

Funding of Research Infrastructures of the Faculty of Medicine Call for Proposals 2024

In order to support and further develop its research infrastructures, the Medical Faculty of the Albert-Ludwigs-University of Freiburg invites applications within the scope of the funding lines for the

Start-Up Funding Innovation for Acknowledged Research Infrastructure Facilities of the Faculty of Medicine

The goal of the Faculty of Medicine is to promote strategically important research infrastructures, as these form an essential basis for defining our research priorities in the face of national and international competition. Moreover, research infrastructures provide important services to all research institutions of the Faculty of Medicine and support our scientists in their academic careers. Laying the groundwork for the development and operation of efficient and high-performance facilities is thus of utmost importance.

Research infrastructures differ in terms of their strategic importance, type of operation, size of their circle of use and financing. The Faculty of Medicine distinguishes between three types of facilities: Central Facility, Core Facility and Shared Facility. For definitions of the categories of facilities, please refer to the website: <https://www.med.uni-freiburg.de/en/research/research-infrastructures>

For simplicity, the term 'facilities' will be used to refer to all 3 types of research infrastructure facilities in the following.

The Faculty of Medicine supports innovation and further development of large-scale equipment and methods in the acknowledged facilities in order to provide technical equipment and scientific expertise of the highest and most up-to-date level. A prerequisite for successful operation of these facilities is state-of-the-art technical equipment and the well-trained staff. The funding line "Start-up Funding Innovation" (*german: 'Anschubfinanzierung Innovation'*) for facilities provides flexible funding to address new challenges and tasks.

The Research Infrastructure Commission (FISKO) of the Faculty of Medicine is responsible for assessing applications and evaluating the funding line "Start-up Funding Innovation" for facilities. The 2-stage application procedure is as follows:

- 1) The applications are reviewed by the FISKO after submission deadline;
- 2) Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an in-person presentation at the FISKO meeting.

Promotion

As stated in the research infrastructure concept adopted by the Faculty of Medicine, the "Start-up Funding Innovation" funding line is subject to the funds available to the Faculty of Medicine. Funding will begin on 01.01.2025.

Funding is limited to a maximum of €100 000 per application. The duration of the projects is usually two years, but projects running for one year are also eligible. Applications can be made

for funds for personnel, consumables, equipment (investments) and equipment-related expenditure. Applications to optimise structures, service provision and training programmes are welcomed.

A budget plan must be provided in the application, which should specifically state when the use of funds is planned, i.e. for 2025 and/or 2026. The approved funds have to be spent in full within the specified year.

Follow-on funding for an additional two more years i.e. for a maximum funding period of up to 4 years in total, is also available. Kindly note that when applying for a follow-on funding, an activity report must be submitted 1.5 years after the start of funding, together with the follow-up application.

Facilities must have a valid status as 'acknowledged Core or Shared Facility' throughout the entire duration of funding. If renewal of acknowledgement as a Core or Shared Facility is still pending in the 2nd funding year, approval of the funding in the 2nd funding year is subject to the continued acknowledgement of the facility.

Application Requirements

In the call for proposals 2024, the acknowledged facilities of the Faculty of Medicine are eligible to apply (see [website](#)), provided these have not already received funding from the "Start-up Funding Innovation" funding line in 2023. An application for "Start-up Funding Innovation" may be submitted at the same time as the application for acknowledgement as a Shared Facility, but do take note that acknowledgement as a Shared or Core Facility is a prerequisite for funding. The scientific head of the facility should submit the application.

In the application, a detailed scheme must be submitted which, in addition to the current activities, describes in detail how the utilisation plan (e.g. operational implementation, service offerings, education and training programmes) is to be further developed. Applications for optimisation of existing structures, service offerings and training programmes are welcomed. Central Facilities are requested to provide their financial plan in the application form.

In justified cases, joint applications can be submitted by several facilities. Likewise, in justified individual cases, external facilities of the University of Freiburg may also apply for funding. The prerequisite for this is a large user base among members of the Faculty of Medicine and that the funding is used specifically to optimise existing structures, service offerings and training programmes that will be of significant benefit to scientists of the Faculty of Medicine.¹

Applications

The **Application Form & Information Sheet 2024** can be requested via email from the Administrative Division for Research Infrastructures of the Faculty of Medicine at forschungsinfrastrukturen@uniklinik-freiburg.de. For direct inquiries, please contact Dr. Jennifer Eßer (Tel. 0761/270-84688).

The **application must be** submitted in **electronic form** and contain the following documents:

- Application form
- Current state of development
- Presentation of the planned innovation of the facility
 - Methodical and scientific goals
 - Infrastructural goals

The documents can be written in German or English.

Deadlines

The submission of the application documents (**one PDF file**) is only possible via email (forschungsinfrastrukturen@uniklinik-freiburg.de) to Administrative Division for Research Infrastructures **by no later than:**

Friday, the 24.05. 2024, at 8:00 pm CET

A paper copy is not required. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered. Kindly note that an acknowledgement of receipt is sent for applications that are submitted on time. If you have not received confirmation after two working days, please contact us by telephone: 0761/270-84688. Review of applications by the FSKO will take place after the deadline has passed.

Reporting Requirements

Funding recipients are required to submit a final report, which has to be submitted to the Administrative Division for Research Infrastructures of the Faculty of Medicine no later than three months after the end of the funding (usually by the end of the 1st quarter). In the case of a follow-up application, an interim report must be submitted together with the application for further funding (typically in the 2nd quarter after approximately 1.5 years of funding).

Contact

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Further Information

on the funding lines infrastructures of the Medical Faculty of Freiburg can be found at: <https://www.med.uni-freiburg.de/en/research/research-infrastructures>