Cluster of Excellence “The Politics of Inequality”

Call for Applications: Flexible Fund 2021-2025

FAQ

GENERAL QUESTIONS

A) Hardship Support

1. What is a hardship situation?

Merriam-Webster defines hardship as something that causes or entails suffering or privation. In our Call hardship support is defined as financial hardship due to the for example health-related or family reasons. For each possible applicant the situation of hardship and the need for hardship support will vary and because of that our Call aims to provide hardship support based on supporting documents and as an extension or top-up of the researchers’ current position for a maximum of three months to mitigate the financial hardship. It is important to note the following: All members and affiliated members of the Cluster “The Politics of Inequality” are eligible to apply if their application for the funding has a direct connection with the work they are doing in the Cluster.

2. What is an extension of a contract?

Extension of a contract is in terms of this Call is the prolongation of the existing contract for a maximum of three months.

3. What is the top-up for a contract?

Top-up for a contract in terms of this Call is possible in those situations where a person has an existing contract and the employment is not with 100% of working time. In that situation, the hardship support as a top-up can be granted with a certain additional percentage on the current contract up to max 100% or up to by law defined max percentage. For this situation, hardship support can also be granted for a maximum of three months.

4. What are hourly rates for Student Assistants at the University of Konstanz?

There are three different hourly rates for 2021 for the Student Assistants at the University of Konstanz:

Student Assistant in BA: 12,72 EUR / hour
Student Assistant with BA: 14,79 EUR / hour
Student Assistant with MA: 19,62 EUR / hour
5. What kind of supporting documents for a hardship situation could be submitted with the application?

Depending on each particular situation it is possible to expect some of the following supporting documents: A Scan of the current working contract, a scan of health-related documentation, a scan of family-related hardship situation supporting documents, a contract for renting an apartment, etc. It is important to note that: Supporting documents to verify the hardship situation need to be submitted with the application. Also, the application needs to clarify that no other funding opportunities are available.

**B) Other possible small Cluster project-related costs not covered by the approved Cluster project**

6. I have already contracted the proof-reading and language editing services for my book. Can I submit the application here?

Yes. Please submit the application. Important is to note: Funding is available for proof-reading and language editing services for publications in international, high-ranked journals or university presses. Proof-reading costs for articles are generally covered in full; proof-reading costs for book manuscripts are covered until an upper limit of 2,000 Euro per book (exceptions to this rule need to be separately approved by the Executive Board). In all cases, the applying researcher needs to demonstrate that these costs cannot be covered by other means, in particular project budgets. All members and affiliated members of the Cluster “The Politics of Inequality” are eligible to apply if their application for the funding has a direct connection with the work they are doing in the Cluster.

If your application is approved one of the two following methods are available to you:

- Cost absorption – The invoice is issued to the Cluster and the Cluster pays the invoice.
- Cost reimbursement – If you already paid the costs you will need to send us the invoice, bank statement, or credit card statement as evidence the cost was paid, your bank data and the Cluster will refund you the costs that you covered.

7. The Call is open from January 1st, 2021 until October 31st, 2025. Can I apply to language editing costs for my book that I covered by myself in January 2021?

Yes. Please submit the application. Important is to note: Funding is available for proof-reading and language editing services for publications in international, high-ranked journals or university presses. Proof-reading costs for articles are generally covered in full; proof-reading costs for book manuscripts are covered until an upper limit of 2,000 Euro per book (exceptions to this rule need to be separately approved by the Executive Board). In all cases, the applying researcher needs to demonstrate that these costs cannot be covered by other means, in particular project budgets. All members and affiliated members of the Cluster “The Politics of Inequality” are eligible to apply if their application for the funding has a direct connection with the work they are doing in the Cluster.

If your application gets approved the option of the cost refund is available to you. Please send us the invoice, bank statement, or credit card statement as evidence the cost was paid, your bank data and the Cluster will refund you the costs that you covered.