

Guidelines for proposals funded by the research related part of the budget of the Presidential Chair («Programmhaushalt Forschung» (PH-F)) of the Carl von Ossietzky University Oldenburg – Start-up funding for junior research groups

Annual application deadlines: 15.02., 15.06. and 15.10.

This funding provides the opportunity for advanced early career academics to apply for funding in order to carry out their own scientific project. Eligible are postdocs only, proposal by third parties, i.e. the PhD supervisor, are not considered for funding.

Objective: The University of Oldenburg wishes to give outstanding, highly-qualified young researchers the possibility to prepare for the next step in their academic careers. This support is particularly intended for the phase between completing a PhD and further academic development. The funding is designed to enable young researchers to independently develop a research project with a view to submitting a project proposal for a junior research group, e.g. Helmholtz Young Investigators Groups, Emmy Noether Programme, ERC Starting Grant or Heisenberg Programme, within the period of support. The proposal for a junior research group, which must be presented in advance to the Vice President for Research, is expected to be submitted no later than 12 months after the support starts.

To promote aptitude and eligibility, young researchers should be independently involved in the regular teaching activities of the Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg within the context of the research-oriented teaching programme. Applicants will be expected to participate in associated teaching events.

The selection procedure for support through the research budget programme (PH-F) has two stages. First, applications are assessed by a selection committee, which includes an external evaluator. Shortlisted applicants are then invited to give a presentation on their intended project.

The selection criteria for the support are the following: the academic achievements of the applicants during the PhD phase, an excellent PhD degree, the research activities thus far, the academic quality and level of innovation of the proposed research project, and the proposed teaching and learning concept.

The maximum period of support offered by the research budget programme is 36 months. An extension will not be possible.

Eligible applicants: Young researchers from the University of Oldenburg as well as researchers from other universities in Germany and abroad who meet the following profiles in all subject areas, preferably in one of the main research areas of the University of Oldenburg

- **Profile 1: Postdoctoral researchers at the beginning of their academic career**
As a rule, an applicant should have completed his or her PhD no more than two years previously to meet the application criteria for the project proposal to be developed.
- **Profile 2: Experienced postdoctoral researchers**
From three to five years after completing the PhD – provided possible by law (WissZeitVG; so-called 12-year rule).

Account can be taken of child-care periods of up to two years per child.

Amount applied for: Personnel funds (own position) up to EUR 70,000 a year, and direct costs up to EUR 5,000 a year, for a duration of up to 36 months

How to apply:

- Give a short statement of why you are applying, explaining in particular your vision of your further professional development and career goals as well as details of your intended next career move, for which you are applying for this support
- Presentation of your research proposal: title and subject of your project, the current state of the art, your own preliminary work, your goals and work plan, as well as integration of the project within the University of Oldenburg (no more than 10 pages)
- Plan for translating your research area into research-oriented teaching (no more than 2 pages)
- Academic curriculum vitae, including a list of publications and current contact details
- 2-3 selected publications
- Proof of receipt of an academic degree in Germany or another country, i.e. proof of a PhD degree
- Statement of acceptance from the school or working group at the University of Oldenburg
- Two supporting letters of reference, including at least one that is independent.

General information for applicants

Proposals can be submitted by the deadlines stated above via e-mail or post to the Vice President of Research and Transfer (e-mail: [vp.f\(at\)uni-oldenburg.de](mailto:vp.f@uni-oldenburg.de); Prof. Dr. M. Holthaus, University of Oldenburg, D-26111 Oldenburg) with reference to "Proposal for funding by the budget of the Presidential Chair". Simultaneously the proposals have to be sent via e-mail to Ms Bärbel Rieckmann, Department of Research and Transfer, e-mail: [baerbel.rieckmann\(at\)uni-oldenburg.de](mailto:baerbel.rieckmann@uni-oldenburg.de).

Only proposals that adhere to all above stated submittal requirements are accepted. Incomplete proposals will not be considered. If you have questions about the criteria or submitting your proposal, please contact the Department of Research and Transfer (Bärbel Rieckmann).

Since the budget is limited, funding decisions will be based on a competitive review process. The granted funds are subject to the provisions for financial regulations by the State of Lower Saxony (Landeshaushaltsordnung).