Research funding by the Faculty of Medicine

Junior Applications

Eligible applicants:
Young medical and natural scientists who have completed outstanding doctoral degrees can apply for funding to set up their own research project under the supervision of an experienced academic. The age limit for a first application is normally 32 years. Even if they meet the specified age limit, habilitation graduates and junior professors are not entitled to submit a Junior application.

Project term:
1 year with the option of a one-off extension at no extra cost.

Objective:
To set up an independent research field with the prospect of subsequent external third-party funding. Maximum funding amount €30,000/year.

The application comprises the documents named below (5 individual PDF files), which must be grouped together in one “zip folder” (named after the name of the applicant) and submitted by e-mail to the Dean's Office of the Faculty of Medicine (plambeck.dekanat@med.uni-kiel.de):
Subject: Name_Juniorförderung_Förderjahr

1. For each application, the main applicant must submit the following 5 documents:
   - the fully completed form (Antragsformular_Juniorförderung)
   - curriculum vitae (max. 1 page)
   - record of papers written over the last 5 years, split into original scientific papers and reviews
   - application structured according to DFG guidelines (title, applicant, institution, summary, research status, own preliminary works, work programme, allocation of funds applied for), but limited to 6 pages
   - confirmation from the head of the institute that the application is supported and that no other application of a related subject matter has been submitted to another institution

If animal testing approval/approval of the Ethics Committee is required, this must be stated in the application form.
The approval of the Ethics Committee must be granted at the latest 3 months after the Dean's Office has approved the project.
Animal testing approval must be applied for at the latest 1 month after the project has been approved. A copy must be submitted to the Dean's Office.

2. The number of applicants must be limited to two.

3. Applications can only be submitted once per person, both as first and second applicant. No more than one application can be included in one application process. If an application was approved, a new process can only be applied for within 2 years if the first application was transferred to an external qualified third-party funding provider (e.g. DFG, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), EU, Wilhelm-Sander-Stiftung, German Cancer Aid, etc.). Funding by private societies and/or foundations as well as donations are not regarded as transfers.

4. Individual applications from preclinical institutes are only possible as cooperation projects between clinical departments/clinical-theoretical institutes and preclinical institutes. In this case, the involvement of the clinical partner must be in evidence.
5. The approved funds can be used for financing costs for materials, staff and equipment and must be stated for the entire project term; travel expenses are not approved. Applicants cannot raise funds for their own positions. Funding for staff positions is fixed (1/2 academic/medical assistant up to max. = €38,000, doctoral candidate max. = €30,000, MTA max. = €49,000, secretary max. = €41,000) so staff funds are calculated based on the individual positions. Funding over 2 years must be guaranteed when applying for positions for doctoral candidates specialising in natural sciences.

6. All applications are initially examined internally by the Research Commission. The Research Commission decides whether an application is supported or rejected. The criteria for the assessment are the quality of the application, prior academic achievements, benefits for the faculty, academic prospects as well as outlook for external third-party funding.

7. The approved funds are available to the project leader directly and exclusively for carrying out the research project applied for at the Faculty of Medicine, Kiel. If the position situation changes and the project leader leaves, the Dean's Office must be notified immediately and the approved funds returned to the Faculty of Medicine. The Dean's Office decides exceptions to this rule in individual cases.

8. Without being asked to do so, one year after the start of the project - but at the latest at the end of the project term - project leaders of approved research projects are required to submit a brief report to the Dean's Office for acceptance by the Research Commission (approx. one page), stating the financing scheme over the course of the project, noting any publications and, if necessary, any applications for third-party funds. The reports can be viewed by request by members of the Faculty of Medicine in the Dean's Office. The applicant recognises the production of a brief report as an obligation at the time of accepting the funding. If the report is not submitted or is left incomplete for a long period, the funding is paid back by the applicant's institution.

A new application is only possible if reports for previously approved applications were submitted to the Dean's Office.

**Bonus payment:**
If, at the latest a year after the end of the funding period, a project funded by a third-party on a closely related subject matter has been funded externally, the project can be provided with a one-off bonus payment (usually 10% of the volume of the project funded by a third-party, but max. €10,000).

Approved projects may be granted a 10% bonus on the allocation of funds for staff costs, if they can prove they were able to fill a position for an academic with an applicant who has not worked at the University Medical Center Schleswig-Holstein (UKSH) or the Faculty of Medicine in the last 5 years.

The Research Commission decides each individual case.

The following must be submitted for this: Letter with application for bonus payment, copy of the application form for Junior applications as well as the corresponding approval letter from the Research Commission and the resulting third-party funding decision.