

Call for applications

“Würzburger Förderpreis Forschung und Transfer” (Würzburg Research and Transfer Award)

Purpose

The prize of € 100,000 supports outstanding interdisciplinary research projects at Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg (JMU) that **not only demonstrate scientific innovation but also have significant societal application potential**. It is awarded by the university association Universitätsbund Würzburg e. V. and funded jointly by the foundations Wittenstein Stiftung and Vogel Stiftung Dr. Eckernkamp.

The prize is awarded annually for **transfer or transformation experiments, concepts, models, programmes, or inventions** that stem from excellent research at JMU and develop innovative solutions for the benefit and well-being of society and future generations (incl. technological, social, medical, cultural, economic, and political advancements).

It aims to provide a **substantial boost or leverage effect** for outstanding transfer projects at an early stage and/or enhance their visibility in the competition for long-term and large-scale funding. The prize is primarily intended for **interdisciplinary teams** consisting of several researchers, although individual applicants are also welcome.

Application

Applications must include a **written statement** (maximum of five pages), addressing the following five selection criteria:

- › Goals, outstanding elements, and innovative aspirations of the project
- › Link of the project idea to previous successful research work at JMU
- › Intended societal impact upon continuation/implementation of the project in practice
- › Status of already completed preliminary work
- › Expected contribution of the prize to facilitating the project's transition to the next development phase (presentation of the next project steps and planned use of the prize money)

Additionally, a recommendation letter from a self-selected expert in the field may be included, recognizing the project's link to excellent research at JMU and its innovative character. Any third-party funding already secured for the nominated project must be listed in a separate document.

Applications can be submitted by 15th August 2025 to the Research Advancement Centre (rac-office@uni-wuerzburg.de). The funding decision is made by Universitätsbund in coordination with Wittenstein Stiftung and Vogel Stiftung Dr. Eckernkamp.

Award Ceremony

The award ceremony will take place on 13th November 2025 as part of the annual gala concert of Universitätsbund in the Neubaukirche.