



More room for your research ideas

Funding Initiative for Interdisciplinary Research at TU Darmstadt

TU Darmstadt considers interdisciplinary research as part of its university culture and recognises the synergies arising from different professional disciplines as very valuable. According to its guiding principle, it supports interdisciplinary cooperation in research and teaching.

Within the framework of the funding initiative for interdisciplinary research, TU Darmstadt offers project funding (state funding) for **interdisciplinary research** projects on a regular basis. In order to stimulate new ideas, priority is given to projects that generate forward-looking, previously non-existent research collaborations/projects with the potential to generate third-party funding.

It is also possible to submit projects on **IANUS topics**. They should contribute in an interdisciplinary way to the reduction of social or global conflicts and to the promotion or assurance of peaceful coexistence, respectively. For further information, please see our [websites](https://fif.tu-darmstadt.de/themen_fif/ianus) (fif.tu-darmstadt.de/themen_fif/ianus).

Little effort - high chances of success!

Submit a short outline of your project. A funding rate of 40% in the last four funding rounds offers you good prospects of success.

Call for proposals 2025 for FiF projects

Please also see our notes and checklist on the FiF websites!

Nota bene: This is the first time that interdisciplinary projects together with non-university research institutions (AuF) from the Rhine-Main region may also be applied for.

Please refer to the following links to find out which AuFs are involved:

IHK

<https://www.ihk.de/darmstadt/produktmarken/beraten-und-informieren/innovation/technologietransfer/forschungseinrichtungen-2553900>: Research institutions in the region

wissenschaft.hessen.de

https://wissenschaft.hessen.de/forschen/ausseruniversitaere-forschungseinrichtungen-0?displayFirst=list_first

Non-university research institutions (This list refers to the entire State of Hesse; only non-university research institutions in the Rhine-Main region are applicable for TU Darmstadt's call for funding).

Application

Applications may be submitted by TU employees from all departments of the university who can prove that they have completed a doctorate. The contract period must cover the entire duration of the project. The application must be submitted by at least two researchers from different disciplines each of whom fulfils these criteria. External researchers with a doctorate and visiting professors at TU Darmstadt are not entitled to apply. They can, however, be co-operation partners of the project. As a matter of principle, no funds from the TU funding initiative are distributed to external parties.



The following constellations are possible:

TU internal PIs as applicants	PIs of the AuFs as cooperation partners	Max. funding amount from TU internal state funds	Own funds to be provided by the AuFs (additional funds)
min. 2 applicants	0	100,000 Euros	0 Euro
1 applicant	min. 1 applicant	50,000 Euros	pro rata 50,000 Euros
min. 2 applicants	min. 1 applicant	100,000 Euros	pro rata 50,000 Euros

Submission of project proposal

Please use the [template](#) (max. 6 pages plus appendix page 7 and page 8 for bibliography, justification and cost plan) and send it to fif@fif.tu-darmstadt.de in due time. Applications received after the deadline are not considered. Instructions on structure, content, font size, etc. can be found in the above-mentioned template.

Deadlines

The deadline for the submission of project outlines is **20 October 2025**.
In case you are invited to the hearing, you will be informed of the date in writing as soon as possible (see procedure below).

Duration of the funding period and obligation to report

Projects can be funded for a limited period of **up to 12 months**. A cost-neutral extension is possible with the submission of a written justification before the expiration of the funding period.

TU-internal state funding for research projects

According to the DFG regulations („Hinweise zur Bezahlung von Promovierenden“, see DFG form 55.02-05/20) funding of up to **100,000 Euros** may be applied for. The sum is based on financing two PhD students with a 55% position for one year or one postdoc working in both (or several participating) research groups with a 100% position for one year. The project number (Kostenstelle) is automatically closed at the end of the grant period. Residual funds will be withdrawn.



Timetable of the procedure

1. Submission of project draft	Draft application for FiF & IANUS topics Consultation & if necessary invitation to lecture <i>Total 100,000 euros & 12 months term</i>
2. Presentation	Presentation with discussion
3. Project start	Project start after positive commission vote
4. Report	Final report & proof of use Final presentation & project evaluation

Funding criteria for FiF projects (including IANUS topics)

- Scientific quality, originality and innovation.
- Participation of different disciplines according to the object of investigation and appropriate consideration of the current state of research in the relevant discipline.
- Necessity and suitability for funding as well as prospects for further follow-up funding from third parties.
- Connection between research idea and teaching.
- Presentation of interdisciplinary communication and cooperation between the disciplines during the work process.
- Importance for setting priorities at TU Darmstadt, especially visibility within and outside the university.

Funds distributed

As only **state funds** are requested, the relevant rules for their expenditure apply. This must be observed in particular when recruiting and agreed upon with the HR department.

For further information please contact the [members of the FiF commission](#) or the [FiF office](#) (06151-1622132).