter of support regarding funds for teaching activities
  - Invitation from research institution abroad (if necessary)

1. Evaluation of specific aspects of the proposal

   Recommendation: Acceptance ☐ Rejection ☐

| Importance to the international scientific community in the field(s) concerned | ☐ |
| Clarity of the goals (hypotheses and research questions) | ☐ |
| Appropriateness of the methods chosen (including work plan, time plan and planned strategies for dissemination of results) | ☐ |
| Scientific/Scholarly qualifications and potential of the applicant | ☐ |
| Scientific/Scholarly qualifications and potential of the co-applicant | ☐ |
| Prospective for the future career of the applicant | ☐ |

2. Overall evaluation of the proposed research

   Recommendation: Acceptance ☐ Rejection ☐

   *1 indicates excellent; 2 – very good; 3 – good; 4 – average; and 5 – poor*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Very good</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Poor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Elise Richter Programme – Objectives

- **Target group**
  - Highly qualified female scientists and scholars of all disciplines

- **Objective**
  - To support outstanding women researchers in their development of an academic career with a view to gaining the qualifications necessary for a professorship

- **Prerequisites**
  - Relevant postdoc experience (at least two years)
  - International publications
  - Preparatory work for the planned research project / *venia docendi* project

Elise Richter Programme – Basic information

- **Calls**: 2 calls per year (spring/fall), decisions announced in November / June

- **Approval rate**: Approx. 30 %

- **Grant amount**: Senior postdoc salary, Project-specific costs up to 15,000 € / year, including 2,000 € for coaching or HR development measures, plus 5 % general costs

- **Part-time work possible** (minimum employment: 50 %)

- **Project duration**: 12 to 48 months

- **Programme-specific requirements**: Career plan, letter of recommendation
Elise-Richter-Programme

- Criteria for formal requirements
  - Programme-specific data
  - Letter of recommendation
  - International cooperation partner(s) form, national cooperation partner(s) form (if necessary)
  - Equipment request form (if necessary; NB: costs!)

FWF evaluation form – „Richter“

I. Evaluation of particular aspects of the proposal*

| Importance to the international scientific/scholarly community in the field(s) concerned | ☐ |
| Extent to which the project could break new ground scientifically (innovative aspects) | ☐ |
| Importance of the expected results for the discipline (based on the project described) | ☐ |
| Clarity of the goals (hypotheses and research questions) | ☐ |
| Appropriateness of the methods (work plan/time plan, dissemination strategy) | ☐ |
| Scientific/scholarly quality / potential of the applicant | ☐ |
| Quality of the cooperations (both national and international) | ☐ |
| Probability that the stated aims will be met (‘Habilitation’ or equivalent qualification) | ☐ |
| Appropriateness of the financial planning | ☐ |

*1 indicates excellent; 2 – very good; 3 – good; 4 – average; and 5 – poor

II. Overall evaluation of the proposed research

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Very good</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Poor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recommendation: Acceptance ☐ Rejection ☐
Programme-Management
Department: Mobility Programmes and Women's Programmes
Lidia Eva Wysocki : 01 – 5056740-8503
Barbara Zimmermann: 01 – 5056740-8501

Project Officer
Department: Mobility Programmes and Women's Programmes

Administrative and Operational Project Officer
Robert Gass: 01 – 5056740-8502
Alexander Hanisch: 01 – 5056740-8506
Reinhard Schmidt. 01 – 5056740-8504
Susanne Woytacek: 01 – 5056740-8505

Formal application requirements

- Affirmation of the research institution
- Limits on length/size of application and enclosures
- Additional enclosures
- Applications submitted in English
- List of undesired reviewers
- Required file formats

- Resubmissions
  - clear indication that free-format application is a resubmission
  - brief notes on modifications made as a direct result of reviewer suggestions
  - overview of changes
  - separate responses to reviews
Content problems in applications

- Vague description of problem / research question
- Excessively high goals
- No hypotheses (e.g. pure data collection)
- Little or no discussion of current state of research
- Vague description of methods and work plan
- Lack of focus in project description
- No preliminary scientific/scholarly work
- Costs not justifiable
- Excessively short proposals
- Insufficient command of English