



DFG

The DFG Review Process

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5. What are the DFG's review criteria?
6. How are decision-making bodies formed?



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Who ensures scientific merit?

The DFG's review boards

These review boards

- ▶ are elected by **scientists and academics from their respective communities**
- ▶ are involved in **panel reviews for coordinated programmes**
- ▶ monitor the selection of reviewers, make recommendations and **comparatively assess all proposals and reviews in the individual grants programme**
- ▶ ensure that comparable high-quality standards and criteria are applied equally in **all DFG programmes**

There are **48 DFG review boards** with **594 members**.

Review board members act in an honorary capacity.



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Who reviews proposals for individual grants?

Peer reviewers

Peer reviewers in the individual grants programme

- ▶ have **special knowledge of the fields involved** in the proposals
- ▶ **are unbiased and independent**
- ▶ are individually **suitable and experienced**
- ▶ are able **to argue evidentiary**
- ▶ **are additionally qualified**

Each year, and abroad. Reviewers act in an honorary capacity. The DFG receives approximately **13,000 proposals for individual grants** and solicits reviews from **9,000 reviewers** from Germany



Who review proposals for coordinated programmes?

Review panels

Review panels

- ▶ possess the required expertise to cover **all fields and subfields involved in the proposals**
- ▶ include at least one **member of a review board**
- ▶ are **independent**



The DFG Review Process

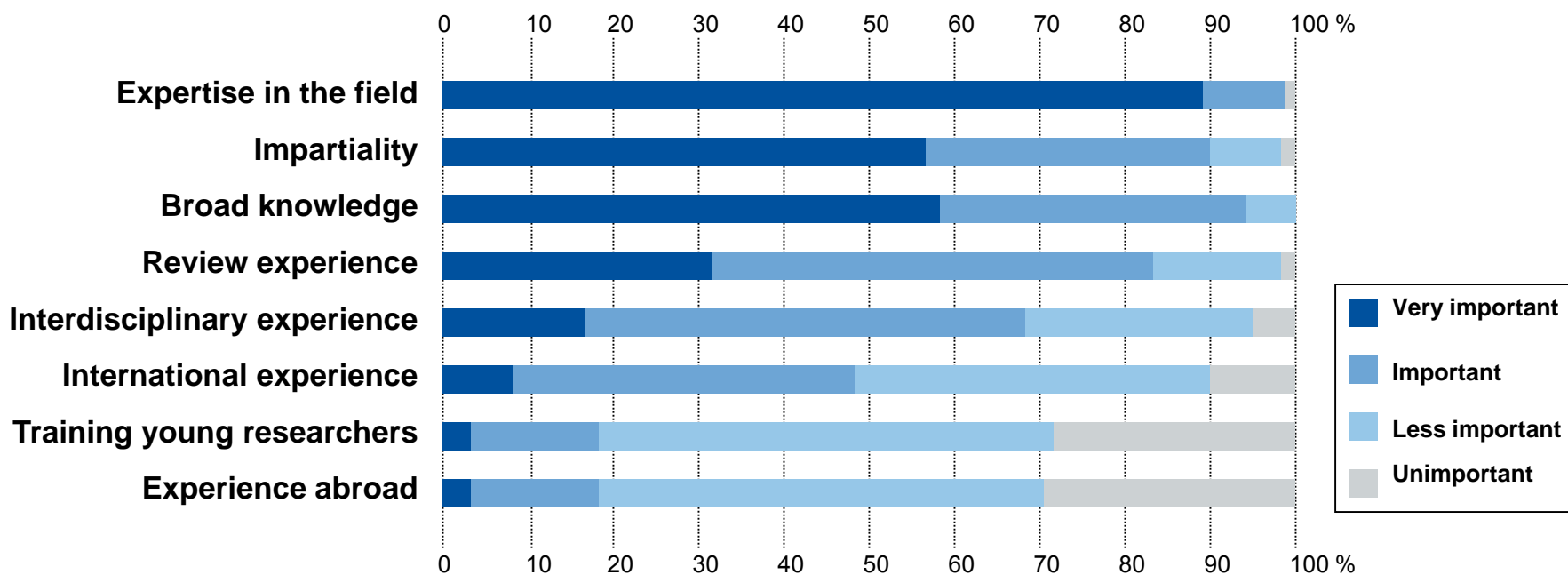
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How are reviewers and review panel members selected?

By the DFG's Head Office

Selection criteria



Source: Peer Review in the DFG –Members of the Review Boards, iFQ Working Paper No. 2, November 2007

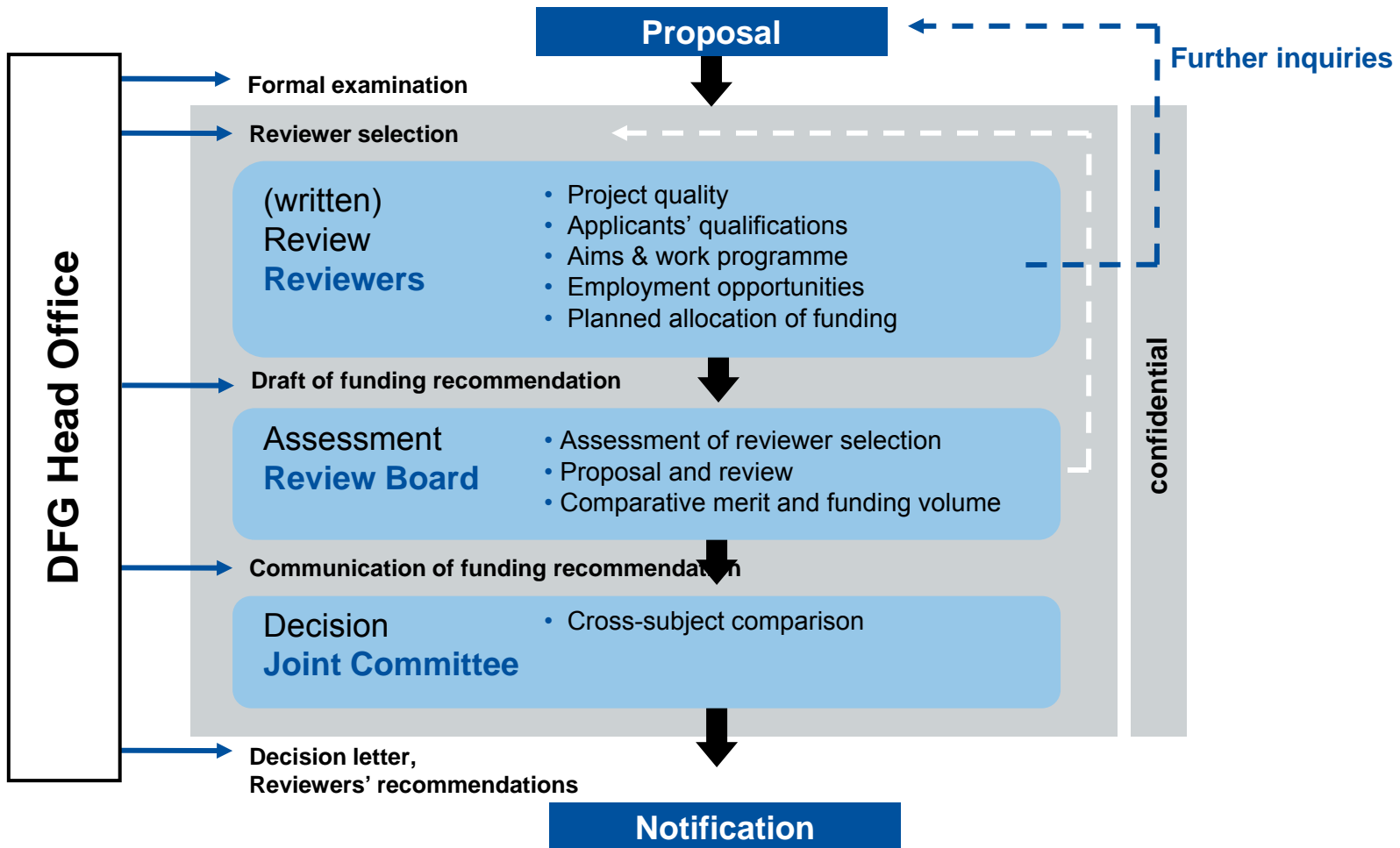
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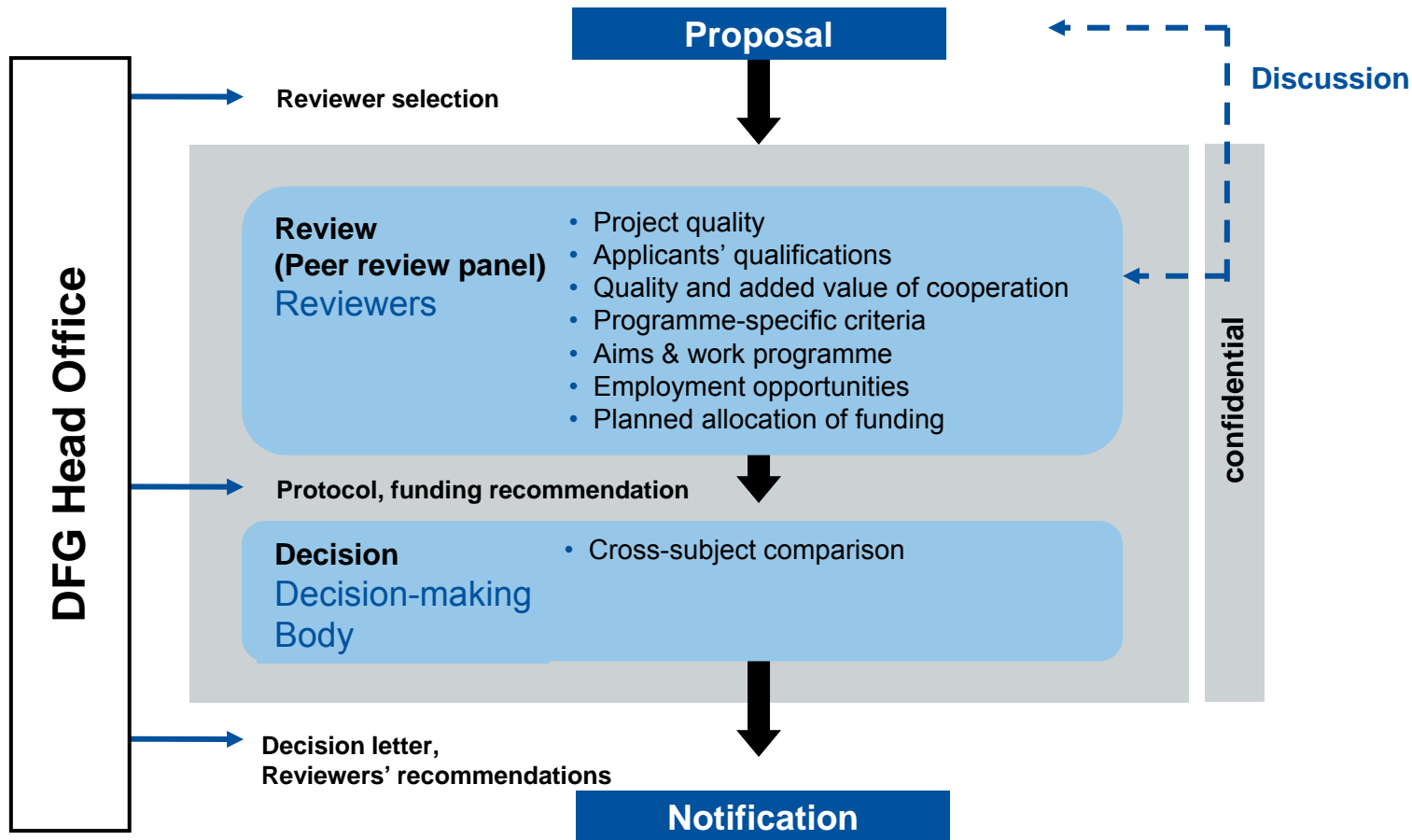
How does the decision-making process work?

Individual grants involve reviewers, a review board & the Joint Committee



How does the decision-making process work?

Coordinated programmes involve reviewers & decision-making bodies



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What are the DFG's selection criteria?

DFG reviewers judge proposals according to

- ▶ scientific quality of the project
 - ▶ applicants' qualifications
 - ▶ aims and work programme
 - ▶ employment opportunities
 - ▶ planned allocation of funding
 - ▶ quality and added value of cooperation
 - ▶ programme-specific criteria
- } in coordinated programmes



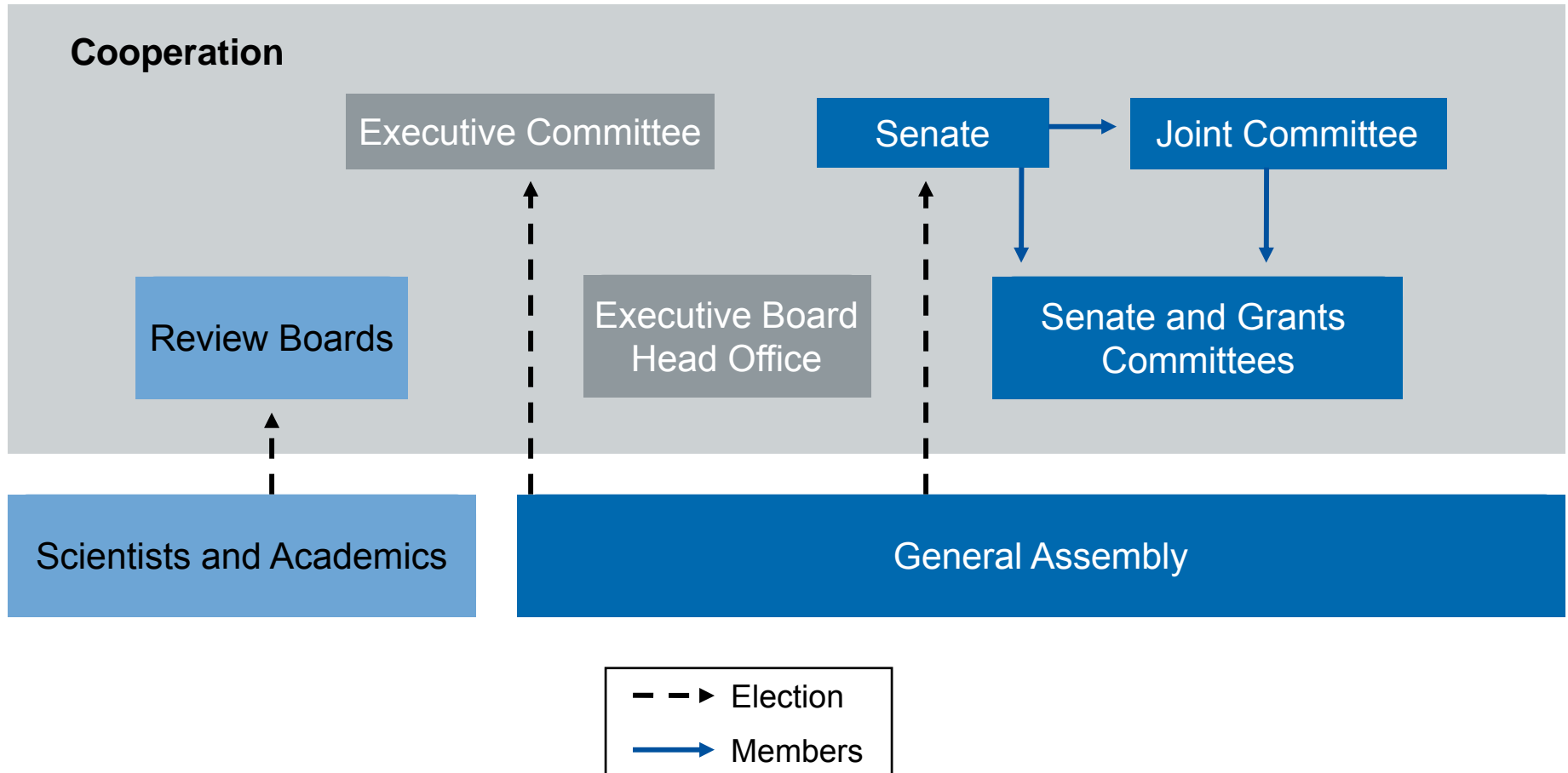
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How are decision-making bodies formed?

Cooperation between scientific communities and committee members





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For more information

- ▶ on the DFG: www.dfg.de
- ▶ on DFG-funded projects: www.dfg.de/gepris/
- ▶ on over 17,000 German research institutes: www.dfg.de/research_explorer/