

What we are looking for in junior fellows and their projects

To give potential applicants for junior fellowships with a better sense of what type of project and junior fellow we are looking for we here provide some information of what we consider a plus or a minus both regarding person and project. Please note that we are not expecting junior fellows and their projects only to tick the pluses, but rather hope for a mixture with more pluses than minuses. Please also note that this is not a comprehensive list of criteria of selection. It is intended to give a better sense of what and whom the Collegium aims to support.

Plus

- innovative project ideas that offer many connection points to other fields / disciplines / perspectives / approaches
- projects that benefit from exchange with other disciplines
- projects that despite their evident relevance / importance / originality, cannot be easily funded by other means, for example because they cut across multiple fields
- projects that can only be carried out or at the Collegium or at least clearly benefit from being there
- projects which make the applicant venture into new fields rather than projects where s/he completes something that s/he has already been working on
- projects that open new horizons and career opportunities to the applicant
- projects with a clear and feasible work plan
- applicants with a track record which relative to their age documents both originality and productivity
- applicants who benefit from a multidisciplinary environment with academics and artists
- applicants who contribute to and benefit from diversity
- applicants who will contribute to and shape the community of fellows at the Collegium

Minus

- projects that are better carried out elsewhere (for example in a specialist research group)
- projects that are mere continuations or completion of earlier work
- projects that are mainstream in their fields or that remain confined to a narrow specialty area
- projects that are not clearly defined and remain vague
- projects that deem not feasible or where significant progress is unlikely to be achieved over the fellowship period
- projects that are based on an unrealistic workload



Other aspects

- Please avoid jargon. We need to assess applications from very different disciplines. The description of the research project and event should be written in a manner that outsiders of your field can understand.
- Be concise and precise.
- Make sure that your aim and summary gets the project idea across clearly and convincingly.
- We would like to explicitly encourage also those applicants, who tend to be more critical of themselves and their achievements. While we wish to select strong applicants with strong proposals, we do not want to bias our recruitment towards those overly confident.
- We encourage applicants from all academic and artistic disciplines, to avoid a bias towards those areas that are traditionally considered inter-/transdisciplinary.

