The Schering Stiftung and the Fritz Thyssen Stiftung offer start-up grants to fund promising research ideas by young scientists. Support is provided for projects in the fields of biochemical, neuroscience or immunological basic research with biomedical implications.

The program is explicitly aimed at highly motivated young investigators who wish to pursue an independent career and conduct their own research which is different from that of their supervisors. The Schering Stiftung and the Fritz Thyssen Stiftung make possible research projects that cannot be realized with existing funds and resources and for which application for other funding is not possible because of a lack of preliminary research. The start-up grant thus lays the foundations for a subsequent multiannual third-party funding.

The Schering Stiftung and the Fritz Thyssen Stiftung have earmarked a total of EUR 120,000 for this grant program. Applicants can apply for up to EUR 60,000 per project.

**INFORMATION ON THE PROGRAM AND THE APPLICATION PROCESS**

**Grant Details**
- Maximum grant amount: EUR 60,000 per project
- Funding period: max. 12 months, start date: earliest October 1, 2020, but not later than January 1, 2021
- The grant covers the costs of staff and equipment that are necessary to conduct the preliminary research for the research idea. Salary support for the applicant is not part of the grant.
- Partial funding to complement other outside funding is not possible. Applicants can contribute their own funds.

**Grant Requirements**
- Applicants use new and innovative research approaches and their research ideas differentiate from the research topic of the supervisor (establish a niche in order to start an independent career).
- The project is in the field of biochemical, neuroscience or immunological basic research with biomedical implications.
- The project is new and has not yet been started. The grant will not be awarded to fund running projects or the continuation of projects.
- The doctoral degree must have been completed no longer than 6 years ago (justified exceptions may be accepted, please note the relevant infos on our website).
- Applicants must have at least one year of research experience at the post-doc level in relation to the application deadline.
- The working environment of the applicant needs to fulfill the basic staff, spatial and logistical requirements to realize the research project. The direct supervisor has to approve and support the project.
- The project duration is no longer than 12 months.
- The grant recipient needs to be a German nonprofit or public science-promoting institution.
- Applicants have a secure salary, and their contract extends at least to the end of the applied-for project.
- Persons who already hold a professorship or a group leader position will not be considered.

**Application Deadline** April 15, 2020
Application Materials  Please submit the following documents in the order listed:

- Application form (PDF on the website of the Schering Stiftung)
- CV of applicant including list of publications, awards, etc.
- Project sketch (max. 5 pages - please use the following outline)
  - Introduction to the topic
  - The innovative aspect of the project and the differentiation from the research topic of the supervisor
  - Goals of the project / plans for subsequent fundings
  - My plans for the next 5 years
  - Methodology
  - Project schedule and work plan
  - Participating employees at the project
  - Budget (tabular overview with overall costs for personnel, technical equipment, materials, travel expenses, etc.; Please list the financial and in-kind resources that your institution will provide, like rooms, lab equipment, staff members, etc.; Overhead rates of the institution may not be paid by the fund.)
  - Short list of references
- Two letters of recommendation, including a letter from the direct supervisor (the letters should not be send seperately, but included into the application file)

Formal Requirements

- All documents must be submitted in English.
- Please submit your application by e-mail only and make sure to combine all requested documents in a single PDF file (max. 10 MB).

Address Application to
Dr. Katja Naie  |  Managing Director and Program Director, Science
Schering Stiftung  |  Unter den Linden 32-34  |  10117 Berlin  |  Germany

Send Application to
Jennifer Fielding; fielding@scheringstiftung.de

Selection
Applications will be reviewed in a two-step process. After obtaining reviews from independent experts, personal interviews with selected applicants will be held in August / September 2020, in Berlin.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Jennifer Fielding
Project Manager, Science
Phone +49 (0)30-20 62 29 60
fielding@scheringstiftung.de