



IEM Starting Grant – Call for applications 2019

The Institute of Evolutionary Medicine (IEM), University of Zurich, is calling for grant applications:

1. General aim of the IEM Starting Grants

The aim of the IEM Starting Grants is to provide “seed money” for testing new ideas and to support novel projects within the wider field of Evolutionary Medicine (e.g., provide proof of principle in preliminary or higher risk projects that would not yet be supported by other more competitive funding agencies).

This first support should offer the opportunity to subsequently apply for other funding of more substantial scope. Another aim is to promote scientific exchange and collaborations as well as the development of joint projects involving collaborators within and around the IEM.

2. General requirements

- IEM group leaders and/or their team members (with a PhD or Dr. med./MD degree) can apply for IEM Starting Grants. PhD and master students must not submit any research proposal.
- If external collaborators of the IEM members are applying, the collaborating IEM-member (see above) still has to be named in the proposal and be aware of the submitted project.
- The main applicant needs to be affiliated with a Swiss institution. Collaborations with partners in other countries are still permitted.
- No projects involving industrial partners will be funded.

3. Duration and eligible costs

- Applications for financial support up to CHF 50'000.- and duration of one year may be made for single research projects. Support will be given to salaries (of staff to be appointed at the IEM), consumables, material or even smaller laboratory equipment.
- No costs for any kind of overhead including infrastructure use can be funded.
- In general, no follow-up grants are approved.

4. Application procedure

- Submission deadline is January 31, 2019
- Proposals have to be submitted to: info@iem.uzh.ch
- Proposals have to be written in English.
- Only complete applications will be considered. Receipt of each application will be acknowledged



by e-mail within 2-3 weeks after the submission deadline. Written notification of the decision will be sent out latest 4-5 months after the submission deadline.

- Applications should include (all combined in one pdf-file!):
 - A. Scientific abstract (0.5 page)
 - B. Detailed research proposal (specific aim/hypotheses, detailed research plan, etc. max. 5 pages)
 - C. Budget requested (1 page)
 - D. If applicable, a list of collaborators who agreed to participate (1 page)
 - E. Short CV of the main applicant (including a list of major publications and previous funding, max. 2 pages)

5. Review of grant proposals and evaluation criteria

The reviewing procedure is divided in the following steps:

1. Pre-review: Completeness of the proposal; compliance with the general and structural requirements (deadlines, page limitations, eligibility, etc.)
2. Review: Scientific evaluation by the IEM Starting Grant Steering Committee (Director of the IEM and two seniors Academic Guests at the IEM). In case that a Board Member is involved in an application, she/he is excluded from any discussion.
3. Final approval by IEM Starting Grant Steering Committee.

The funding criteria are:

- Relevance within the objectives of the IEM
- Originality
- Scientific and technical excellence of the proposal and the team
- Ability to conduct the project successfully
- Justification of the budget
- Prospects of success as future and larger application with a more of more substantial scope at other funding agencies (e.g., SNSF)