InfoDay ERC Starting grant

L'esperienza di un valutatore
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SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

Aula Gini 31 maggio 2019

ERC Starting grant 2019 *(ongoing)*

Starting Grant
ERC-2019-StG
14/09/2018
17/10/2018

The first PhD awarded
➢ 2 and ≤ 7 years prior to 1 January 2019

Cut-off dates: PhD awarded
from 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2016
(inclusive)

InfoDay ERC Starting grant

Strenghts and weaknesses

ERC Starting Grant 2014 – 2016 -2018

Panel Life Sciences,
LS 6- Immunity and infection

STEP 1 EVALUATION
(both project and PI)

RESEARCH PROJECT (0-4):

Ground-breaking nature, novelty and potential impact
Scientific approach

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR (PI) (0-4):

-propose and conduct ground-breaking research
(before ERC application)
-independence:
-achievements beyond state-of-the-art

STEP 1 EVALUATION
(both project and PI)

Mainly by panel members
Each panel member evaluates about 30-40 proposals Step1
(B1 part-extended synopsis+ CV+track record)
in about 1,5 months

Expertise of Panel Members and proposals

PANELS COVER A WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS

ALSO *CROSS PANEL EVALUATIONS*

Why this project?

Key (biological) question (no clinical)
Unexplored or poorly explored topic
High risk-high gain
Clear description of aims and experimental steps
(list aims and sub-aims)
Feasibility
Preliminary results (include figures and/or tables)/expertise
for each aim (possibly)
Expected milestones
Possible (international) collaborations

NOT EVALUATED: METHODOLOGY, TIMESCALE, RESOURCES (STEP2)

Why this PI?

-propose and conduct ground-breaking research
First authorship (patents/other) in journals without phD supervisor (*):
high quality journals vs specialized, commentaries, invited talks

-independence:
Expertise needed for the project (and/or collaborations)
International mobility (quality of research groups)
Last authorship in research papers
Grants as PI (also competitive grants for previous PI salary)
Independent position (ongoing/new/future also to be funded by ERC)
Supervision of students (undergrad/grad)

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR (PI):
-propose and conduct ground-breaking research
-independence:
-achievements beyond state-of-the-art

Why this PI?

CV and Early Achievements track record

-achievements beyond state-of-the-art
Novel ideas and novel concepts

ITALIAN PROJECTS/PI: MAJOR PROBLEMS

International mobility
Independence (papers, positions,grants)

Each panel member can see other evaluations only few days before panel meeting

PANEL MEETING DISCUSSION (COI excluded)
Each panel member leads discussion on selected proposals

RANKING OF PROJECTS

Admitted Step 2
Usually about 3x expected budget

Not admitted Step 2
B (cannot apply for next call)
C (cannot apply for next two calls)

STEP 2 EVALUATION

Before interview: Re-evaluation of the proposal
(more details are available-Part B2)

RESEARCH PROJECT:
Ground-breaking nature, novelty and potential impact
Scientific approach
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR (PI):
-propose and conduct ground-breaking research
(before ERC application)
-independence:
-achievements beyond state-of-the-art
- Time allocated (min 50%)

STEP 2 EVALUATION

Before interview: Re-evaluation of the proposal
(more details are available-Part B2)

Panel members+external experts (avg 5/7).

Panel members *indicate external experts*

Panel members evaluate about 5-7 proposals Step2 (B2 part)
External experts usually 1

STEP 2 EVALUATION

Interview:

20 minutes + 10 discussion

Focus clearly on the project
What you want to do
How you plan to do it
Why you are the right person to do it

Answer to panel questions clearly and directly

ITALIAN PROJECTS/PI: MAJOR PROBLEMS

Management of research groups

RANKING OF PROJECTS

A Funded
A not funded

B not funded (can apply next call)

PANEL MEETING DISCUSSION (COI excluded)
Each panel member leads discussion on 1-2 Proposals

After ranking, extra Budget requests are evaluated
GENDER BALANCE

GOOD LUCK!