

NIH/DFG Research Career Transition Awards Program

Guideline for proposals

Please submit your proposal in accordance with this guideline. Proposals must be submitted in English.

I. The information provided should conform to the guidelines specified below:

1. personal information and level of education provided by a Curriculum Vitae
2. details on the planned research:
 - a) topic;
 - b) summary:
Please summarise the key objectives of the intended research in non-technical terms and in no more than 15 lines (max. 1,600 characters).

The summary serves two main purposes:
 - to inform the DFG's statutory bodies, which are interdisciplinary and reach the final decision on your proposal, about the key objectives of your intended research;
 - if the proposal is approved, the summary will be made publicly available on the internet using a database-driven information system. Please pay particular attention to keeping the summary brief and understandable to non-experts. To ensure that it can be researched properly please avoid the use of abbreviations and use keywords that precisely describe the subject.
 - c) a presentation of the current state of knowledge as relevant to the proposal according to scientific conventions,
 - d) your scientific objectives and any preliminary work already done towards the proposed project,
 - e) your plan of work and the proposed methods of investigation,
3. details on the significance that this research is likely to have on your further scientific and professional career.
4. details on the duration of the planned research at the NIH and of the time period for the NIH part (2 or 3 years)
5. details on the considerations which led to your selection of the group which you have chosen to work on this topic

Please enclose with the proposal:

Postal Address: Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, 53170 Bonn
Street Address: Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, Kennedyallee 40, 53175 Bonn
Tel.: + 49 (0) 228/885(1), Fax: + 49 (0) 228/885-2777
E-Mail: postmaster@dfg.de; Internet: <http://www.dfg.de>

6. a written agreement from the researcher with whom you wish to conduct the research project. The NIH have provided an outline of the points that should be addressed in the letter of the researcher, it can be obtained via the DFG-Homepage http://www.dfg.de/forschungsfoerderung/nachwuchsfoerderung/nih_dfg_program/download/mentors_statement_dfg.pdf ;
7. a reference from a scientist or academic about you and about the intended research;
8. copies of certificates (diploma, doctorate), a list of your publications, your doctoral thesis and one copy each of any other significant publications. These will be returned to you once a decision on your proposal has been made.

Please submit your proposal, including all accompanying documentation threefoldly, if possible hole-punched and without binders, plastic pockets, etc. and as an electronic version (preferably PDF, otherwise RTF)

II. Obligations

By accepting a NIH/DFG Reserach Career Transition Award you agree to

1. adhere to the rules of good scientific practice.¹⁾

In cases of scientific misconduct, the DFG may impose sanctions. Scientific misconduct is defined as the intentional and grossly negligent statement of false facts in a scientifically relevant context, the violation of intellectual property or impeding another person's research activities. The circumstances of each case will be considered on an individual basis.

Depending on the nature and extent of the misconduct exposed, the DFG may:

- issue a written reprimand to those involved;
- exclude those found responsible from the right to apply for DFG funds for a period of one to eight years, depending on the severity of the scientific misconduct;
- revoke funding decisions (completely or partially revoke approvals, demand the return of authorised funds, and the repayment of funds spent);
- demand that those concerned either retract the publications containing false data, correct the false data (in particular by publishing an erratum) or include a reference as to the DFG's retraction of funds;
- exclude those found responsible from acting as a reviewer or from membership on DFG committees;
- deny the right to vote in DFG elections.

¹⁾ The rules of good scientific practice are presented in detail in the white paper "Proposals for Safeguarding Good Scientific Practice" and in the Usage Guidelines for Research Grants, DFG form 2.01 and 2.02 (available on the internet at: http://www.dfg.de/en/research_funding/forms/index.html or the section "Proposal Process"). They are based on the recommendations of an international commission of self-regulation in science and on a decision of the DFG's General Assembly, endorsed by the German Rectors' Conference, dated 17 June 1998. According to the decision of the General Assembly of 4 July 2001, research institutions which have not implemented the rules of good scientific practice or do not abide by them will not be able to apply or receive DFG funding as of 1 July 2002.

2. dedicate yourself to the expeditious realisation of the intended research (secondary employment is only permissible in exceptional cases, i.e. if it does not have a negative impact on the objectives of the fellowship, and requires written permission from the DFG).
3. report completely on the current status of your research work according to scientific conventions, listing all interim results up to that juncture, by the deadlines given in the letter of approval.

III. Publication of Applicant and Project Data

The data required for the processing of the proposal are stored and processed electronically by the DFG. If funding is granted, your address (telephone, fax, e-mail, internet homepage) as well as information on the content of the project (i.e. subject, summary, keywords, international relevance) will be stored in the project database GEPRIS (<http://www.dfg.de/gepris>). In addition, excerpts (name, institution, and location of the applicant) are published in the "Programs and Projects" section of the electronic copy of the annual report. If you do not wish to have this information published, please notify us within four weeks after receipt of your award letter.