

Grant-Writing Skills for Early-Stage Researchers: Remote Learning Workshop



Trainer: Dr. Julia Staykova-McKinnon

Target group: experienced PhDs (year 3+), postdocs, junior research groups leaders applying for independent funding.

Format: podcast lectures supported by slides, together with group discussion sessions.

Time commitment: ~11-12 hours, including self-study and group work. Live meetings on Zoom ~4.5 hours. Self-study: podcasts listening time ~240 minutes + home assignments on your project ~1.5hours.

Free materials: link to podcast sessions active for 1 week; downloadable PowerPoint slides.

Technology: Zoom for conference calls, Scriptorium website for podcasts

Language of instruction: English

Sample schedule for live meetings via Zoom, Berlin time:

1. Monday (7 June), 9:00-10:00: workshop launch
2. Wednesday (9 June) group 1 / Thursday (June 10) group 2, 9:00-10:30: brainstorming meeting
3. Monday (June 14), 9:00-11:00: final Q & A and lessons learnt

Quick description. Grant reviewers say that many wonderful projects do not get funded because the idea was not communicated clearly enough. Excellent science is not enough for writing a successful research application. To get funded, you also need excellent grantsmanship. So how do you make sure the advantages of your work are understood and appreciated? In this workshop, you will learn how to:

1. Interpret correctly your application form and evaluation criteria: application forms suggested by the group will be discussed.
2. Use strong structure in State of the Art, Objectives, and Methodological Programme – the key scientific sections;
3. Provide clear, convincing answers to the key requirements of novelty, feasibility, methodological complexity, and project impact (added value);
4. Write a statement on the future trajectory of your career and how this project will advance your research programme.