

Clusters of Excellence Funding Line

Funding Criteria

Research

- Quality of the research programme in an international comparison: originality, vision, and openness to risk
- Disciplinary and interdisciplinary scope, coherence and feasibility of the research programme
- Added value of the collaboration
- Quality of previous contributions to the field of research
- Positive impact on the future development of the field of research or the stimulation of new research areas

Researchers

- Academic excellence of the participating researchers
- International competitiveness and visibility
- Diversity in the composition of the group

Structures and strategies in the Cluster of Excellence

- Support for early-career researchers and their academic independence
- Support of equity and diversity
- Strategies for research data and research software management and provisions for research infrastructures and instrumentation
- Management, governance and quality assurance
- Science communication and knowledge transfer; where applicable: research-oriented teaching

Environment of the Cluster of Excellence

- Integration and role in the strategic development planning of the university/universities (in the case of joint proposals: cooperative structure and contributions of the respective applicant universities)
- Staffing, financial, infrastructural and other resources provided by the institution(s)
- Benefit of the collaboration with other institutions

Appropriateness of the requested funds

University allowance

- Plausibility of the strategic objectives pursued by the university/universities