Young talent research travel grant

Information

CONTRAST wants its Young Investigators to expand their horizon and become acquainted with international collaboration in research. We therefore provide travel grants. With a travel grant, you will be able to visit a renowned research group in- or outside Europe for a two-month period. This should be sufficient to set up a collaboration, to get acquainted with the research group members and to set up a data sharing project that can be completed online. If successful, a second smaller grant can be obtained for a second short visit to exchange results.

Who can apply

PhD students and postdocs working in acute stroke research (clinical and pre-clinical) and affiliated with a CONTRAST work package or collaborating closely with a CONTRAST research group. Applicants need to be affiliated with a CONTRAST consortium partner.

What can you apply for

A maximum budget of Euro 10.000 including VAT can be requested. This budget should cover travel, and housing. We reimburse intercontinental air travel (up to economy plus) and local travel through public transport. A detailed budget needs to be part of the application. Plan well ahead.

Criteria for grant approval

You need a well-defined research project, with a clear research question that can be answered within a 1-year period after the start of your visit abroad. You will need a letter of approval from your supervisor and a welcome letter written and signed by the PI of the institute you will visit. We also need your CV.

Return-visit grant

Successful applicants (who answered their research question appropriately) may apply for a return visit to their host, in order to present and discuss their project, and generate ideas for next steps.

**2025-2026 call**

This call was published on March 1st 2025. Deadline for applications is May 1st, 2025. A decision will be made by July 1 2025. Your travel should start before May 1, 2026.

**Next calls**

Next year, 2026-2027, another similar call will open, with a total of 3 available spots.

Procedure

First application

Applications will be screened for completeness by the YTP committee (2 weeks) and then reviewed by members of the DAWC (2 weeks). The scoring system considers the following: Scientific value: 1-10; Originality & Impact: 1-10; Candidate: 1-10. A total score consists of the unweighted sum of these three scores. For each item, the connection with the purpose and aim of CONTRAST will be considered essential.

Final report and return-visit grant

Within 9 months after your visit, a final report needs to be provided. This report should include information on what you did during your visit and the results you obtained. The final report consists background, aims, methods, results, and discussion of the findings, max 15 pages including references and a summary. In addition, the applicant should be willing to present the results during a contrast meeting.

When the final report is submitted in time the applicant may apply for a grant for a return visit of two weeks. This second application will be reviewed by the WP-leaders of the young talent program.

**Submission**

To submit, fill out the application form below and send to: [Lianne.hulshof@lygature.org](mailto:Lianne.hulshof@lygature.org)

APPLICATION FORM

Admin

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| First name |  |
| Last name |  |
| Email address |  |
| Affiliation |  |
| Cell phone |  |
| Title of research project |  |
| CONTRAST WP you are affiliated with |  |
| CONTRAST contact person (supervisor or WP leader) (name, affiliation and email address) |  |

Application proper

Short description of current research project (100 words)

Description of activities intended to be carried out with this grant and how they fit within the research project goals. Include a timeline (250 words)

# Explanation of data sharing concept; what data will be shared and by whom? (100 words)

Description of the lab or group intended to visit & motivation to go there?\* (200 words)

What is the expected scientific output, learning objective and motivation? (200 words)

CV of the applicant (200 words)

\*Also provide communication / confirmation of the visiting group that they would accept your stay with them. Including a list with the name and contact details of your supervisor and WP leader who approves of the application.

Required budget

The visit grant covers (air/train) travel (economy plus, and local public transport), lodging (2 months) and a possible bench fee / lab costs if required by the group you visit. The maximal amount is €10.000,-. When the grant is awarded, the described budget is an indication of the funding to be received. Applicant will have to pay upfront and will get reimbursed after declaration of costs, including justification of these costs using receipts.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Amount in euro (including VAT) | Justification |
| Travel |  |  |
| Lodging |  |  |
| Bench fee / lab costs |  |  |

Required budget for return visit

Return visit grant (can be applied for after successful termination of first phase)

this covers (air/train) travel (economy plus, max €1500) lodging (2 weeks, max €1500) and other costs

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Amount in euro (including VAT) | Justification |
| Travel\* |  |  |
| Lodging |  |  |
| Bench fee / lab costs |  |  |

See also:

<https://www.contrast-consortium.nl/young-talent-research-travel-grant/>

To submit send to: [Lianne.hulshof@lygature.org](mailto:Lianne.hulshof@lygature.org)