

Institutional strategy II – Place to Be – RWTH Start-Up

5th call for proposals for RWTH Start-Up

Deadline: 15 June 2016

Background

Place to Be is the new measure of the Institutional Strategy. RWTH has implemented various funding schemes to win and keep young researchers, with a high potential of excellence.

The RWTH Start-Up programme is a project-bound seed funding to support young researchers at an early stage of their career and to promote their own scientific independency. Proposals describing a well-developed project that is already qualified for third-party funding or applicants holding other scholarships or grants (e.g. Emmy Noether-Stipendium) are not eligible for RWTH Start-Up.

Eligibility

The RWTH Start-Up call is directed to

- PostDocs, young researchers with a doctoral degree (up to the 5th year after PhD), who track a career in science
- Assistant-Professors (Junior-professorships, W1), the level of basic equipment will be considered.

Proposal structure and content

The proposals must be divided into part A (personal information) and part B (research). Please send your complete application (2 files) via online submission to <http://portal.ers.rwth-aachen.de>.

Language: The proposal can be submitted in English or German.

Part A (file A): 3 pages max., Arial 11 font size

- CV including five most important publications
- Short endorsement of your head of department outlining his/her agreement to promote your scientific independency (apply only for PostDocs)
- A short “easy to understand” outline of your research project (one page max.)

Part B (file B): 5 pages max., Arial 11 font size,

- Description of your project idea

- State-of-the-art of your research topic and experiences you have already had (including bibliography)
- Work schedule
- Budget- / Time schedule

Please note: Proposals that do not comply with the formal criteria will be excluded from the reviewing process.

Applications will be evaluated along the following criteria:

Part A:

- Scientific qualification of the applicant
- Already noticeable scientific autonomy
- Originality of project idea

Part B:

- Originality, feasibility and relevance of the project idea
- Appropriateness of research project
- Appropriateness of implementation (budget/time schedule)
- Prospects for further funding

Evaluation

The projects will be selected and evaluated by an evaluation group consisting of members from the ERS Steering Committee, Vice-Rector Prof. Klee and two representatives from [AixCYR](#) (Aachen Center for Young Researchers) and two representatives of the scientific staff.

The process of evaluation follows a two-step approach.

Step 1:

According to the random principle, members of the evaluation group will review and evaluate Part A of the proposal. The ERS teams will then rank the results. Only proposals with the best ranking will proceed to the second evaluation step.

Step 2:

The complete proposal (Part A + B) will be reviewed and evaluated by an expert based on the evaluation criteria.

A recommendation of the evaluation group is then sent to the rectorate for final approval.

Funding

The budget for the RWTH Start-Up project is provided by the Excellence Initiative of the German federal and state governments and makes allowances to the allocation model aiming for 30% share of females funded by the Institutional Strategy.

According to the guidelines for the use of funds by the DFG, the funding can be used for research activities as personnel or material expenses or investment.

The annual total budget is € 230.000. For each project a maximum of € 20.000 is available.

Deadline for submission: 15 June 2016

Project start: November 2016

Project duration: max. 1 year (end of project will be 31.10.2017)

Report: A brief report after 3 months and final report after 18 months after the end of the project

Please apply at: <http://portal.ers.rwth-aachen.de>.

➤ Place to Be

- RWTH Start-Up postdocs
- RWTH Start-Up junior professorships

For further information please contact

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