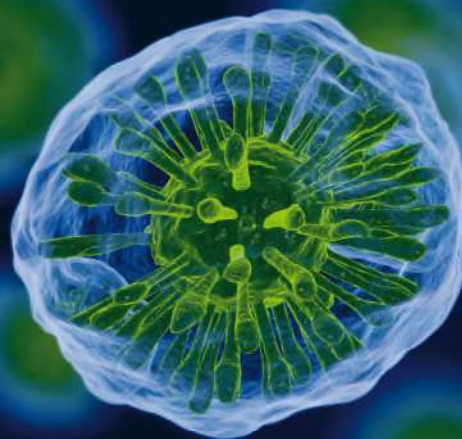




We promote the medical, biological,  
chemical, and pharmaceutical sciences.



Lasting support for excellent science.

## ***Plus 3 Perspectives Programme for Independent Junior Research Group Leaders***

### ***Programme objectives***

With its Plus 3 funding programme, the Boehringer Ingelheim Foundation aims to support outstanding junior group leaders in Germany conducting basic research in biology, chemistry, and medicine. It is intended to give independent junior group leaders the opportunity to raise their research profiles and become eligible for professorial appointments in an excellent research environment.

### ***Extent of funding***

You can apply for up to 900,000 euros of core funding for your research team for up to 3 years, i.e. 200,000 to 300,000 euros annually. This funding includes remuneration for your position as group leader, for further personnel expenses, e.g. one postdoc and/or two graduate students, a laboratory technician, as well as funds for consumables, equipment, and travel expenses.

### ***Conditions for applying***

If you wish to apply, you must fulfil the following prerequisites:

- You must have been awarded your PhD less than 12 years prior to the application deadline, and you should have substantial international experience.
- You must be doing basic research in medicine, chemistry, or biology. The Foundation does not, however, fund zoological research or systematic botany, for example.
- You have been leading your first independent research group at an academic institution in Germany for at least 2 years, but no longer than 5 years.
- You were selected for this position through a competitive process (e.g. Emmy Noether Programme) with external scientists participating in the decision process.
- Funding of your group is limited to a period of 6 years without the possibility of an extension, and does not include any tenure-track options or similar. Likewise, you are not receiving, and are not expecting to receive any institutional or third-party funding that could be applied to the core funding of your group beyond the first 6 years of its existence (e.g. ERC grants).
- You have an outstanding publishing record as a PhD student and post-doctoral researcher, and can demonstrate your scientific independence with at least two published original scientific articles of which you are the last author.
- You should be able to provide evidence that your research group has already been positively evaluated.
- Your research institution bindingly pledges to offer you a permanent position and must be contributing substantially to equipping your group. In exceptional cases and based on a statement of reasons, this permanent position requirement may be waived.

### **What cannot be funded by Plus 3?**

- The Plus 3 programme is not a supplement to insufficient research grants or core funding, but rather is intended as a structural programme and bridge during the key phase on the way to obtaining a professorship in an optimal research environment.
- Plus 3 is not aimed at scientists whose research groups are embedded in a department or a senior research group, and who are not independent of such entities. Instead, applicants must demonstrate scientific independence comparable to the status of group leaders in the Emmy Noether Programme of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG).

### **Selection procedure**

The decision as to whether to grant funds is made by the Executive Committee of the Boehringer Ingelheim Foundation on the basis of recommendations made by the Foundation's Scientific Advisory Board and external peer-reviews. You may recommend potential reviewers. Additionally, you may name (giving reasons) any scientists to whom your proposal should not be presented for evaluation.

### **Questions about the programme?**

Please contact Dr Sabine Löwer

tel: +49 (0) 6131 27 508-12, email: [secretariat@bistiftung.de](mailto:secretariat@bistiftung.de)

### **The Boehringer Ingelheim Foundation**

The Boehringer Ingelheim Foundation is an independent, non-profit organization committed to the promotion of the medical, biological, chemical, and pharmaceutical sciences. It was established in 1977 by Hubertus Liebrecht (1931–1991), a member of the shareholder family of the Boehringer Ingelheim company.

With its Perspectives Programme Plus 3 and its Exploration Grants, the foundation supports independent junior group leaders. It also endows the internationally renowned Heinrich Wieland Prize as well as awards for up- and coming scientists. In addition, the Foundation is donating a total of 154 million euros from 2009 to 2027 to the University of Mainz to finance scientific operations at the Institute of Molecular Biology (IMB). Since 2013, the Foundation has been providing a further 50 million euros for the development of the life sciences at the University of Mainz.

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[www.boehringer-ingelheim-stiftung.de](http://www.boehringer-ingelheim-stiftung.de)

## **Plus 3 application guidelines**

### **Required documents and information**

Please submit a paper copy of your application (DIN-A4, not stapled or bound), as well as a digital version of it, employing separate PDF files for each of the following sections:

- Academic CV, including previously received awards, fellowships and research grants (do not list posters or oral presentations at scientific conferences)
- List of publications
  - Numbered and in the eLife format (including full list of authors; full paper title; journal title, volume, and issue details, page range of article)
  - List all your publications, distinctly indicating first- and last-authorships, and highlighting your five most important papers to date
  - Use separate sections for
    - i. original articles (published or accepted/in press)
    - ii. reviews
    - iii. manuscripts submitted or in revision (do not include manuscripts in preparation)
- Diplomas
- Project proposal for up to three years (detailed guidelines below)
- Data consent and declarations (see page 6)
- Employer's statement of the kind expected by the DFG for Emmy Noether group leaders assuring your independence
- Binding commitment by the university/institution regarding your permanent position
- Binding commitment by the university/institution regarding the amount of its own annual financial contribution and the staff positions that it will fund for the proposed period of the project
- One copy each of all papers currently in print or submitted for publication, as well as of your five most important published papers (please submit each paper as a separate PDF file, each no larger than 2.5 MB and all labelled according to the publication list)

### **Project proposal – detailed guidelines**

The proposal – written in English – should consist of no more than 20 pages and should be comprehensible without reading the cited or appended literature. Please adhere to the following order to facilitate the review process:

#### **1. General information**

##### **1.1. Applicant**

- Surname, first name, academic title
- Official position
- Since when have you been leading your first independent research group (mm/yyyy)? Please state the duration of your fixed-term contract.
- Institution and department/ faculty (full name)
- Work address
- Phone number for contact
- Email address for contact
- Date of birth
- Nationality

## **1.2. Funding of your research group**

- Please state how your research group has been funded since its start List the (1) resources and (2) funding amounts (including personnel and material resources) that your university/institution or a third party has committed to you in writing, as well as (3) their respective durations
- How long is your current core funding expected to continue?
- Please state the resources and funding amounts (including personnel and non-personnel resources) that your university/institution or a third party has committed to you in writing for the period covered by your proposal to the Boehringer Ingelheim Foundation, and append a copy of this written commitment to your proposal (as listed under “required documents”).

## **2. Information about the project**

### **2.1. Title of project**

### **2.2. Subject and area of research**

- Subject (e.g. molecular biology, immunology)
- Area of research (e.g. DNA repair)

### **2.3. Proposed beginning and duration of funding**

### **2.4. Summary**

Please summarise the hypotheses and the main objectives of your proposed project in generally accessible language and in not more than 2,600 characters.

### **2.5. State of research**

Please describe the current state of knowledge concisely and exclusively in relation to your own research, mentioning the most significant work by other scientists. Make clear how your own work fits into this context, and to which of the open questions in the field you are making a new contribution, and what importance, in your view, it will have for the field.

### **2.6. Your own preliminary studies / Progress report**

Please describe your previous work and preliminary studies in this field, citing the relevant literature. This progress report should make clear the initial questions and the change in the state of knowledge in the field brought about by your own work and that of other scientists since you began leading your group.

### **2.7. Specific aims**

A brief description of your programme of research for the funding period, as well as its research objective(s).

### **2.8. Research design and methods**

Detailed information about the plan of work during the funding period (research design).

### **2.9. Cooperation agreements**

Please list the scientists (other than those named in sections 3.2 and 4.1.) with whom you are cooperating or coordinating your work, or have agreed to do so, as well as the projects or project components concerned in each case.

### **3. Funds requested**

#### **3.1. Total funds requested**

Please state the total amount of the funds requested.

#### **3.2. Breakdown of costs**

Please list the costs according to the funding period in a table.

##### **3.2.1. Personnel expenses**

Please specify:

- The number and type of positions (e.g. 1 PhD position, 65 % TVöD E13)
- The proposed periods of employment
- The requested amount of funding per position

##### **3.2.2. Consumables**

Please state the amount of funding you expect to need annually for consumables and provide justification of any substantial deviations from the DFG's standard rates.

##### **3.2.3. Other resources**

Please specify the purpose and amount of any additional funds that you need. If you are requesting funds exceeding 10,000 euros for individual items of equipment, please include recent price quotes.

### **4. Other information**

#### **4.1. Composition of the research group**

Please list the members of your research group (names, academic titles, official positions, and funding source, including fellowship holders) who are to participate in the planned project (other than those named in section 3.2).

#### **4.2. Conflicts of interest due to commercial activities**

Please inform us of any conflicts of interest e.g. if you are the owner of a commercial enterprise or own a stake in one. In each case, explain how your research project relates to the commercial enterprise's activities.

#### **4.3. Applications submitted to others**

Please list any other bodies to which you have submitted a funding application for the present project or parts of it, stating the amount of funding requested.

#### **4.4. Declarations and signature**

If no funding application for this project or parts of it has been submitted to any other body please sign the following declaration:

"A grant application for this project or parts of it has not been submitted elsewhere. If I should make such an application, I will immediately notify the Boehringer Ingelheim Foundation.

"I hereby confirm that all the information given in the entire application is true and accurate."

##### Alternatively:

If a funding application for this project or parts of it has been submitted to any other body, please sign the following:

"I hereby confirm that all the information given in the entire application is true and accurate."

## Data consent and declarations

Please note that your application cannot be processed unless you grant your consent.

I agree that

1. the Boehringer Ingelheim Foundation (BIS) processes and stores electronically and in paper form data provided in conjunction with this grant proposal for processing and deciding on the grant application. The data is also forwarded to peer reviewers and foundation committees as part of the evaluation and decision-making process.
2. BIS processes and stores my personal data and other data given in the application(s) electronically and in paper form for statistical, internal and scientific evaluations to monitor the quality of the Foundation's selection processes and of its funding programmes and their effects and to monitor the history of its funding and activities. In case external cooperating partners, e. g. scientists, might be involved in such evaluations or studies, it will be ensured that they also comply with all legal requirements.
3. information about successful grant applications, including the name of the applicant, the institutions involved and their locations, the amount of funding, the field of activity, general title and a general summary of the research project can be published e.g. for transparency reasons by BIS on its website, in printed materials or other contexts.

I am aware that I can revoke or partly revoke the agreement in written form (at least email) with future effect and that in case of revocation processing that has already taken place until the date of my revocation remains unaffected.

I confirm that I have read and understood the privacy policy regarding the Plus 3 Perspectives Programme.

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**Printed name**

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**Place, date, signature**

I obligate myself

- to notify Boehringer Ingelheim Foundation immediately about significant changes to the data given in the application;
- to comply with all laws and regulations relevant to the project and in particular, to obtain any required approvals in due time;
- to use the approved financing solely in the interest of efficiently pursuing the project as described in the application;
- to comply with the rules of good scientific practice according to the DFG's "Proposals for Safeguarding Good Scientific Practice"  
([http://www.dfg.de/en/research\\_funding/principles\\_dfg\\_funding/good\\_scientific\\_practice/](http://www.dfg.de/en/research_funding/principles_dfg_funding/good_scientific_practice/))

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**Printed name**

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**Place, date, signature**