

Cognitive Sciences

Call 2011

The first project call "Cognitive Sciences" of the Vienna Science and Technology Fund (WWTF) addresses

- ▶ Universities and non-university research institutions as well as scientists and researchers in Vienna, including researchers moving to Vienna as a result of this call,
- ▶ that would like to investigate a multi-annual (2-4 years) innovative scientific research project in the field of Cognitive Sciences.
- ▶ Proposals must address substantial present scientific research questions in the field of Cognitive Sciences and aim at advancing a rigorous understanding of cognitive processes in humans, animals and machines.
- ▶ In total 3 mio. € are dedicated for this call. Minimum funding sum per project is 200,000 €.
- ▶ Young (according to academic age, starting at Postdoc level) and female scientists are especially encouraged to apply and act as Principal Investigators.

Proposals can be submitted until 1 June 2011 at 2pm.

Decisions will be made in late fall 2011.

Detailed information is available in the online submission system at **www.wwtf.at**



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WWTF Project Call 2011 “Cognitive Sciences” Focus and key facts

WWTF's mission

The mission of WWTF is to contribute to making Vienna a better research location and to foster both excellent and relevant research. Universities, non-university research institutions, and individual scientists are eligible for submitting applications within defined thematic programmes: 'Life Sciences', 'Mathematics and...', 'SciENCE for creative industries/ Cognitive Sciences', and 'Information and Communication Technology'.

Deadline

WWTF's first project call 'Cognitive Sciences' starts on February 1, 2011 and will be closed on June 1, 2011 at 2 pm.

Scope of the Programme

Quality and Relevance: The WWTF 'Cognitive Sciences' Call 2011 targets high-quality innovative scientific research projects with no guaranteed short-term payoff but targeting an area where there is a recognized problem affecting society, economy, or technology. The results of these projects should improve the understanding of substantial present scientific research questions in Cognitive Sciences, thus advancing a rigorous understanding of cognitive processes in humans, animals and machines.

Funding

The overall budget allocated for this Call is 3 mio. €.

WWTF provides funding for scientific projects (lasting two to four years) which should have the following characteristics:

- ▶ Projects are characterized by a well-defined scientific research programme with clearly identified research questions, specified hypotheses, and a catalogue of sound methods to address these questions.
- ▶ Projects should aim at advancing a rigorous understanding of substantial present scientific research questions in the field of Cognitive Sciences.
- ▶ Projects may address inter- and transdisciplinary aspects with a clear focus on furthering the state-of-the-art in Cognitive Sciences.
- ▶ Projects that pursue scientific research of an explorative nature with new and innovative approaches are especially welcome.
- ▶ Projects must exhibit an identifiable perspective for medium term economic and/or social benefits.
- ▶ The proposing team of researchers must document a solid scientific track record according to their academic age, and must show complementary expertise in Cognitive Sciences.
- ▶ The project must be affiliated to a Viennese Home Institution, project partners can be based worldwide.
- ▶ No industry involvement is required. No funding for industry partners can be provided.
- ▶ Projects will typically request funding in the range of 200,000 € to 500,000 € for 2-4 years.

WWTF evaluation process:

- ▶ All projects submitted within the application deadline will first undergo a **formal eligibility check by WWTF staff**. Projects that do not meet the formal criteria will be rejected at this stage of the evaluation procedure. Applicants will be informed about rejections immediately.
- ▶ The next step is a first qualitative screening by a broadly composed international scientific expert jury. Proposals which clearly are not within the core of the Cognitive Sciences Call 2011, as well as proposals that do not meet international quality standards, will be **C-listed by the jury**. Again, applicants will be informed about rejections immediately.
- ▶ The remaining proposals will be assessed by at least two **expert peers strictly from abroad** (applicants will be provided with anonymized written reviews after the funding decision).
- ▶ The most significant step in the assessment is, that all proposals are evaluated comprehensively in a **jury meeting** in Vienna on the basis of the written peer reviews and the jury's own expertise, resulting in a recommendation "to be funded" or "not to be funded" for each proposal.
- ▶ The assessment process (peer review and jury meeting) is completed by the **formal funding decision** of the WWTF Board of Directors. The decision is expected for late fall 2011.

Generally, applicants for funding as well as the submitted project proposals need to be characterized by top **scientific quality**. Additionally, as secondary criteria, WWTF wants to especially encourage **women** and **young researchers** to apply for funding and to act as principal investigators. This means that in case there are more top quality proposals than funding available, those top proposals with women and young researchers as principal investigators will be favoured.

For more details kindly refer to the "WWTF Funding Guidelines" and to the "Guide for Writing a Proposal", both available online at www.wwtf.at.

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