

Information sheet on the guidelines regarding the requirements and procedure for awarding grants (information sheet on research funding guidelines)

1. Principles

The Research Committee supports projects and activities that aim to strengthen the research profile of the University of Lucerne and promote young researchers. Funding by the Research Committee is to be seen as complementary to the established research funding instruments (e.g. the Swiss National Science Foundation).

2. Funding lines

2.1. Projects, in particular for the preparation of third-party funding applications

Funding is prioritised for projects that aim to prepare a competitive third-party funding application. Funding can be provided for a temporary position to support the preparatory work, an appropriate amount of temporary teaching relief for the applicant and project-related material resources. The maximum contribution is CHF 25,000. The application for third-party funding is generally expected to be submitted within one year of the grant being awarded. Members of the professorial staff as well as lecturers and research associates are eligible to apply. Funding is awarded on the condition that the Grants Office is involved in the application for the third-party funded project.

Furthermore, smaller research projects without a direct link to third-party funding, especially those that are urgent, can be financed by the FoKo. The maximum contribution is CHF 10,000.

2.2. Contributions for young researchers

Doctoral students: Funding is available for doctoral students with an outstanding dissertation project who are aiming for an academic career. Funding can be provided for a maximum six-month mobility period to work on part of the dissertation at a host institution abroad, or a maximum six-month leave of absence from assistance, teaching and administrative tasks to complete the dissertation. The funding includes the salary for up to six months as well as a lump sum for travelling expenses (overseas CHF 1,500 / Europe CHF 500).

Postdoctoral researchers: Postdoctoral researchers (excluding assistant professors) with an excellent research profile and promising prospects for an academic career are eligible for funding. Funding can be provided for a maximum four-month leave of absence from assistant, teaching and administrative duties as well as material resources to prepare an application for a career funding scheme (e.g. SNSF Ambizione, SNSF and ERC Starting Grants). The call is aimed at postdoctoral researchers at the University of Lucerne who have completed their doctorate at another university and would like to apply with the University of Lucerne as a host institution. Funding is also available to postdoctoral researchers at the University of Lucerne who have already completed their doctorate at the University of Lucerne and are applying with another host institution. The maximum grant is CHF 20,000.

2.3. Development of interdisciplinary, intra-university research networks at the University of Lucerne

Funding is provided for the establishment of interdisciplinary networks with the aim of creating new research content and structures. This funding line is to be regarded as start-up funding. Funding is provided for the conceptual development of the network, workshops and retreats, the development

of lecture series and doctoral programmes as well as for public relations work. The application must be submitted by at least four members of the professorial staff (from assistant professorship level upwards) or by teaching and research officers from at least two different faculties or departments. The contribution can be renewed if successful. The maximum contribution for the respective submission date can be found in the current call for applications.

2.4. Conference organisations and activities for scientific exchange with an international or interdisciplinary character

Funding is available for activities that strengthen international and/or interdisciplinary networking. Funding is provided for conferences with significant participation by the University of Lucerne and with an interdisciplinary or international character. A participation of international speakers of at least 50% and/or a clearly interdisciplinary character is expected. Parallel application to the "Scientific Exchange" funding instrument of the Swiss National Science Foundation is generally mandatory. Funding is also provided for guest researchers, lecture series and other activities that promote international or interdisciplinary networking. Appropriate gender participation must be stated in the application. Academic staff from postdoc level onwards are eligible to apply. The maximum contribution is CHF 10,000.

3. Application

Calls for proposals for funding contributions are generally issued annually and are based on the available financial resources. The submission deadlines are communicated via the call for proposals; as a rule, two deadlines are offered per year. In urgent cases, submission outside of the deadline may be granted.

Applications are submitted via the "MyFoko" module in the FIS research information system. The templates for the respective funding instruments stored there must be used.

4. Funding decision

The Research Committee evaluates the submitted applications according to the criteria defined in the guidelines. Applicants will be informed of the decision in writing no later than two weeks after the committee meeting.

Enquiries in connection with applications for funding should be addressed to the secretariat of the Research Committee: foko@unilu.ch