

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 Center 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, equipment and staff (remuneration for student assistants) for independent research projects that explore a new subject area and serve as preparation for the next qualification level. (Please refer to use of funds to see how exactly the funds may be used).

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 24 months.

Application deadline: 14 August 2024, (start of funding: January 2025)

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 date of the doctoral agreement (as signed by doctoral student and supervisor) applies, cut-off date: 14 Aug 2022] **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 after the doctoral procedure has been completed.
- An **employment relationship with Ulm University or a scholarship** based there until at least the end of the funding period applied for are required.
- 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).
- 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.
- **Simultaneous applications in other junior researcher programmes of the Medical Faculty and Ulm University as well as simultaneous funding are not allowed.**
- 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.

Use of funds

The following types of **staff** (remuneration for student assistants) can be funded:

- remuneration for student assistants (undergraduate and/or with bachelor degree). It is not permitted to employ student assistants for the completion of degree work.
- **This programme does not allow you to request funding for your position as project leader or for employing a doctoral/PhD student.**

The following **materials & equipment** can be funded:

- consumables
- travel expenses (e.g. costs of research visits of up to a maximum of 3 months, costs of conference travel or journeys to visit co-operating partners) provided they are necessary to successfully carry out the project or serve to present the project results to the scientific public for discussion. The **regulations of the Landesreisekostengesetz Baden-Württemberg (LRKG)**, the **travel expenses regulations of Ulm University** and the **regulations of Ulm University valid at the time of the trip with regard to business trips** apply.
- publication expenses
- scientific instrumentation directly and absolutely required for the realisation of the project (no basic equipment such as office PCs, monitors, etc.)
- Scientific instrumentation remains the property of Ulm University after project ends.
- test person remuneration (see regulations by Central University Administration, Dez. IV)
- But not: representation expenses.

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

- The junior researcher is responsible for the earmarked use of the approved funds.
- 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 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 **final report** must be submitted no later than three 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 Center (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. All further information, the application form and the final report can be found on the [ProTrainU website](#).

Programme coordination

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