

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) regarding the applications for the position “Junior Research Group Leader” as part of the “Excellent Ideas II” programme

Application formalities

Do you provide a template for the required research concept?

No, we provide no template. You are free to organize your concept according to your needs. Please ensure that it includes preliminary work and a description of how the project will advance the respective field at JMU.

What aspects should be covered by the “research concept” section?

The research concept should describe which research questions are to be addressed within the research group you aim to establish. What research questions would you like to address? How will you proceed? What is your scientific niche and how does it fit into the field?

What is an “academic reference” and how should it be submitted?

„Academic references” are letters of recommendation.

They can be submitted together with the application or separately. If your letters of recommendation are sent separately, please ensure that they can be clearly assigned to your application. Letters of recommendation should include the name of the applicant and the interfaculty research field of interest.

Will letters of recommendation have to be submitted in English?

No, letters of recommendation may also be submitted in German. We do however advise to send all other application documents in English.

How is “preliminary work” defined?

“Preliminary work” includes both published preliminary work, which proves that you can carry out the planned research concept, and unpublished preliminary work, which proves the feasibility of your project ideas.

Does the bibliography have to be included in the five pages of the research concept?

Yes, the five pages should already include a bibliography. Since this is an envisioned research programme, we do not expect a comprehensive bibliography.

Requirements for an application

What are the eligibility criteria for this call with regard to completion of the doctorate degree?

The call is aimed at researchers in the early stages of their careers. Ideally, the PhD degree should not have been awarded within the last 2 to 4 years.

Is a PhD a prerequisite for the application?

A PhD that has not yet been completed is not formally an obstacle. However, it is to be expected that most applicants have completed their PhD and are on the verge of starting their own academic careers.

Application process

Is it possible to contact the participating chairs regarding the call for applications?

The participating chairs may of course be contacted.

How can candidates from abroad take part in the selection symposium in April 2025?

Candidates from Germany and abroad are invited to attend the symposium in person. The symposium is a good opportunity to get to know future colleagues on site. Travel and accommodation costs will be covered.

If traveling from abroad is not possible, an online interview can be arranged.

Should interruptions in the CV that have an impact on the career be explained?

Such circumstances should be explained in an accompanying letter so that they can be taken into account in the assessment.

Terms of employment

Is the advertised position a full-time position?

The position is a full-time position that is remunerated according to the collective agreement for public services (TV-L).

Are there any German language requirements or expectations for the application?

There is no formal requirement for the German language.

**Do you have any other questions? Please get in touch with the team of the
Research Advancement Centre**

rac-office@uni-wuerzburg.de