

Mobile Research Labs for STEM recruitment (DEMO-Projects) of the InnovationCampus Future Mobility (ICM)

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, versatile 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 shortage of STEM professionals, world affairs and their impact remain pressing issues for universities and, ultimately, for society.

With the **Mobile Research Labs**, the ICM supports institutes in recruiting young STEM talent. Institutes or research groups can apply for a budget for exhibits, mobile demonstrators or a mobile research lab for school visits and recruitment events, as well as for cooperation with student initiatives and university groups.

The aim of the initiative is to inspire future first-year students to take up technical and engineering subjects, to support students in their own project work and also to present further career steps/degrees. The focus is on the interdisciplinary cooperation of different research topics and areas of the ICM and its participating partners, in order to show future junior scientists the wide range of possibilities that STEM studies offer and how they can help shape highly topical issues.

Student assistants, students and graduates should be directly involved in the development and establishment of the Mobile Research Labs. The target groups of the Mobile Research Labs are primarily prospective students, but also, for example, interested foreigners who wish to spend a longer period at a research institution in Baden-Württemberg (e.g. for a Master's degree, doctorate or postdoc).

The mobile student labs also offer the opportunity to write bachelor and master theses in subjects such as physics didactics, science and technology or engineering education. The aim is to develop appropriate didactic concepts for the respective labs/demonstrators.

The relevant institutes of the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) and the University of Stuttgart and, in cooperation with them, universities and non-university research institutions in Baden-Württemberg are **eligible to apply** for funding from projects previously funded/participated in the ICM.

Criteria for the evaluation of projects

- Suitability for at least one of the three research areas or their interfaces
 - Manufacturing Systems
 - Mobility Technologies
 - Software-System-Architectures
- Aspects of medium- and long-term benefit for STEM recruitment
- Relation to previous ICM projects
- Interdisciplinarity of approaches

Notes on boundary conditions:

- Maximum project duration 12 months.
- A reasonable amount of personnel costs required for installation and operation can be applied for (current DFG rates). For the technical implementation, a maximum of one technician month per project can be funded for additional work, e.g. in the workshop, as well as student and student assistant personnel funds for the junior scientists directly involved in the mobile demonstrator.
- Required material resources and small investments can be applied for.
- In addition, each participating research institute can apply for a lump sum to take out any additional insurance required (liability, accident, etc.).
- Operating costs are not eligible for funding or reimbursement.
- When procuring individual components or parts of the mobile research laboratory, the procurement guidelines of the respective institutions must be observed.
- The participating student assistants, graduates and postgraduates should be offered opportunities for further qualification (technical, soft skills, etc.). In this context, the participants can, among other things, take part in the ICM's Early Career Program for young talents.
- Please explain, using SMART goals, when you would consider your project a success.

Following the submission of project proposals, the ICM Research Board will make a selection.

Proposals can be submitted digitally at any time via gf@icm-bw.de using the current templates (plus attachments). Proposals are reviewed usually quarterly. Further information can be found at www.icm-bw.de/en/research/open-calls. The research coordination of the InnovationCampus Future Mobility (fk@icm-bw.de) will gladly answer any questions you may have regarding the call for proposals and the application process.