



CTNR Young Neuroscientist Programme

Support for early career scientists in "HealthTechMedicine – Neurosciences"

1. HealthTechMedicine – Neurosciences

The scientific area “HealthTechMedicine – Neurosciences”, institutionalised in the Centre for Transdisciplinary Neurosciences Rostock (CTNR), bundles the scientific activities of neuroscience in order to increase national and international visibility. “HealthTechMedicine – Neurosciences” involves the development of transdisciplinary methods and their application to neurodegenerative diseases.

The overarching goal of the CTNR is to identify and specifically address resilience mechanisms in neurodegeneration in order to implement innovative therapy concepts for primary and secondary neurodegenerative processes. The CTNR is a structural core institution for the scientific training and career development and provides the “Young Neuroscientist Programme” in order to enable early career scientists in the field of neurosciences a structured qualification path.

2. CTNR Young Neuroscientist Programme

2.1 Purpose

The financial support is used to enable young scientists the preparation of preliminary work for grant applications (“Anschubfinanzierung”) or to complete the doctorate (“Überbrückungsfinanzierung”).

2.2 Eligibility Requirements

Early career scientists

- as doctoral candidates (shortly before the completion of the doctorate and after submitting the thesis) or
- as postdoctoral researchers (max. 12 months after doctorate),
- in theoretical, preclinical, clinical or non-medical subjects (e.g. psychology, natural, engineering, social sciences),
- with a neuroscientific focus (preferably related to HealthTechMedicine),
- with own publication with first authorship or at least two publications with shared first authorship (status at least "in print") and
- whose host institution is a member of the CTNR

are eligible to apply.

2.3 Proposal Requirements

The proposed project should contribute to the strategic aim of the CTNR: The expansion of existing or new local (e.g. Faculty of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering of the

University of Rostock), national or international cooperation by the initiation of cooperative research projects.

2.4 Extend of Funding and Funding Duration

A scientific position (100%, E13, TV-L) is offered for a period of max. 12 months (the position can be split up, depending on incoming part-time applications). The available position is advertised according to availability of funds. A re-application with the same content is possible once.

3. Application format

The application includes:

1. Project Proposal (according to template):

- specification of the structural goal of the funding, contribution to the CTNR strategic aims and to HealthTechMedicine – Neurosciences
- concept of the desired research project with a translational orientation and a neuroscientific focus,
- time schedule and work plan for the funding period with milestones

2. Appendices:

- curriculum vitae and list of publications,
- binding commitment by the receiving institution to give the candidate opportunities to submit an application for third-party funding, for further preparatory work and/or complete the doctorate.

4. Quality measures

4.1 Mentoring

Every applicant has a mentor (CTNR member) and an experienced second supervisor with an advisory function and a position holding at the University of Rostock or University Medicine Rostock.

4.2 Evaluation

External reviewers will evaluate the applications. The evaluation criteria are:

- originality of the proposed project,
- project related preliminary work,
- scientific quality of the work programme,
- scientific quality of the applicant,
- contribution to the structural goal of the CTNR

- contribution to HealthTechMedicine – Neurosciences

The CTNR Board makes the final decision on the funding of applicants for the Young Neuroscientist Programme.

In addition to continuous programme monitoring, which ensure the success of the programme participants as well as the promised support of the mentor, a final evaluation in the form of a **written report** to the CTNR board is carried out. The written report has to be worked out by a given template and shortly before the end of the funding period.

The funded scientist should present his/her project results on CTNR events (e.g. Summer School, retreats) as **oral presentation**. It is also possible to present the results personally on the CTNR Board session.

The aim is to provide information about the status of research/project development and/or preliminary work for an application, and to evaluate the prospect of a successful third-party funding application or completion of the doctoral thesis.

4.3 Receiving institution

Funded scientists can be accepted by facilities/institutes/clinics whose heads are members of the CTNR. The institution must actively support the programme and provide rooms and technical equipment to achieve the objectives. The university professors who take part in the programme must feel committed to active mentoring and regularly allow appropriate time for discussions with the medical scientist.

5. Financing

The financing of the funded scientist is made from the funds allocated by the UMR for the scientific area “HealthTechMedicine – Neurosciences”.