



## Call for Proposals: Start-up Funding

The Priority Program (PP) 2244 provides start-up funding meant to allow young investigators to follow their research ideas and empower them to apply for their own projects before the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> funding period in March 2027. The call is primarily addressed to researchers involved in the PP 2244, but external applicants are also welcome. We particularly welcome applications by female scientists and scientists of underrepresented groups.

### Type of support provided by PP 2244

The maximum amount of start-up funding available is 20,000 € per application, with total funds of up to 65,000 €. The funding is planned for a period of about six months. Funding does not cover expenses for basic equipment (such as office material, PCs, literature, telephone). The funding can either go to equipment, project-related consumables, or personnel costs.

### Requirements

A short proposal with a maximum of 2 pages is required to apply for the start-up funding. It has to contain the project description, the timeline of the project, and a budget calculation. Additionally, a letter of acceptance from a hosting university has to be submitted stating the following:

- I. The financial plan agrees with the local regulations of the host institution, in particular concerning the personnel costs.
- II. The applicant (and her/his prospective personnel) has access to suitable infrastructure (computer and web access, access to library, access to a laboratory with all required equipment for the proposed project).
- III. The applicant will be moderately involved in teaching (up to four hours per week).

Further requirements are:

- I. The hosting institution must ensure regular mentoring meetings with the applicant.
- II. The applicant has to present a signed career development plan that includes statements about scientific independence, access to infrastructure, personnel support, and involvement in the hosting institution.

All required documents must be submitted to [dfg-spp2244@tu-dresden.de](mailto:dfg-spp2244@tu-dresden.de) until **April 1, 2025**.

### Selection criteria

- I. The period after finishing the PhD should not exceed four years, extended by potential parental leave periods, upon the date of this opening.
- II. Applicants shall submit independent proposals only.
- III. Applicants shall not be PI in any project already funded within the PP 2244.
- IV. There shall be no overlap between the proposed research activities and projects already funded within the PP 2244.
- V. Scientific excellence of the candidate (evidenced by the PhD thesis and previous research activities).
- VI. The proposal should be scientifically excellent, promising, and visionary.
- VII. The proposed research plan shall be compatible with the goals of the PP 2244.
- VIII. Feasibility of reaching a full proposal stage within the funding period.
- IX. The proposed project should be the start of a scientifically independent project, not the mere extension of an existing one.
- X. Additional resources must be provided by the hosting institution. This includes full coverage of basic equipment.

Submitted proposals will be evaluated and funded according to a decision by the steering committee.