

## Bottom-Up Projects: Call for proposals within the framework of the InnovationCampus Future Mobility

The **goal** of the InnovationCampus Future Mobility (ICM), funded by the Ministry of Science, Research and the Arts of the State of Baden-Württemberg, is to produce new technologies with disruptive character and innovation potential through excellent basic research in the fields of mobility and production. To this end, the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology and the University of Stuttgart are pooling their expertise in research and innovation to think ahead and conduct interdisciplinary research into new forms of mobility, flexible production technologies and future value networks. The InnovationCampus Future Mobility acts as a joint platform to develop new technologies quickly and flexibly, to test new approaches and to create the basis for innovation.

The **current call for "Bottom-Up Projects"** supports projects by young researchers to develop the vision of the ICM through new, unconventional approaches. This complements and supports the other funding instruments of the Campus - Collaborative Projects, Networking Projects, Fellowships, Accelerators, Junior Research Groups and Professorships. Projects can be funded in two categories: **(1) BUP Science and (2) BUP Transfer**.

**Criteria** used to evaluate projects in the **Science category** and that must be fully met by project applications and addressed in the application:

- The research question addresses an issue related to production and/or mobility. A description of the problem, the project and the proposed approach is requested, which should be as specific as possible.
- The idea should be as far-reaching and visionary as possible, with a high degree of risk in its implementation, exploratory in nature and strongly related to the objectives of the ICM.
- The project and the approach will focus on scientific excellence, innovation potential and interdisciplinarity.
- The project is intended as a kick-start for new projects or as a booster for existing projects at the ICM.

**Criteria** used to evaluate projects in the Transfer category, which must be fully met by project applications and addressed in the application:

- The focus of the project is on the translation of scientific results into industrial, marketable applications in the pre-competitive area. For example, funding can be provided for proof of concept (PoC) to prototype/MVP development.
- The idea is exploratory in nature and must be strongly related to the objectives of the ICM.

- Are there opportunities for commercial or economic implementation ("market potential")? Are there, or are there likely to be, inventions, applications for industrial property rights or granted industrial property rights?
- What specific transfer activities are planned?
- Support for start-up projects must also be provided:
  - Successful participation in the ICM Intrapreneurship Programme
  - Confirmation from the home institute that the infrastructure can be used and that the team based there can focus on their start-up project (maximum funding rate of 50% TVL per person).
  - Clear timetable for the next 12 months with milestones
  - First draft of business model with business plan
  - Accompanying coach or mentor incl. agreed coaching plan for the duration of the project

Young researchers from all institutes and central facilities of both universities as well as universities, research institutions and student initiatives in Baden-Württemberg are **eligible to apply**. The maximum project duration is nine months and the maximum project budget is €50,000 (personnel + material costs in each allocation).

In 2023 and 2024, a total of approximately €450,000 and €510,000 per year respectively will be available for bottom-up projects. Funds cannot be carried over to calendar year 2025.

Submissions can be made to management at any time. The current templates, tender texts, deadlines and dates can be found at <https://www.icm-bw.de/en/research/open-calls>. Applications should be submitted digitally in the form of a 3-4 page PDF using the valid template to the following address: [gf@icm-bw.de](mailto:gf@icm-bw.de). Your contacts are

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