

Call for proposals

Funding for the promotion of cooperation projects in studying and teaching at the Rhine-Main Universities

RMU Initiative Funding for Teaching

Darmstadt / Frankfurt a. M. / Mainz, March 2020

Funding measure "RMU Initiative Funding for Teaching"

TU Darmstadt, the Goethe University Frankfurt and the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz are jointly funding cooperative projects involving teachers from at least two of the three Rhine-Main Universities with personnel and/or material resources amounting to a maximum of 40,000 euros for a maximum of one year.

The funding is open to all subjects and topics. The innovative use of e-learning is also explicitly eligible for funding.

Objectives of the call for proposals and current priorities

With the **RMU Initiative Funding for Teaching**, the Rhine-Main Universities support cooperation in the **development of new, attractive study programmes**, the **cooperative development of existing curricula** and the **joint trialling of innovative teaching and learning formats**.

The current call for proposals focuses on the following areas:

- The conceptual design of digital modules or blended learning formats that can be developed, used and recognised jointly at 2 or 3 locations
- The development of RMU-specific study programmes, which are jointly developed by (at least) two departments at (at least) two of the RMUs. These could be e.g. curricular elective modules for which binding mutual recognition is agreed.
- The conceptual design and planning of joint study programmes

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Funding formats and modalities:

- Applications can be made for projects involving teachers from at least two of the three Rhine-Main Universities; at least one of the teachers must be employed at the university on a permanent basis.
- The cooperation projects can be established at the level of study programmes, individual modules or at the level of courses. The focus here can be on a new concept or ongoing development, both in terms of scientific as well as didactic aspects. In justified individual cases, funding can also be requested for (extra)curricular formats such as summer schools, bridging courses, orientation formats or offers focusing on key competences.
- Funding is available for personnel or material resources for the conceptual design and/or implementation of a cooperation project in the amount of max. 40,000 euros for a max. period of one year (e.g. positions for employees, auxiliary staff, material resources). The RMU Initiative Funding for Teaching is endowed with a total of 150,000 euros per call for proposals.

Funding criteria:

The funding decision will be based on the extent to which and the manner in which applications meet the criteria listed below:

- The project noticeably expands the teaching/learning provision of the participating Rhine-Main Universities and makes use of the opportunities that arise from cooperation between the Rhine-Main Universities in studying and teaching.
- The project is designed to be sustainable. Sustainability must be clearly defined in the application and explicitly confirmed by the responsible institution (e.g. planned inclusion in the examination or study regulations).
- The project contributes, particularly in the sense of the aforementioned funding priorities, to the further development of study programmes or teaching/learning formats and to an intensified exchange on studying and teaching between the RMUs.
- The project is based on the common scientific profile of the participating universities.
- The project contributes to research-oriented and/or interdisciplinary or transdisciplinary teaching and learning and, if possible, to the internationalisation of studying and teaching and/or the integration of studies and career.

Procedure:

- Applications can be submitted until **June 28, 2020** to

koordination@rhein-main-unis.de

If the application is successful, the projects can start in the winter semester 2020. It is strongly recommended that applications be coordinated in advance with the Directorate or Department for Studies and Teaching (JGU, TU Darmstadt) or the Division for Teaching and Quality Assurance (Goethe University). The selection decision is made by the RMU Steering Committee; the vice-presidents responsible for studying and teaching at the three universities prepare the decision by making a joint recommendation. If necessary, the selection committee can obtain additional expertise (expert opinion, didactic evaluation, etc.).

Submitting an application:

- Completed form including a project outline (max. 5 pages), which also shows how the objectives of the RMU Initiative Funding for Teaching will be achieved and the eligibility criteria fulfilled
- Supporting statement by the dean and dean of studies of the participating university departments (mandatory)
- For establishing new study programmes: Differentiation from existing study programmes as well as a declaration that sufficient human and material resources are available for the implementation and long-term operation of the new study programme (mandatory).
- The application must in any case contain the following information:
 - How many students is the project aimed at?
 - Financial calculation (list of cost items for the application period per year and differentiated by university)
 - Information whether the project has been or will be submitted elsewhere.
- Signed consent of the teachers involved in the application

Further information:

www.rhein-main-universitaeten.de