

Research Grants –Frequently asked questions (FAQ)

General

Q: Who is eligible to write supporting letters for my project?

A: These persons should know you professionally and can make a judgment of your work, such as your advisor while you were in training or your current department head/leader.

Q: Is there a maximum/minimum duration of project?

A: There is no strict definition of the shortest or longest time period. The project duration should correspond to the scope of work.

Q: When is a reasonable time to start the project?

A: The project must start in the year the grant is awarded. Usually researchers do not start the project before hearing about the decision, but this is up to the researchers.

Q: Concerning eligibility criteria: is it possible for anyone (e.g. someone with a MSc) to apply or do you need to have a PhD/MD title?

A: A PhD/MD title is not required. The principal investigator must be working in the fields of Clinical Microbiology or Infectious Diseases or a combination of the two, but there is not a specific degree requirement. The project must be supervised by the head of department/group.

Q: Concerning files to upload, is there a maximum number of files that I can submit online?

A: Yes, the maximum number of documents you can upload is 4 (main information, 2 support letters, and picture). The document “surname.pdf” must include all required information in one file. On the webpage <http://www.mergepdf.net/> you can combine pdfs free-of-charge.

Budget

Q: May I use at least part of the grant for personnel costs (temporary worker), consumables, services like sequencing?

A: Yes, these types of costs are eligible. In the final report the actual breakdown should be given.

Q: Could I include travel or assistance to congress costs?

A: This depends on how relevant the travel is to the project. If the travel can be considered absolutely necessary to the project, then yes. If travel is one of the main costs, then you may want to consider applying for a training fellowship or an attendance grant.

Administration of grants

Q: How is the grant paid to the recipient?

A: After approval, the funds are usually transferred to the institution 1 month to 2 weeks before start of the project, providing the project has not already begun before the date of informing applicants.

Q: Is it allowed and/or obligatory to include in the project budget, the overhead for our home institution? What about VAT?

A: You are allowed to include overhead costs, there are no set limits. If overhead costs or taxes/VAT are included, this amount must be included in the total grant amount and is not given in addition to the grant money.

