

## Germany - Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)

Please refer to the German call documents on [www.bmbf.de](http://www.bmbf.de) or [www.internationales-buero.de](http://www.internationales-buero.de) as well because these documents are binding.

### → Who can apply?

Funding will be awarded as project grants usually amounting to 150,000 Euros per collaborative project and year usually for a maximum period of 36 months.

The basis for calculating the grants for universities, non-university research institutions and similar institutions is the eligible project-related expenditure (in the case of the Helmholtz Centres and the Fraunhofer Gesellschaft [FhG] the eligible project-related costs) which can be individually funded up to a maximum of 100 percent.

In the case of research projects at higher education institutions (public and private) and teaching hospitals (irrespective of the legal form), a flat-rate grant amounting to 20% of total expenditure will be awarded in addition to the eligible expenditure. It should be noted that the project flat rate grant is already included in the above-mentioned maximum grant amount of 150,000 Euros.

Grants for commercial companies will be calculated on the basis of the eligible project-related costs, up to 50% of which can, as a rule, be covered by government grants, depending on the project's relevance to application. The calculation of the respective rate of funding must take account of the provisions governing de minimis aid and the General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER/AGVO). The GBER (AGVO) allows various additional payments for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) which could in some circumstances lead to a higher rate of funding.

Research establishments that are financed jointly by Bund and Länder can (in addition to their basic funding) only obtain funding for their additional expenses under certain circumstances.

### → What types of funding are eligible for researchers in Germany?

The level of the funding of German researchers may be up to 50,000.00 Euro per year (i.e. overall 150.000 Euro for maximum three years of funding). In case two or more partners of a project are located in Germany, they may together request the aforementioned maximum sum.

#### **1. Eligible direct costs**

The national rules will be applied and are binding. Please refer for the National call conditions of BMBF <https://www.bmbf.de/foerderungen>.

**1.1 Travel costs and living expenses:** As a general rule, travel costs (from the point of departure to the location of the project partners) will be paid by the sending country. Travel costs for German project partners who travel to foreign countries will be covered (economy class flight / train ride 2nd class). Visa fees for Japan and vaccine costs for vaccinations officially recommended for Japan by the German Foreign Ministry will also be reimbursed.

**1.3 Expenses for the organisation of small scientific events in Germany** (including the invitation of external experts): Grants can be provided towards expenses such as room rent and catering, accommodation of guests, transfer costs in Germany.

**1.4 Research materials and small-scale research equipment (no basics, e.g. Computer hard- or software, office supplies, etc.):** only on a limited scale and if its need is

demonstrated. An upper limit of 20% of the project budget per partner / year should not be exceeded.

1.5 Personnel costs: personnel to carry out scientific activities or research

Project related expenditures / costs for student and / or scientific/technical personnel (max. TVöD EG 13) are subsidized up to 36 person months.

As a rule, no funding will be provided to cover any of the cost of the participating institutions' normal basic equipment.

## **2. Eligible indirect costs**

There are no eligible indirect costs.

### **→ Is additional/parallel application requested to the funding organisation?**

Yes. General BMBF funding regulations apply. German researchers whose proposal is recommended for funding by the scientific committee will have to submit a formal proposal in order to prepare the contracts.