Klaus Tschira Boost Fund

Info Event
Idea

The KT Boost Fund offers:

• **flexible funding** to create scope for independent, higher risk, interdisciplinary projects,

• **support** in building (international) collaborations and networks,

• targeted **mentoring and advice** on professional and personal development.

The objective is to give (young) researchers **greater flexibility** in shaping their career paths, accelerate their careers, and promote early **independence**.
Funding

Up to 80,000 euros for a period of up to 2 years

- Funding can be used for all types of costs
- No more than 75 percent of the funds can be used to cover (parts of) the fellow’s own salary
Funding

- Funding can be used for all types of costs
- No more than 75 percent of the funds can be used to cover (parts of) the fellow’s own salary

- Career Workshop Series
  - Membership of the interdisciplinary alumni network AlumNode

- Career Workshop Modules: Linking Purpose & Career, Practicing Self-Care, Being an Effective Manager, Leading Remote or Hybrid Teams

  AlumNode offers access to intensive knowledge transfer and sharing, project funding, peer mentoring as well as various professional development opportunities and innovative workshops

Up to **80,000 euros** for a period of up to **2 years**
Target Group

Science supporting positions
Science management / Administration

Permanent Professorship (W2/W3)
Tenure Track
Appoint-ment

Qualification
(independent) Junior Research Group
Junior/W1 Professorship
Habilitation
Group Leader

Postdoc

PhD

Non-academic job market
Industry, non-profit sector, etc.

Undergrad

FH= University of Applied Sciences
Target Group

Permanent Professorship (W2/W3)

Qualification
(independent) Junior Research Group
Junior/W1 Professorship

Habilitation
Group Leader

Postdoc

PhD

Undergrad

Tenure Track

Appointment

FH= University of Applied Sciences

FH-professorship
Requirements

... who

• are employed at a higher education institution (university, Fachhochschule) or a non-university research institution in Germany,

• conduct research in one or more of the following areas: Biology, Chemistry, Earth Sciences, Computer Science, Mathematics, Neurosciences or Physics,

• are not already funded by a junior research group program or similar (e.g. Emmy Noether, ERC Starting Grant or others) or/ and do not have a tenure option (W2/W3)

→ As a group leader you are eligible to apply if only your own position is funded and you do not have a tenure option or further substantial funding.
Application

- Application deadline: 31 March, 2023 (23:59 CET)
- Online application form
- Application written in English
  (motivation letter, budget plan and supporting statement by the institution possible in German)
Application

- Application deadline: 31 March, 2023 (23:59 CET)
- Online application form
- Application written in English
  (budget plan, motivation letter and supporting statement by the institution possible in German)

Application documents

- **Project Plan** including a cover page, budget plan and a time frame
  What goals will be realized? What potential remains untapped without the funding?
  Describe the “Boost”!

- **CV of the applicant** including your current position and how your current position is funded,
  publications etc.

- **Motivation letter** including personal and professional development and career goals

- **Supporting statement** of the applying institution

Please read the application guidelines carefully.

one single pdf-document (max. 4 MB)
Reviewing Process

1. Formal review *(Please read the guidelines)*

2. First round: Selecting an **initial pool of candidates** in line with criteria such as: relevance, feasibility, innovation level, motivation & boost effect, potential impact, etc. 
   *Who?* 2 Reviewers (independent from each other, expert from your field or close)

3. Second round: Deciding on the **final fellows**
   *Who?* Selection committee (4-6 members from different disciplines)
Reviewing Process

1. Formal review (*Please read the guidelines*)

2. First round: Selecting an initial pool of candidates in line with criteria such as: relevance, feasibility, innovation level, motivation & boost effect, potential impact, etc. *Who?* 2 Reviewers (independent from each other, expert from your field or close)

3. Second round: Deciding on the final fellows *Who?* Selection committee (4-6 members from different disciplines)

---

We cannot give any personal feedback for applications or provide you with the reasons for our decision. The evaluation of the reviewers will not be forwarded!
KT Boost Fellows

The Klaus Tschira Boost Fund has already supported 44 fellows since 2019.

Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellow
Pauline N. Fleischmann
University of Würzburg/Neuroethology

PostDoc

Penelope R. Whitehorn
Karlsruhe Institute of Technology/ Pollinator Ecology

Junior Scientist
Florian Loebbert
Humboldt University Berlin/Theoretical Particle Physics

Research Scientist
Georgios Gkatzeles
Forschungszentrum Jülich/Atmospheric Chemistry

Please visit our website to learn more about our fellows and their projects.

https://gsonet.org/funding-programs/klaus-tschira-boost-fund/?lang=en#fellows
FAQ

1. Who can write the statement/letter of support?
2. Can I apply for 80,000 euros per year or 80,000 euros in total?
3. Do I have to be employed at the institution at the time of application?
4. Do I have to be in Germany at the time of application?
5. I am not yet a postdoc? Can I apply?
6. Do I need all documents ready on the application deadline? Can I submit documents later?
7. I have already applied last year, can I reapply?
8. Can I submit extra documents?
9. My position is not yet covered for the full project period ... can I apply?

More ???
Dr. Birte Seffert
GSO e. V.
Friedrichstrasse 60 | 10117 Berlin

Phone: +49 (0) 30 206 799 67
Email: ktboost@gsonet.org

LinkedIn: German Scholars Organization
Twitter: @germanscholars
Thank you!
Additional Slides
Junior research group programs

Examples

- Emmy Noether Programm
- BMBF Nachwuchs-gruppen
- NRW-Rückkehrprogramm
- Nachwuchsguppe FIS (BMAS)

States/Federal

- DFG German Research Foundation

Foundations

- Perspektiven-Programm „Plus 3“ BI Stiftung
- Max Eden NWG-Programm
- Robert Bosch Stiftung Junior-professur
- NEXUS Carl Zeiss Stiftung

- HFSP
- ERC Consolidator Grant
- ERC Starting Grant

European Research Funding

- Fraunhofer Attract
- Max Planck Research Groups
- Lise Meitner Exzellenzprogramm
- Helmholtz Nachwuchsguppen
- Leibniz Junior Research Groups

Non-university Research Institutions

- NRW-Rückkehrprogramm
- NRW-Rückkehrprogramm
- NRW-Rückkehrprogramm
- NRW-Rückkehrprogramm
- NRW-Rückkehrprogramm

*We empower researchers to build careers in Germany.*