Federal Ministry
for Economic Affairs
and Energy

exist

EXIST Business Startup Grant (EGS)

EXIST Business Startup Grant: Your idea. Our support.

Want to go from research to your own startup?
EXIST makes it possible! Do you have an innovative idea from your studies or research background? Get started now – **with the EXIST Business Startup Grant!**

What is the EXIST Business Startup Grant?

The Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy's EXIST Business Startup Grant is open to all topics, technology-neutral and supports students, graduates and researchers from higher education and research institutions to develop innovative business ideas and bring them to market-readiness. The programme funds the creation of a business plan, the development of products and services and targeted preparation for starting a business – including financial support and coaching via a founders' network.

Who is eligible for funding?

- Teams of up to 3 founders
  - The majority of the team should be comprised of graduates; however
  - a person with vocational training or
  - a person with a degree that is over 5 years old is also eligible;
  - Students must have already completed 50% of their studies;
- Graduates (up to max. 5 years after completing their studies)
- Researchers (up to max. 5 years after leaving)

What projects receive funding?

The development of market-ready products and innovative services with high value for customers and a clear unique selling point. The goal is to enable the founding of sustainable and market-relevant companies with a high capability to implement their ideas and thus to strengthen the transfer of knowledge from higher education institutions into the business world.

How does the funding work?

Length of funding: 12 months

Monthly stipend for living costs:

- Doctorate holders: €3,000
- Higher education degree holders: €2,500
- Vocational training graduates: €2,000
- Students: €1,000
- Child supplement: €150 per child

Fixed sum for material needs:

- €10,000 for companies founded by an individual
- €30,000 for companies founded by a team

Fixed sum for coaching:

- €5,000 for coaching specific to entrepreneurship

What do I need to do?

- Get in touch with a founders' network at your higher education institution
- Put together an idea paper on how you will realise your idea with the support of the founders' network.
- Have the founders' network help you find a mentor from your higher education/research institution that can support you with the technical aspects of implementing your idea
- The higher education or research institution will make the application for your project and can provide you a workspace for up to one year free of charge

When can I apply?

Applications can be sent to Project Management Jülich (PtJ) at any time.

Where can I find more information?

www.exist.de

Contact:
Project Management Jülich (PtJ)
Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH
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