

# Open Call for Scientist Exchange Funds

Deadline: March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025

## The Microverse Cluster invites applications for Scientist Exchange Funds

Our [Cluster of "Excellence Balance of the Microverse"](#) aims to elucidate the fundamental principles that underlie the dynamics and regulation of complex microbial consortia in healthy and diseased states of ecosystems, plants, animal and human hosts. We ultimately aim to provide novel solutions and targeted interventions for fighting disease and environmental dysbalance.

[We are inviting proposals for exchange – incoming and outgoing – with scientists outside of Jena](#) that have an innovative component and strengthen the core themes of the Cluster. Microverse faculty, postdocs and doctoral researches are eligible to apply to either visit a research lab outside of Jena, or invite an outside scientist to Jena for a short research stay. Proposals should address one or more of the following topics:

- **Microverse core questions:** The project addresses our core research questions and strengthens ongoing research of the Cluster.
- **Building (inter)national collaborations:** The project establishes or strengthens collaborations with research labs outside of Jena.
- **High risk high reward:** The project is a trial of a potential new research direction (postdoc or PI level only)

[We provide travel and housing funding up to 5000 €](#) for incoming and outgoing scientists for short research stays of up to 3 months, longer stays may be considered if need is demonstrated. The research stay should be completed by August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

Use the attached template and send your proposal to the [Microverse management team](#) ([contact@microverse-cluster.de](mailto:contact@microverse-cluster.de)) **by March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.**

After your stay, we will invite you to give a talk at the Microverse/JSMC Early Career Researchers Seminar and create Microverse outreach formats with us (e.g. social media posts – preferably LinkedIn or BlueSky, website, etc.).

## Application for Incoming Scientist Exchange Funds

I. Microverse Applicant Information	
<i>The applicant must be a group leader from Microverse, a secondary host from the same laboratory may be named as the person who will help integrate the visitor, etc.</i>	
<b>PI Name</b>	
<b>Host Name</b>	
<b>Project Title</b>	
II. Visitor Applicant Information	
<b>Name, Institution, Address</b>	
<b>Current Position</b>	
<b>Nationality</b>	
<b>Desired start date</b>	
<b>Planned Length of Stay</b>	
<b>Requested amount for the trip</b>	
<b>Does the visitor need assistance finding housing?</b>	[ ] Yes [ ] No
<b>Does the visitor require a visa for this stay?</b>	[ ] Yes [ ] No
III. Project Information	
<i>Please provide short answers to the following questions in an attached pdf file, not to exceed one page.</i>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Please shortly describe the research project on which the visitor will work.</li> <li>2. What are the planned activities during the visit?</li> <li>3. How does this project fulfill one or more of the three bullet pointed topics (core questions/collaborations/high risk high reward)?</li> <li>4. How do you anticipate that these activities will benefit the visitor?</li> </ol>	
IV. Acknowledgment of Group Leader	
<p><b>Signature of support from Microverse PI:</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b></p>	

## Application for Outgoing Scientist Exchange Funds

Requirements: This form, Project Information text (see below), Letter of support from host

V. Applicant Information	
<i>Microverse funded doctoral researchers, postdocs, and group leaders are eligible for funding</i>	
<b>Name</b>	
<b>Project Title</b>	
<b>Supervisor</b>	
VI. Destination Information	
<i>Include a short letter of support from the destination host (can be directly emailed to <a href="mailto:contact@microverse-cluster.de">contact@microverse-cluster.de</a>)</i>	
<b>Host PI Name</b>	
<b>Host Institution Address</b>	
<b>Planned length of stay</b>	
<b>Desired start date</b>	
<b>Travel requirements (visa, etc.)</b>	
<b>Requested amount for the trip</b>	
VII. Project Information	
<i>Please provide short answers to the following questions in an attached pdf file, not to exceed one page.</i>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Please shortly describe your research project.</li> <li>2. What are the planned activities during your visit?</li> <li>3. How does this project fulfill one or more of the three bullet pointed topics (core questions/collaborations/high risk high reward)?</li> <li>4. How do you anticipate that these activities will benefit your personal and professional development?</li> </ol>	
VIII. Acknowledgment of Group Leader	
<p><b>Signature of support from Microverse PI:</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b></p>	