

## Aurora Mini Grant Program – University of Innsbruck

### General Information

The University of Innsbruck is an active member in the partnership of Aurora Universities (<https://www.uibk.ac.at/international/aurora/>) and focuses on intensive Cooperation with selected Partners from Reykjavik to Neapel. This collaboration benefits students, researchers as well as administrative staff.

The Aurora partner universities are:

- Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (NL)
- University of Iceland (IS)
- Universität Duisburg-Essen (D)
- Universitat Rovira i Virgili (ES)
- Università di Napoli Federico II (IT)
- Univerzita Palackého v Olomouci (CZ)
- Copenhagen Business School (DK)
- University of East Anglia (UK)
- University of Aberdeen (UK)
- Université Grenoble Alpes (FR)

With the approval of an Aurora European Universities Alliance by the European Commission in the summer of 2020, the joint activities were elevated to a new level. The Aurora European Universities Alliance aims to develop a Europe-wide, integrated joint campus of the partner universities in which students, scientists and employees can learn, teach and research together. Combining social relevance with academic excellence is the guiding principle of Aurora. A special focus of the Aurora European Universities Alliance is therefore on pooling the expertise of the partners involved in order to actively shape the major social challenges of our time and to integrate them more strongly into teaching and research.

In teaching in particular, this means promoting collaborative / international learning formats that, in addition to relevant specialist knowledge, also have a positive influence on the development of our graduates' skills ("soft skills" or "future skills"). In the area of research, there is a special focus on greater networking of our scientists: in order to discuss and develop research topics of common interest and initiate follow-up activities (e.g. by developing research projects and submitting funding applications, organizing scientific conferences / meetings / workshops, joint publications, etc.).

Thematic pilot areas of the Aurora European Universities Alliance are:

- Sustainability & Climate Change,
- Digital Society & Global Citizenship,
- Health & Well-being
- Culture: Diversity & Identity
- Social Entrepreneurship & Innovation

### Objectives of the Aurora Mini Grants

With funds from the Aurora European Universities Alliance, so-called “Aurora Mini Grants” are announced in order to **initiate the development of joint activities between scientists from the Aurora Alliance Universities** in teaching and research, as described above. The call for proposals is deliberately kept open, in order to support individual and precisely fitting projects related to the objectives of the alliance. Ideally, these should support mobilities as well as generate follow-up activities and more sustainable networks between the Aurora universities.

### What can be funded?

- Travel and subsistence expenses
- Material resources (e.g. for workshop organization)
- Funds for student staff

### Who is the call for proposals aimed at?

To all scientists at the University of Innsbruck

### Amount of funding

Up to EUR 4,000- per application.

In the case of funding of travel expenses, the flight tax within the framework of the Green Mobility travel guidelines will be allocated to the applicant's institute.

### Award Criteria

- Cooperation with scientists from at least one other university in the Aurora European Universities Alliance
- Thematic connection to one of the content-related Aurora pilot areas ("Sustainability and Climate Change", "Health and Well-being", "Digital Society and Global Citizenship", "Culture: Diversity and Identity", "Social Entrepreneurship & Innovation")
- Thematic connection / discussion with at least one of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Consideration of **one** of the following aspects: Promotion of interdisciplinary skills ("soft skills" or "future skills"), internationalization, interdisciplinarity, interculturality, multilingualism, involvement of external stakeholders,
- Feasibility of the projects

The aim is to distribute the mini grants as evenly as possible across the faculties.

### **Application and procedure**

Applications can be submitted continuously by e-mail via **aurora-mobility@uibk.ac.at**. The application consists of:

- Application form
- Abstract (preferably in German and English)
- Entry in the project database

The International Relations Office and the Aurora Office together decide on the approval.

After approval and allocation, the project must be carried out within one year. An (interim) report must be submitted by June 30, 2022.

The standards and guidelines described here apply in accordance with the extent to which they can be covered, and might be revised in the following years depending on the budget.

### **Contact - content-related questions**

Aurora Office

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### **Contact - processing of funding**

International Relations Office

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### **Further information at:**

<https://www.uibk.ac.at/international-relations/aurora-mobility/>