

21-12-2023 - Helmholtz Investigator Groups 2024

Please inform eligible young scientists from your scientific environment outside of KIT about the call. The KIT Executive Board aims to increase the proportion of women in science and therefore encourages especially women to submit proposals.

Purpose of the funding

Investigator Groups receive a minimum of 300,000 Euros per year for a period of five years. The funding provided by the Initiative and Networking Fund (INF-Fund) of the Helmholtz Association amounts to up to 150,000 Euros per year. KIT contributes a minimum of another 150,000 Euro from which at least half is provided by the hosting institute.

The Group's focus must be of relevance to a Helmholtz Program with KIT participation. KIT can assume the role of either the Helmholtz Center or the university partner or both at the same time. If the mid-term evaluation of the candidate was unreservedly positive, a permanent position should be offered to a candidate – if possible, with staff responsibility.

Target group

This call is directed toward excellent researchers who have two to six years of post-doctoral experience and documented international research experience of a minimum of six-month continuous research stay abroad during the doctoral or postdoctoral studies. The Helmholtz Investigator Groups program is primarily a recruiting instrument. Internal candidates are not eligible. Exceptions can be made for outstanding candidates who are employed by KIT for less than one year.

Selection procedure

The KIT can nominate up to four candidates; the procedure is therefore multi-stage:

The submission of the short application needs to be taken place via the following portal until March 03, 2024, 11:59 pm:

<https://portal.wiwi.kit.edu/forms/form/HelmholtzInvestigatorGroup>

External candidates need to register first at <https://portal.wiwi.kit.edu/Account/Register>

The following application documents must be uploaded:

- Completed HGF-Investigator_Group_Template_2024(download of the template at https://www.for.kit.edu/int_downloads_und_vorlagen.php)
- Curriculum vitae (with indication of scientific downtimes)
- Publication list
- Letter of support by the head of the host institute including the confirmation of partial co-financing by the institute; confirmation of provision of the necessary facilities (including furnishings and IT); confirmation of the sustainability of the funding (permanent position after funding, if possible a professorship).

It is mandatory that applicants contact the potential head of institute in advance and clarify in particular questions regarding funding, infrastructure, and career prospects. The letter of support from the head of institute should contain both a guarantee of co-financing of the Helmholtz Investigator Research Group and a declaration of the permanent position. Helmholtz Investigator Groups may be used to finance a W1 position for the group leader. Successful candidates are therefore eligible for [KIT Excellent Tenure](#), the qualification paths to a professorship, namely junior professorship or tenure-track professorship.

Promising candidates give a short personal presentation to the Council for Research and Promotion of Young Scientists (CRYS). These are scheduled on March 13, 2024, starting at 3:30 p.m. CET (please note the date to make sure you are available; an online meeting will be arranged). CRYS will then make a recommendation to the KIT Executive Board.

The selected candidates will be contacted by the research office and will be guided through the further procedures.

Please find the call here:

<https://www.helmholtz.de/forschung/aktuelle-ausschreibungen/ausschreibung/helmholtz-investigator-groups/>

In case of interest, please contact Dr. Manuela Hübsch (manuela.huebsch@kit.edu) from the KIT Research Office (FOR) in a timely manner.

Contact

Dr. Manuela Hübsch

Dr. Anna Dost