Timeline

All proposals meeting the formal requirements will be evaluated by the Rectorate, selected RWTH faculty members and external reviewers. Short-listed candidates will be invited for on-site interviews and to give a presentation at a symposium hosted in June 2021 at RWTH Aachen University, Germany.

The following timeline applies:

- Applications are accepted between December 1st 2020 and February 9th 2021 via the ERS online portal at: https://portal.ers.rwth-aachen.de
  Call: Junior Principal Investigator Fellowships 2021
- May 2021: Decisions on the next stage of interviews will be sent out
- June 2021: Interviews are expected to take place and final decisions made so that fellowships can begin in October 2021
- October 2021 - January 2022: Start of fellowships

Contact

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Further Information:
www.rwth-aachen.de/jpfellowships
RWTH Junior Principal Investigator Fellowships

RWTH Aachen University is one of Germany’s pre-eminent Universities of Excellence, as reflected in the highest quality of teaching and world-class research. RWTH addresses bold, scientific questions and assumes a profound responsibility toward society and knowledge transfer into meaningful applications. RWTH strives for the convergence of knowledge, methods, and findings from its research fields and integrates in-depth disciplinary knowledge into interdisciplinary research consortia represented as Profile Areas.

RWTH is now inviting excellent and experienced early career researchers to apply for 6 Junior Principal Investigator (JPI) fellowships. Support is provided for a period of four years, with an optional fifth year. The program is designed to attract and support stellar researchers with international experience. Applications from women as well as others whose background and experience enrich the culture of the university are particularly encouraged.

The fellowships offer early-in-career high-potential researchers an exceptional opportunity to sharpen their research profile. The experience is designed to prepare them for success in highly competitive grant programs as well as to enhance their career prospects of becoming a professor. JPIs will have the chance to develop a T-shaped profile, build strong networks, shape emerging fields and produce high-impact publications. JPIs are expected to take advantage of the unique opportunities provided by the University’s Profile Areas and strategic alliances. JPIs are expected to help foster new interdisciplinary collaborations.

Although the fellowships are awarded based on an open call for proposals, JPIs will be associated with a specific RWTH institute or Profile Area and are expected to establish a strong presence there.

Eligibility criteria

- Completed doctoral degree within the last 3 years with subject-specific exceptions e.g. for candidates with clinical duties and education
- Strong academic record including publications in peer-reviewed journals, invited lectures, conference presentations and research awards
- At least two years of research experience outside of Germany
- Identified a host institute or Profile Area at RWTH. Contact information for the Profile Areas can be found under https://www.rwth-aachen.de/profileareas

What We Offer

- Successful candidates will be employed as junior research group leaders (full position, pay grade TV-L 14)
- Additional funding for one full-time doctoral candidate and a budget for consumables
- Opportunity to supervise doctoral candidates
- Mentoring and career development support through the University’s Advanced Talents program offered by the RWTH Center for Young Academics
- Access to the shared cutting-edge research infrastructure in the Profile Area
- General RWTH services including access to child care and other resources offered by the Family Services Center

Duration

The fellowship will be awarded for a period of four years, with an optional fifth year.

How to Apply

As an applicant for the 2021 JPI Fellowship Program, you need to submit the following:

- A cover letter, including a statement explaining what makes your research unique and stimulating (max. 1 page)
- An outline of your research proposal (max. 4 pages, excluding references). This should describe the main idea behind your research, the methods you intend to use, the potential impact of your research on both your field and others, as well as the importance and societal relevance of your research
- CV (max. 4 pages)
- Identified host institute or Profile Area at RWTH
- A copy of your doctoral degree certificate (and, for languages other than English or German, a certified translation of the doctoral certificate)
- University degrees before doctorate (e.g. BA/BSc/MA/MSc)
- A list of publications including copies of your top five academic papers
- Contact information for references

The application process opens December 01, 2020. Please submit your application, preferably in the form of a single PDF file.

Please submit your completed application to: https://portal.ers.rwth-aachen.de

Call: Junior Principal Investigator Fellowships 2021
The deadline for applications is February 09, 2021 at 11:59pm (CET).

Please read the requirements and instructions carefully before applying.