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2023 Vienna Cognitive Science Hub Seed Grant Call:

Info Webinar

12 December 2023, 13:00 CET



Contacts

cogsci@univie.ac.at (for administrative questions)

forschungsservice.cogsci@univie.ac.at (all other questions)

Today's Agenda

- About the Vienna Cognitive Science Hub
- Goals and benefits of the Seed Grant Call
- Funds
- Who can apply?
- Grant Parameters
- Elements of the Seed Grant proposal
- Submission
- Review Process
- Notes to Applicants
- FAQs

About the Vienna Cognitive Science Hub

- The **Vienna Cognitive Science Hub** is a network of **researchers** at the University of Vienna
- Uniquely incorporates the **Cognitive Sciences in the broadest sense**: Psychology and computer sciences, but also humanities (art history, linguistics, musicology, and philosophy) and life sciences (cognitive biology, evolution research, and cognitive neuroscience)
- These fields are united by an empirical mindset that involves using (and often sharing) a **diverse set of methods** (e.g. eye-tracking, statistical modeling, field methods, virtual reality, EEG, fMRI, and brain stimulation)



Goals and Benefits of the Seed Grant Call

For the Vienna CogSciHub and the University of Vienna

- Attract new projects to the Faculties of the University of Vienna
- Foster interdisciplinary Cognitive Science across Faculties
- Promote excellence in Cognitive Science research

For the applicants

- Writing an interdisciplinary project proposal to promote an interdisciplinary career in Cognitive Science at the University of Vienna

Funds

- **7,500 EUR** for writing a standalone project proposal
 - Typical funding agencies would be the FWF, WWTF, FFG, or international foundations (e.g. Templeton)
- **15,000 EUR** for writing a collaborative project proposal or ERC grants
 - Typical funding agencies would be SFB/FWF, Horizon Europe, EU networks and ERC
- The money can be used for a *Werkvertrag* (if eligible), pilot studies, literature reviews, data analysis, etc.

Who can apply?

- Praedoc and postdoc scientists with a track record of excellence
- Employees of UniVie (but can't apply for own salary or contract extension)
 - Any changes in the existing employment during the proposed project's development must be in accordance with the existing contract, the chain contract rule (*Kettenvertrag*), and the provisions of labor law⁹
- Non-employees of UniVie (will get freelance work contract (*Werkvertrag*))
 - There must be a twelve-month gap between employment at UniVie (if employment was 12 months or more) and a *Werkvertrag*. If the employment duration was less than 12 months, there must be a gap of more than half of the time of employment
 - Contractors are self-employed and responsible for their resources, insurance, and taxes

Grant Parameters

- **Grant start = date of funding decision**
- **Grant conclusion**
 - Submit the project proposal to the funding agency within a year of the grant start
 - Send proof of project proposal submission (confirmation email or similar) to the Vienna CogSciHub Coordination Office at cogsci@univie.ac.at
 - Notify the Coordination Office of the funding decision
 - The funded project must be carried out at the University of Vienna

Elements of the proposal (1/2)

- Personal details
 - Abstract (500 words)
 - References (of the abstract)
 - Targeted funding call
 - Non-fundable costs to be covered by the organisational unit
 - Ethics self-assessment
 - Letter of motivation (200 words)
- University of Vienna Faculties affiliated with the Vienna Cognitive Science Hub:
 - [Computer Science](#)
 - [Historical and Cultural Studies](#)
 - [Life Sciences](#)
 - [Philological and Cultural Studies](#)
 - [Philosophy and Education](#)
 - [Psychology](#)

Elements of the proposal (2/2)

- Key Research Areas and Strategic Priorities
- Research Disciplines (Statistik Austria)
- Publications and publication strategy
- Co-PIs
 - Applicants who are not currently, or have not recently (within the last 12 months) been employed by UniVie will require a UniVie Co-PI
 - List of Vienna CogSciHub Network Associates:
<https://cogsci.univie.ac.at/about/network-associates-research-fellows/network-associates/>
- Dissemination strategy
- Number of working spaces
- Scientific CV
 - Please specify employment at the University of Vienna down to months.
- Letter of recommendation (optional)

Submission

Only via the Vienna CogSciHub website at:

<https://cogsci.univie.ac.at/services/seed-grants/2023-seed-grant-call/#c1024941>

Applications by email will not be considered for funding!

Deadline: 21 January 2024 23:59 CET

Review Process

1. The Coordination Office will check your application for **formal correctness**. If there is a problem, they will contact you as soon as possible.
2. There will be a **peer review process assessing interdisciplinarity and excellence** of the seed grant proposal.
3. Applicants will be notified in **February 2024**.

In the case of rejection, the Coordination Office will supply the applicants with brief feedback, albeit without reviewer comments.

Notes to Applicants

- Make sure your application is **interdisciplinary**.
- If successful you have 1 year to start the seed grant. Once started, you must complete it within a year (i.e. submit the full project proposal to the funding agency and notify the Vienna CogSciHub Coordination Office at cogsci@univie.ac.at)
- When in doubt, apply.

Submitted Questions

- Do I need to be affiliated with the Vienna Cognitive Science Hub to apply for the Seed Grant?
 - No, you just have to be affiliated with the University of Vienna. If you do not have an affiliation with the University of Vienna, you need to find a Co-PI affiliated with the University of Vienna (but not necessarily affiliated with the Vienna Cognitive Science Hub).

Submitted Questions

- **How do I find a Co-PI?**
 - As a starting point, you can refer to the the overview of the Vienna CogSciHub Network Associates (<https://cogsci.univie.ac.at/about/network-associates-research-fellows/network-associates/>) or the websites of our affiliated Faculties.
 - Co-PIs need to be postdocs or more senior researchers.

Submitted Questions

- How specific does the research proposed in the abstract submitted as part of the application have to be already?
 - As specific as possible :)
- “With the funds, a Post Doc may be hired and supervised, for the grant writing, who will act as a Co-PI if the grant is successful.” Can that post-doc (to be employed) be the same person applying for this seed grant?
 - The Seed Grant cannot be used for a work contract, only a *Werkvertrag* is possible. Please note that a *Werkvertrag* can only be given to persons who are not currently and have not recently been employed at the University of Vienna.

FAQ

- Further FAQ: <https://cognitivescience.univie.ac.at/services/seed-grants/2023-seed-grant-call/#c1027723>



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Any questions?



FAQ (1)

- **Can I submit documents at a later date (i.e. after the deadline)?**
 - The call deadline is a hard deadline. Incomplete applications will not be taken into consideration. If something is unclear about your application, the Coordination Office will get in touch.
- **Can I submit more than one application/proposed project?**
 - No
- **Do I have to have a publication record?**
 - You need to have a proven track record of excellence, which typically includes publications, but may also encompass prizes, grants, patents, etc.

FAQ (2)

- **How can I submit my application?**
 - The call deadline is a hard deadline. Incomplete applications will not be taken into consideration. If something is unclear about your application, the Coordination Office will get in touch.
- **What can I use the money for?**
 - This will depend on whether you already are an employee of the University of Vienna. If applicable, you will sign a Werkvertrag with the University of Vienna and pay for a part of your personnel costs.
 - You can also use the money for cost coverage for pilot studies or literature reviews, data analysis, or similar. Any changes in the existing employment during the proposed project's development must be in accordance with the existing contract, the chain contract rule, and the provisions of labor law.

FAQ (3)

- **Who will be reviewing my application?**

1. The Coordination Office will check for completeness and formal requirements, including the presence of interdisciplinarity in the research question.
2. The Faculty where the proposed project should be located will check that the proposed projects fits and there is sufficient interest.
3. Select members of the Vienna CogSciHub Scientific Advisory Board will make the final decision.

- **Will I receive feedback on my application?**

- A short feedback will be given by the Coordination Office on points that arise during the selection process.

FAQ (4)

- **Will there be a second round of the call?**
 - We aim to publish the Seed Grant call yearly, depending on financing.

Key Research Areas and Strategic Priorities

- Key Research Areas
 - Aesthetics, culture, history
 - Food and drugs
 - Construction of identity and concepts of society
 - Internationalisation of the economy and law
 - Cognition, communication and systemic reflection
 - Microbiology, ecosystems and evolution
 - Models and algorithms
 - Molecules, cells and their interaction
 - Materials and the quantum level
 - The environment and cosmic processes
- Strategic Priorities
 - Data Science & Digital Humanities
 - Health & Microbiome
 - Society & Communication
 - Molecular Biology & Cognitive Neuroscience
 - Materials & Quantum Science