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Call for Applications – MeDDrive-Program

To support early-career researchers at the Faculty of Medicine of the TU Dresden, in 2027/2028

The leadership of the Faculty of Medicine at TU Dresden (MF-TUD) has decided to continue the MeDDrive program for the period 2027/2028.

1. Objective of the Funding
2. Application Process
3. Timeline

1. Objective of the Funding, Duration, and Scope of Funding

1.1. Objective of the Funding

The MeDDrive program for first-time applicants is aimed at young medical professionals and scientists from clinics, institutes, and departments across the MF-TUD who do not yet have significant independent third-party funding (e.g., DFG project grants, BMBF). It enables participants to gain experience in conducting their own research projects within the framework of a thematically and temporally limited funding period. The program aims to facilitate the publication of results funded by the MeDDrive program in peer-reviewed journals.

1.2. Duration

The funding period covers a maximum of two years, from **01.01.2027 to 31.12.2028**.

1.3. Scope of Funding

Projects are funded up to a total amount of €30,000, with a maximum of €15,000 per calendar year, in the form of material and personnel resources. Up to 20% of the funding amount can be used for services provided by the Core Facilities of TU Dresden. The application for personnel resources is only possible for the applicant's own position and for support by student assistants (sHk). The exact individual amount (AG-Brutto) must be requested from the Directorate of Human

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Resources. The requested funds are binding. Subsequent reallocation after the funding approval is only possible in justified exceptional cases. Funds for investments, travel, and publication costs are not available. Travel costs may be applied for through the [Travel for Science program](#) of the MF-TUD.

2. Application Process

2.1. Guidelines for Applicants/Project Leaders

An active employment relationship with the MF-TUD/UKD of at least 0.5 FTE up to 1.0 FTE must exist throughout the entire funding period.

Only one application can be submitted per year. Applicants who have already received MeDDrive funding are eligible to apply a second time after the funding period has ended (subject to the completion of the previous project).

The submitted MeDDrive application must clearly differ from currently funded or applied-for third-party projects (e.g., BMBF, DFG, foundations) of the submitting clinic/institute.

Professors, junior professors, and private lecturers are not eligible to apply for their own MeDDrive funding.

At least one published or accepted (co-)authorship in peer-reviewed journals is desirable for applicants.

The date of qualification completion (doctorate or medical license) must not exceed five years by the application deadline of **30.04.2026** (as per the date on the certificate).

- For (natural) scientists: Maximum of five years after the doctorate.
- Medical doctor: Maximum of five years after the doctorate or, without a doctorate, five years after the medical license.

Exceptions (e.g., military or civil service, parental leave) can be considered upon request if they affect the period after the qualification was obtained.

Guidelines for Professors/Supervisors

The application must be supported by a professor at TU Dresden. Each professor may submit a maximum of two applications per year.

The supervisor (if different from the submitting professor) must have an active employment relationship with TU Dresden or the University Hospital Dresden (UKD) and must be habilitated, appointed, or an experienced postdoc. If the project is supervised externally, a second supervisor with an active employment relationship at University Medicine Dresden must be named.

The number of MeDDrive projects supervised is limited to two per year.

Guidelines for Clinic/Institute Directors

Applicants must be granted adequate time by the clinic/institute to carry out the proposed project (approximately 20%, see support letter, Appendix 2).

Application Submission Guidelines

Applications can be submitted in German or English. The text must use the font Noto Sans, font size 10, and line spacing of 1.15.

Applications are submitted exclusively via the [online form](#). All attachments must be uploaded as a single PDF document in the specified order according to the application structure.

2.2. Application Structure

- **Scientific Description of the Research Topic:**
Justification of the need for MeDDrive funding from a scientific and personal perspective; Summary and presentation of the current state of research and, if applicable, the applicant's prior work; Description of specific steps in the form of a timeline (use the provided template) with milestones to be achieved (max. 2 pages, plus bibliography – use the provided template).
- List of **Requested Material and Personnel Resources** (Appendix 1)
- Support Letter (Appendix 2)
- **Curriculum Vitae**
- **Current Employment Contract:** Must show the current working hours. If the contract is temporary, include an additional assurance of employment for the entire funding period.
- **Copy of the Qualification Certificate**

Please note: Only complete and correct applications will be considered for evaluation. Applications exceeding the page limit, deviating from the application structure, or using a different format will not be reviewed and will result in disqualification.

3. Timeline

Submission Deadline:	30.04.2026
Start of Funding:	01.01.2027

3.1. Selection Process

After the formal review of applications (see sections 2.4 Application Submission Guidelines and 2.5 Application Structure), a two-stage evaluation process will take place. This includes a content review of the written applications and the MeDDrive Days by members of the Research Commission. Following the MeDDrive Days, the Research Commission will decide on the allocation of funding. For further questions, please contact the Division of Research and International Affairs using the provided contact details.