

Regulations Research Grants Neurology

November 2021

1 Objectives and Principles

The Department of Neurology awards fellowships to young researchers in order to grant protected research time.

The research grants (*Research Grant “Diversity and Excellence in Clinical Research”* and *“Diversity and Excellence in Basic and Translational Research”*) are intended for

- a. young clinicians/ residents (MD or Neuropsychologists)
- b. basic and translational researchers
- c. senior clinicians/ senior registrars (*only for substantiated reasons*)

who wish to pursue an academic career in the Department of Neurology. The granted research time enables such researchers to acquire more in-depth knowledge, to increase their scientific independence and to enhance their research profile.

The research grants are not intended to fund research stays abroad.

Applicants, who have been granted additional funding from another funding agency for the same project after submission of their application or during the funding period, need to inform the Research Board at once.

2 FTE, Duration and Start of the Fellowship

The Research Grants are awarded in principle for a duration of a minimum of 3 and up to a maximum of 12 months. It can be awarded as part-time or full-time grant, depending on the planned research activity.

The definite start date of the fellowship needs to be confirmed by the Personalboard of the Department.

Successful applicants will be exempt from clinical work for the duration of the project if the needs of the clinic allows it.

3 Eligibility

Researchers who meet the following requirements may submit applications for research grants:

- a. Employment at the Department of Neurology.
- b. Applicants are young clinicians/ residents (MD or Neuropsychologists) or basic/translational researchers before, during or maximum one year after their MD-PhD/PhD.
- c. Senior clinicians (senior registrars) or senior researchers can be considered for substantiated reasons, i.e. availability of additional project funding, or other reasons.
- d. Applicants enrolled in a graduate school aiming to obtain an MD-PhD, e.g. GHS, GCB, are only eligible to apply, if they do not have secured funding. Applicants with plans for an MD-PhD can only apply once for a grant, for a maximum of one year (12 months); their application has to be approved by the Research Board before submission.

4 **Formal Requirements**

Applications for research grants must be submitted electronically and must include all information and documents designated as mandatory within the call for proposals.

Applications that have been submitted after the submission deadline will not be considered for funding.

5 **Eligible Costs**

Covered by the research grants is the grantee's salary, incl. social security contributions. The amount is calculated based on the regular salary of the grantee.

Not covered by the research grants are costs such as travel allowances, consumables, publication costs, IT hard- and software, catering costs, tuition fees and others.

A total amount of funding for each annual funding round is fixed prior to the publication of calls for proposals.

6 **Assessment Criteria**

Applications that meet the eligibility and formal requirements are subjected for scientific evaluation.

The following assessment criteria are applied:

- a. the applicant's scientific track record
- b. the applicant's aptitude for an academic career
- c. the applicant's career progression
- d. scientific relevance, quality, originality and topicality of the research project to be carried out during the research project
- e. approach and methodology of the research project as well as its feasibility and chances of success
- f. Equity and diversity standards of the Department of Neurology ([Link](#))

7 **Evaluation and Decision**

The Research Board of the Department of Neurology is responsible for the scientific evaluation of applications and for decisions with regard to the research grants.

The scientific evaluation of the applications is conducted by each member of the Research Board individually. The final decision will be discussed within the Research Board.

In case of a conflict of interest, the corresponding member of the Research Board abstains himself/ herself from voting on the particular submission, although his/ her individual scientific evaluation will be taken into consideration.

8 **Grant Release and Expiry**

The approved grants are released as salary of the grantees by the end of the first month of their research time.

If it is impossible for a grantee to start the fellowship as planned, e.g. due to maternity leave, clinical duties, etc., the fellowship can be postponed, if the needs of the clinic allows it.

A fellowship can be postponed for a maximum of 6 months.

9 **Reporting**

A final report of 2 – max. 3 pages is to be submitted after the completion of the fellowship on behalf of the Research Board.

10 Entry into Force

These regulations enter into force with the publication of the calls for proposals of the research grants 2022.