

Seed Funding for Postdocs and Junior Professors|

Special Call 2026/27

1. Objectives

In 2026/27, funds amounting to EUR 70,000¹ will be provided from the Presidential Board's strategy fund, subject to availability, for Seed financing for young academics.² The funding is intended to support the development of promising project proposals and enable applications to national and European funding programs as well as the acquisition of corresponding third-party funding projects.

The aim is to promote the scientific careers of postdocs and junior professors and to increase the third-party funding competence of young scientists by acquiring competitive funding.

2. Application eligibility and amount of funding

Eligible applicants	Amount of funding
junior professors	Up to EUR 25,000
postdocs	Up to EUR 35,000 grant for personnel costs (own position) and/or other direct costs

3. Requirements:

- The following are eligible to apply:
 - 1) Junior professors from all faculties.
 - 2) Postdocs³ and doctoral candidates⁴, for financing a portion of the applicant's own position
 - 3) Postdocs with a current scholarship at the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar.
- The maximum funding period is 12 months.
- Before the end of this funding period and after 24 months (follow-up), a checklist must be submitted reporting on the achievement of the funding goal. The submitted third-party funding application is attached. The results can be presented to the Committee for Research and Projects.

4. Selection criteria:

Selection is competitive and based on the following criteria:

- Plausibility and quality of the application for Seed funding, in particular the work plan
- Potential for success in developing a project proposal that can be reviewed
- Contribution of the planned project to strengthening one's own scientific career
- Postdocs: Professional and formal anchoring of the research project to be applied for in the respective faculty/structural unit

¹ These funds are to be expended in equal parts in 2026 and 2027.

² The basis for this is represented by the resolutions of the Presidential Board dated November 19, 2025, and January 21, 2026.

³ Postdocs, who are employed at the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar.

⁴ Doctoral candidates, who have submitted their dissertation to Bauhaus-Universität Weimar.

5. Application documents (GER/ENG):

- Cover page with key details of the application (Template: Cover page www.uni-weimar.de/seed-fund under Downloads)
- Description of Seed funding project, including reference to the selection criteria, the planned funding program, and the work and time schedule for the Seed funding phase (maximum 3 pages)
- Short tabular CV with a list of the most important publications
- Financial plan (broken down by cost categories: personnel and other direct costs)
- **Additional annexes** for postdocs:
 - 1) Letter of recommendation from a professor at the Bauhaus Universität Weimar, including a statement on the project and on the professional and organisational integration of the project and the applicant into the host and managing professor's department.
 - 2) Doctoral degree certificate (for doctoral candidates, the supervisor must confirm the date of the dissertation submission in writing).

6. Award procedure and deadlines:

The selection decision is made by the Executive Board with the participation of the Research and Projects Committee. This decision-making body reserves the right to reduce the amount of funding requested. Funding is not allocated on a proportional basis among the faculties. There is no legal entitlement to the award of Seed funding.

Due to the confidentiality of the procedure, the Presidential Board's decisions are not justified to the applicants.

The deadlines for the **Special seed funding call 2026/27** at a glance:

- Application deadline: 30 March 2026
- Start of seed funding: 1 June 2026 at the earliest
- End of seed funding: 30 June 2027 at the latest

Applications must be submitted digitally as a PDF file (max. 10 MB) by **30 March 2026**, to **Dezernat Forschung** (dezernat.forschung@uni-weimar.de) with **CC to the relevant dean's office**.

If you have any questions about the current call for proposals, please contact Dr. Susan Gniechwitz, Research Advisor (susan.gniechwitz@uni-weimar.de, Tel. 58 25 35) or forschungsfoerderung@uni-weimar.de.