



Interdisciplinary Research Networks 2026 - Call for Proposals

The Faculty of Life Sciences is seeking to cultivate collaborative research endeavours across the disciplines of biology, nutritional sciences and pharmaceutical sciences. This funding initiative is designed to establish two interdisciplinary research networks, fostering collaboration within the faculty and with academic institutions at the Vienna BioCenter (VBC). This call specifically targets young scientists, encouraging them to secure research funding and forge new collaborations.

Objectives:

- Encourage collaborative interactions across scientific disciplines (e.g., co-supervised master studies)
- Support young scientists in acquiring research funding and establishing partnerships.
- Address new, original, and deepening research ideas across disciplines.
- Generate preliminary data for joint publications and future proposals for national or international research funding.

Funding Details:

- Two networks are funded per year.
- Each network can receive up to 15,000 EUR for a maximum duration of 18 months.
- Projects are expected to start in October 2026; extensions are only possible if substantial reasons apply.

Eligibility and Requirements:

- Assistant professors TT, associate professors TT, associate professors, and all fixed-term postdocs of the Faculty of Life Sciences are eligible to apply.
- Postdoctoral Researchers can only apply for either this funding scheme or for Postdoctoral Researcher Seed Grant announced in the same year.
- Senior scientists, Senior Lecturers and full professors are not eligible.
- For intra-faculty applications, applicants must be employed by at least two different departments and interdisciplinarity must be given.
- Joined applications with academic institutes at the VBC (i.e., CMESSE, Max F. Perutz Labs, GMI, IMBA, IMP) are possible, provided that the respective costs are covered by the VBC research institution. Confirmation of funding from the head of the respective VBC institute must be included with the application.
- Applicants from the Faculty of Life Sciences must have continuous employment at the University of Vienna throughout the project.



- Each applicant is allowed only one proposal; members of last year's funded research networks are not eligible.
- For applications with participation of a fixed-termed postdoc, the approval of the respective PI is required (in case of self-financed position the approval of the hosting PI is required)

Submission Guidelines:

- Proposals should be 2-3 pages long (in English, 11pt type, 1.5 line spacing) and include project background, aims, significance and impact, as well as a description of the role and specific expertise of all partners.
- In addition, the following information needs to be submitted: Budget list, work plans and time schedule, and CVs (max. 2 pages) of the applicants, indicating the five most relevant publications.
- Eligible costs include consumables, work contracts, fee for service-costs, and travel costs. Salaries cannot be funded.

Evaluation Process:

- Preference is given to novel collaborations and a high degree of interdisciplinarity.
- Projects will be assessed by a selection committee comprising members of the Faculty's Scientific Advisory Board and the Dean's team.

Reporting Requirements:

- A short scientific report (1-2 pages) and a financial overview of expenses are expected within 6 months after project termination.
- Upon agreement with the Dean's office, project results may be presented at the annual Faculty Event or at the Postdoctoral Researcher Networking Event.

Deadline and Contact Information:

- The deadline for submission of proposals is 30 April 2026. Please submit one PDF document containing all required information via the [submission portal](#).
- For any inquiries regarding the Interdisciplinary Research Networks, please contact dekanat.lewi@univie.ac.at.