Bern Center for Precision Medicine (BCPM)

Young Investigator Pilot Project call: Questions and Answers

**Does a submission require a pre-existing ethical approval?**

No. But if your project requires an ethical approval, you should provide one within eight months after the project approval.

**Are simultaneous submissions to other funding institutions allowed?**

Obtaining funds from other funding bodies is definitely encouraged. E.g., the BCPM may fund SNF project proposals which were promising in SNSF Ambizione / Prima calls, but were finally not selected. But if you have submitted your project to another funding institution, this needs to be specified in your BCPM application. In case of double funding (e.g. SNSF and BCPM), the BCPM reserves the right to adjust its financing decision, as the project would otherwise be over-funded.

**Should budgeting be accompanied by detailed cost estimates or would a short compilation of the expected costs be sufficient?**

A short compilation is enough, but we need justifiable numbers, and a clear distinction between personnel expenses (will be paid out via “Personalpunkte”) and funds used for other purposes such as lab equipment (which will be paid out via fund transfer). The fewer personnel costs, the better.

**I am employed at the University of Bern. Can my BCPM grant be transferred to a third party credit (Drittmittelkredit)?**

No. Grant money from the BCPM comes from a University business credit (Betriebskredit), and cannot be transferred to a University third party credit (Drittmittelkredit). It can only be transferred to another Betriebskredit. You may also choose to manage BCPM funds at the Inselspital, but you are not allowed to re-direct BCPM funds from the Inselspital back to a Drittmittelkredit at the University.

**Will there be feedback?**

No feedback will be provided on the project applications, other than refusal or acceptance for funding.

**How about external collaborators?**

External collaborators working in the project are welcome, but they cannot be supported via this grant.

**Are there any subsidies on lab fees?**

The grant does not allocate any subsidies directly to core central facilities or labs such as genomics – so the normal prices and fees apply, and those might also include overhead costs.