

Supplementary information on the submission of "netidee SCIENCE" research proposals to be funded by the Internet Foundation

The objective behind netidee SCIENCE funding is to support independent basic research on the opportunities and challenges presented by the internet and related innovations at Austria's universities and non-university research institutions. The netidee SCIENCE award for excellent online research is financed by the charitable foundation Internet Stiftung.

Funding is provided for forward-looking research projects that advance scientific knowledge about the internet, its underlying technologies and methods, and the resulting social aspects. Topics can range from projects on basic technologies, the Internet of Things, information security, and data protection, to research into communication systems, social networks, and new forms of digital communication and their impact on society. The netidee SCIENCE award does not focus on technology alone, but also on the economic, social, and political aspects of the internet.

The Internet Stiftung itself is committed to further developing the internet in Austria and to ensuring a free and well-regulated access to all that it offers. The netidee SCIENCE award and its funding for basic research in this field are intended to support and strengthen this guiding principle.

1. Eligible projects

Funding is available for projects with clearly defined objectives and methods as well as clearly specified limits in terms of duration and budget. The requirements are analogous to those applicable to the FWF's Stand-Alone Projects programme or ESPRIT programme. This call is specifically intended for projects that aim to promote the Internet in Austria as well as the technologies and methods necessary for that purpose.

2. How to submit an application

In this call, applicants are to submit proposals based on the guidelines and forms provided for the [Stand-Alone Projects](#) or [ESPRIT programme](#) by 10 April 2023 at the latest.

Applications can be submitted online at [elane](#).

Please note that stand-alone projects (P) are submitted ad personam and ESPRIT projects via PROFi and must thus be selected under different positions when submitting an application via elane. When creating an application, applicants must first select the type of application (Application ad personam or Application PROFi). Applicants must next select the appropriate funding category (P or ESP) and then select the call "netidee SCIENCE" from the drop-down menu.

In addition, a programme-specific form must be filled out in elane. On the basis of this programme-specific form, the FWF will decide whether the submitted stand-alone project or ESPRIT project actually meets the thematic requirements of the current call. If this is not the case, the applicant agrees that the application shall be processed and decided upon as a stand-alone project or an ESPRIT project according to the standard procedure.

Important: To submit an application for a “netidee SCIENCE” grant, one PR summary in German and one PR summary in English must be uploaded in elane as a general annex (PDF format, no more than 3,000 characters).

Stand-alone projects: Once the application process has been completed in the application portal, a cover sheet is generated which must be sent to the FWF with the relevant signatures and stamps by 12 April 2022 at the latest. The evidence of timely submission is the date of postmark or the date on which the email with the cover sheet is received.

ESPRIT: The application must be approved and submitted by the research institute by 10 April 2023 at the latest.

Once the application has been received, applicants may only make changes or provide supplementary information if requested to do so by the FWF; any such changes or supplementary information must be submitted within a defined period of time of receiving notification from the FWF.

Applications which are submitted after the deadline will be handled according to the usual procedures followed in the Stand-Alone Projects programme or ESPRIT programme.

3. Maximum funding amount

Depending on the individual project project-specific costs (personnel and non-personnel costs) may be requested. The number of reviews required depends on the level of funding requested.

4. Decision-making procedure

Decisions on grant awards will be made by the Internet Foundation on the basis of the FWF's recommendations within four weeks of the FWF Board meeting in October 2022.

The Internet Foundation will make a total amount of €400,000.00 available for the call.

Where the resources required for an excellent project to be funded by the Internet Foundation exceed the funding amount provided by the Internet Foundation, the FWF will fund the difference from its own budget.

Grant proposals which receive outstanding reviews but cannot be funded by the Internet Foundation will be financed by the FWF; in such cases, however, the special arrangement regarding additional general project costs will no longer apply.

5. Specific information on the call

In stand-alone projects funded by the Internet Foundation, general project costs will automatically be increased by 10%; projects in the ESPRIT programme receive 5% more budget.

Applications submitted under this call in the Stand-Alone Projects programme are not subject to the limit on the number of ongoing projects ([“3 projects regulation”](#), PDF, 79 KB).