

IZKF Research Projects

Notes on submitting an application

FAQs

Who can submit a proposal for IZKF funding?

Applicants in the context of the IZKF statutes are the principal investigators of the planned research project and thus the recipients of the IZKF funding. Applicants should be members of and have full-time contracts at the Medical Faculty of the WWU Münster. They must be able to carry out the project on their own without involving cooperation partners.

Does the project leader have to have a "permanent" position at the Medical Faculty?

Yes, funding of the position must be guaranteed at least for the duration of the planned research project (i.e. at least 4 years from the start of the term). This also includes third-party funded postdoc positions (e.g. DFG Emmy Noether or Heisenberg programs). During the online application process, the duration of the personnel contract must be entered in OLA.

How many applicants are possible?

A maximum of 3 principal investigators are allowed for each IZKF project, two of which may belong to the same institution.

Do the regulations regarding preliminary work (publications and third-party funding) apply to all applicants?

All applicants must have contributed significantly to the preparation of the planned project. Therefore, first or last author publications as well as current third-party funding have to be presented for all applicants.

Is a clinical partner necessary for an IZKF project?

No. From 2024, however, project leadership in tandem with a basic research institution and a clinic is very welcome.

Can the applicants be changed after being evaluated by the internal Scientific Research Council of the IZKF (Forschungsrat)?

As a general rule this is not possible. Applicants for the full application must be identical to the project outline positively evaluated by the internal Scientific Research Council as the input of all applicants contribute to the evaluation of the pre-proposal. In case any problems arise in this context, please contact the IZKF office in time.

How many proposals can I submit as a principal investigator?

Each scientist is allowed to participate as a project leader in only one IZKF project during a particular funding period. Therefore, only one project proposal per scientist can be submitted. Collaborations are possible in a variety of ways and are very desirable to promote networking.

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Das IZKF ist ein Forschungsverbund
der Medizinischen Fakultät
der Universität Münster

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When can I submit a new project outline if I am currently being funded by the IZKF?

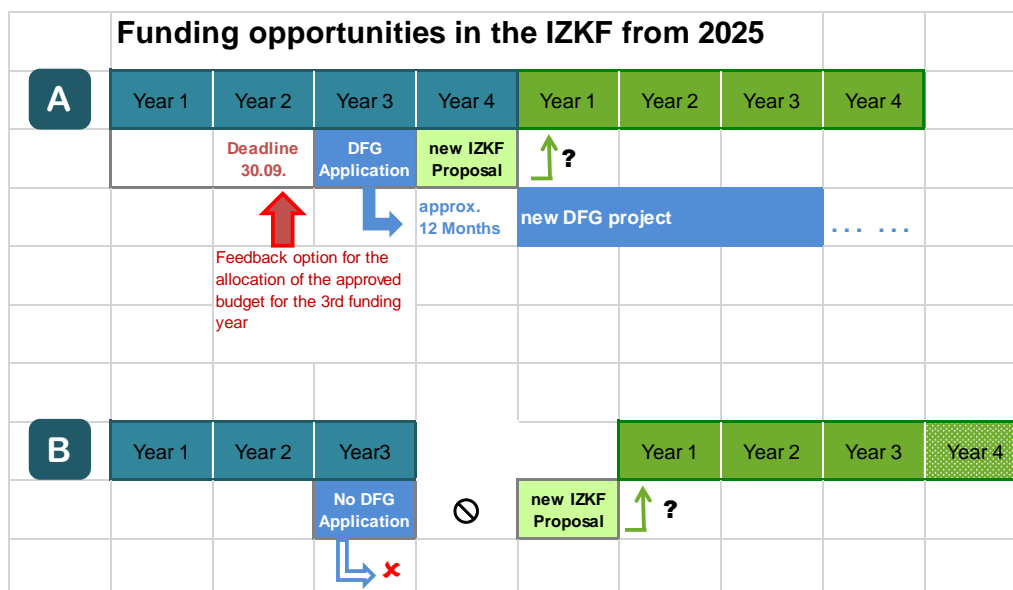
Following the termination of the bridging funding under the bonus programme, the Executive Board has adopted a **new regulation** for the continued submission of applications to the IZKF.

All funded projects have the opportunity to decide **by 30 September of the second funding year** which funding option should apply to the current project.

Option A: If the research results to date suggest that a proposal to the DFG will be successful, the principle investigator can, in consultation with the management, divide the approved funds for the third funding year between the third and fourth funding years, taking into account the contractual requirements for personnel. The initiation of the DFG proposal only needs to be assured. The date on which the proposal is submitted to the DFG during the 3rd funding year is not decisive. In this case, the project leader is already eligible to apply for a new IZKF project in the 4th funding year.

The submission of the project outline and participation in the review process is independent of the DFG's decision.

Option B: If no DFG application is expected from the IZKF research project, the project will run for 3 years without any financial changes. The principle investigator is barred from submitting a new application in the following year.



The exact details of the cost-neutral distribution of funds are currently being worked out and will be announced later (see next *IZKF news*).

Transitional solutions apply to IZKF projects that are already being funded. Please contact the office for more information.

In which language should the project pre-proposal / full application be written?

Both should be written in English.

How are the proposals evaluated?

The IZKF carries out a two-step evaluation for all its funding programmes. After an internal preliminary assessment by the internal Scientific Research Council (members are elected by the Faculty Council and have interdisciplinary expertise), applicants whose project pre-proposals were positively assessed will be requested to submit a full proposal. The IZKF external Scientific Advisory Board evaluates both the written full proposal as well as the oral presentation of the applicant at the IZKF Science Conference. It is important to ensure that the talks are clearly structured and interdisciplinary (avoid laboratory jargon). The presentation slides should briefly and clearly underline what is being said (avoid information other than the spoken word / avoid abbreviations if possible). **All members of the advisory board evaluate each full proposal jointly and in an interdisciplinary manner.**

Will the output of previous IZKF projects be considered for the evaluation of a new project proposal?

The internal Scientific Research Council decided to consider the output data of previous IZKF projects for the evaluation of the newly submitted project pre-proposals. Accordingly, the management will provide the data collected from the completed projects (for example number of publications citing the IZKF affiliation and transfer into DFG funding) to the Scientific Research Council. Scientists who have previously received IZKF funding must prove that they have made an effort to acquire qualified third-party funding for the former IZKF project in order to receive further funding.

When do official authorisations for animal experiments and a vote by the ethics committee for the project have to be submitted?

The authorisation for animal experiments required for a project or for certain project objectives must be available at the start of the project, but no later than one year after approval, otherwise the approved (not yet released) funds will lapse.

For projects with a direct patient-centred research programme, an ethics vote must already be **available for review by the external Scientific Advisory Board**.

Is it possible to resubmit a rejected project outline/rejected full proposal?

No, unless the Scientific Advisory Board has explicitly spoken out in favour of a revision with improvements. A revision can only be submitted once; the Scientific Advisory Board will then either approve or reject the application. A new application on the same topic with a modified question is possible.

