

Call for proposals: Young Researchers' Science Day

Ulm University awards funding for the advancement of junior researchers as part of the Young Researchers' Science Day. The *Graduate and Professional Training Centre Ulm*, ProTrainU, is responsible for the implementation of this measure.

Purpose of the funding

The funding as part of the Young Researchers' Science Day serves to help develop and sharpen the applicant's research profile, to support their academic independence and to help with the preparation of an external third-party funding application. The best proposals will be presented to the university public on Science Day.

Type of funding

Funding is granted in the form of materials and equipment, assistant staff and/or test person remuneration for independent research projects that explore a new subject area and serve as preparation for the next qualification level. No funds are provided for representation purposes.

Based on the documents submitted as well as the presentations, the best two applications will be awarded and receive the following funding amounts:

1st place: EUR 50,000

2nd place: EUR 30,000

The funding period is 2 years.

Application deadline: 4 September 2022, (start of funding: January 2023)

Please take note of the funding directive and the selection criteria.

Application requirements

- Eligible are doctoral students from the third year of their doctorate onwards (the doctoral agreement is to be provided to evidence when the doctorate has started) **as well as** junior researchers after completing their doctorate, e.g. postdocs up until they submit their habilitation, junior professors (junior professors can apply within the first year of their post) of **all faculties of Ulm University**. Applicants who are pursuing a doctorate in accordance with the doctoral regulations **Dr. med.** or **Dr. med. dent.** are eligible to apply as soon as the doctoral thesis has been completed.
- Prerequisite is an existing **employment contract** with Ulm University.
- The **doctoral degree must not have been obtained more than five years prior to the start of funding**; periods of statutory maternity, parental and caretaker leave are taken into account. Documentation must be provided. The following applies in compliance with the *Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz* (short: *WissZeitVG*; law on fixed-term employment contracts in the science and research sector): Two years are credited per child up to the age of 18 who lives in the applicant's household. In accordance with §15 *Framework Examination Regulations* and §25 *Framework Doctorate Regulations* of Ulm University, periods of illness are also taken into account (documentation required).
- Only **one application** can be approved per applicant.
- Those who already received funding through Start-up funding A (ProTrainU) or the start-up funding programme *Bausteinprogramm* of the Medical Faculty can **not apply** for this funding.
- **The funding cannot be used to finance the applicant's own position.**
- The applicant must have access to the basic infrastructure of the institute and the frame conditions for the implementation of the project must be in place. This funding cannot be used to finance basic infrastructural equipment.
- Applications that do not meet the formal requirements (e.g. non-compliance with the requirements detailed in the call for applications, incomplete documents, failure to submit on time) will be excluded from the selection process.

Selection process

The applications will be assessed by the Board of Directors of ProTrainU. The Board of Directors evaluates whether the requested funding is conducive to the advancement of the applicant's academic career and whether the requested funding is commensurable. Preselected projects must be pitched in a generally understandable presentation (max. 5 minutes) at the Young Researchers' Science Day. A preparatory pitch training session (voluntary) is offered.

The Board of Directors then determines the two best proposals on the basis of the submitted documents and the presentation of the research project at the Science Day.

Selection criteria

Applications will be assessed based on the following **criteria**:

- Does the funding help to develop and sharpen the applicant's research profile?
- Does the funding help to advance the applicant's independence as a researcher?
- Academic quality and feasibility of the project

Funding conditions

- This funding is aimed at **individual junior researchers** at Ulm University. Termination of the employment contract between the applicant and Ulm University within the funding period leads to the discontinuation of the funding and must be reported to the Graduate and Professional Training Centre without delay. A continuation of the project is only possible in justified exceptional cases upon application and is subject to the approval of the Board of Directors of the Graduate and Professional Training Centre. Equipment purchased through the funding remains the property of Ulm University.
- A conversion of funds for materials and equipment into funds for assistant staff and vice versa is possible upon compelling written application. The decision on this is made by the Graduate and Professional Training Centre.
- A short **final report** (see template) must be submitted no later than six months after the end of the funding.

Application

The application must be submitted electronically together with the required documents as **one PDF file** (completed application including attachments) by email to protrainu@uni-ulm.de and **additionally** as a **printout of the complete application** (including attachments) by in-house mail to the Graduate and Professional Training Centre (see below for contact details).

The following attachments must be enclosed with the application: CV (max. two pages), list of publications (max. ten of your own publications, one page) and list of acquired third-party funding (one page). Doctoral/PhD students additionally: Doctoral/PhD agreement, acceptance letter as doctoral/PhD student.

Programme coordination

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