

Funding Guidelines: PICAIS Event Funding Programme at the University of Passau, Germany

Please note:

Applications can only be accepted if they are supported by at least one member of the University of Passau.

The funding scheme is predominantly set up as partial funding and subsidy ('Beihilfe' in German), hence funds may cover only part of the total costs, in which case complementary funding will have to be provided by the applicants or a third party.

In most cases, PICAIS will therefore only be able to support your event with partial funding rather than bearing the full cost of the entire event (cf. section 'Funding').

Eligibility Criteria

At least one of the applicants must be a member of the University of Passau.

Applicants must have a doctoral degree.

Only complete applications, consisting of all five parts mentioned in the section "Proposal Outline" below (cf. page 3), will be considered in the selection process.

Applicants whose proposal is not approved are welcome to resubmit a revised version in future calls. This revised proposal, once received, will be treated as a new proposal.

Funding Requirements

PICAIS funds all forms of academic events (e.g. conferences, symposia, research seminars, summer schools, workshops, and lecture series) to be held at the University of Passau that facilitate excellent research and initiate or enhance cooperation as well as networking. These scholarly events should contribute to the objectives of PICAIS, in particular to the establishment of sustainable research collaborations.

The call is open to all disciplines, topics, and methodological traditions. Those participating in these events may be scholars from one specific field of research or from a mix of multiple disciplines.

PICAIS especially seeks to sponsor events that are related to one area of the [University's research profile](#), consisting of established and emerging research areas. Proposals for interdisciplinary scholarly events are preferred.

Established research areas

- Cybersecurity and Data Protection
- Digital Platforms
- Resilient Democracies
- AI and Language

Emerging research areas

- Sustainable Transformation
- Integrated Health
- European Identities

Moreover, proposals for interdisciplinary and international scholarly events are preferred. The participation of international speakers is required.

Special consideration will be given to proposals submitted by and/or involving junior researchers. The same applies to proposals for internationally competitive alliances.

Nevertheless, other topics and formats are possible.

Applicants acknowledge that, in case of funding, the event must be advertised as a PICAIS event. The event will take place in cooperation with PICAIS – and jointly with the host at the University of Passau if the beneficiary is at the same time a fellowship grant recipient.

Beneficiaries of PICAIS funding are obliged to **submit a brief (500-word) press release** on the event **within 14 days** of conclusion of the event.

Funding

You can apply for financial resources for the following expenses:

- travel expenses for a maximum of three external speakers (second-class rail ticket or economy-class air ticket); please list each speaker/participant eligible for funding
- accommodation expenses for a maximum of three external speakers in Passau
- coffee breaks for active (non-student) participants/speakers. Lunch catering or any supporting programme (e.g. dinner, evening receptions, guided city or boat tours) **cannot** be funded.
- conference resources and consumables, such as printing expenses for leaflets and posters; conference support by student assistants.

Please note that students can only be employed as student assistants (SHK) if their work is primarily research-related. If the tasks are mainly administrative, employment must be in accordance with TV-L regulations. SHK employment for events is preferred. Therefore, the hiring professor must ensure that the student assistants' work is primarily research-related.

A research-related assistant activity is given when

- directly supporting the academic work of other academic staff involved in research and teaching;

- performing supporting and auxiliary activities for persons engaged in research and teaching, e.g. by relieving them of routine work, correcting examinations, compiling research materials;
- performing academic services, e.g. assisting with all official duties incumbent on professors/academic staff, such as assisting with examinations, promoting young academics or student counselling.

The legal personnel responsibility for lawful implementation, i.e. ensuring that no other predominantly administrative tasks are assigned, lies with the professors.

As the funding is likely to cover only part of the costs, applicants will need to provide additional funding. PICAIS funds are to be treated as subordinate if third-party funds (e.g. participation fees) are available. Simultaneous applications to other institutions must be disclosed to avoid double funding.

The PICAIS office and the University's services will support the organisers in preparing, running and documenting the event.

Expenses incurred for childcare during the event cannot be covered using the grant. Please visit the Diversity and Gender Equality Section's website for information on [family services](#).

Proposal Outline

The application must be submitted in English and as Word or PDF document (please do not submit scans of your application form). Page limitations may not be exceeded for the application documents, apart from the CVs, for which there are no page limitations or formatting requirements.

Your proposal should not exceed eight pages in sections A to D (Arial 11 pt, 1.2 pt line spacing, cf. template online) and must include the following five parts:

A	General information and planned event date	up to 3 pages
B	Proposal , complete with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • event description (research questions, cooperation partners) • contribution (or added value) for the University of Passau 	up to 2 pages
C	List of invitees, co-organisers/cooperation partners (if applicable) and preliminary programme	up to 2 pages
D	Budget plan (cf. the information leaflet on flat fees and the Funding section in the Funding Guidelines)	1 page
E	CV(s) of organiser(s)	no page limitation

Review Process and Selection Criteria

PICAIS is in charge with carrying out the application and selection procedure. The proposals are evaluated on a competitive basis by the University's [Research Advisory Board](#) and, if deemed necessary, by additional external reviewers. The funding decision will be made on a competitive basis.

The selection criteria are focused on the promotion of internationally competitive and interdisciplinary research events. We will seek reasonable social and intellectual diversity in our funding cohorts. We especially intend to increase the number of supported female researchers to promote gender equality.

The following criteria will be considered in the review process:

- 1) Quality of the proposed event topic
- 2) Research profile(s) of the applicant(s)
- 3) Preliminary programme
- 4) Contribution to the objectives of the University of Passau

Communication Process

The applicant(s) will be notified by the PICAIS Managing Director as follows:

- 1) Brief notification of approval or rejection of your application by email. The selection process is typically completed within eight to ten weeks after application deadline.
- 2) If your application has been approved, a formal notification letter, confirmation of funding and, if applicable, comments and suggestions from the reviewers will be sent to the email address indicated in your application.

Contact

For more information on the funding programme and the application process, you can contact the PICAIS office directly or visit our website. If you have any further questions, please get in touch with:

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