Interdisciplinary Postdoc Fellowships (f/m/d) at Heidelberg University

The Flagship Initiative Engineering Molecular Systems (FI EMS) is part of Heidelberg University’s excellence strategy and promotes the research field of engineering molecular systems. Therefore, the FI EMS is seeking for postdocs who want to start their own research project in this area to design advanced functional materials, methods, technologies, devices, and/or therapies on the meso- and/or macroscopic scale. The molecular components can be of synthetic or natural origin with specific electronic, chemical, biological or biomedical properties.

The project idea should be in the area of
- Materials engineering with applications in diagnostics, drug discovery and delivery, sensors, machines, clean energy, or environmental technologies
- Engineering of vaccines and cells with unique properties, e.g. pathogen-fighting capabilities
- Engineering and development of new algorithms for data processing

The intention of the fellowship is to provide the basis for an ERC-Starting-Grant, Emmy-Noether-Fellowship, BMBF-NanoMatFutur-Grant or another independent group leader proposal following the funding period. Please explain in your proposal how your project idea will enable you to apply for one or two of these grants. A clear timeline for the submission of respective grant applications must be provided considering the corresponding eligibility criteria.

Postdocs have to choose a host at Heidelberg University supporting their project and submitting the proposal to FI EMS. You can check out our website https://www.uni-heidelberg.de/en/fiems for potential hosts, however any scientist associated with Heidelberg University is eligible. Internal candidates are required to change their scientific environment and find a new host at Heidelberg University or explain in detail why the project can only be carried out at their current affiliation. The proposed project are required to be independent of the projects of the host lab.

In case of a positive project evaluation, the host will provide a postdoc position for two years for the applicant including 20.000 € material expenses per year funded by the FI EMS of Heidelberg University.

Scope and duration of fellowship:
- Funding for one postdoc position (TV-L E13) at Heidelberg University for two years and material expenses up to 20,000 € p.a.
- Funding period: two years
- Funding start: January 2024 or later

Submission and candidate requirements:
- The project proposal must be submitted by a host who is a member (with permanent position) of Heidelberg University
- The postdoc designated for the project must have a track record suitable for the intended future grant proposal for an independent junior group and must clearly outline their future scientific career plans.

Mandatory documents:
- Project idea: maximum 4 pages including abstract (approx. 2500 characters), affiliation of host, current affiliation of postdoc, project/work description and research/proposal aim for the postdoc position
— Future plans: One-page outline of specific plans for future funding proposal (including submission dates etc.)
— Letter of support by the host stating how the project fits into the FI EMS and how it will be supported by the host
— Time schedule including starting date and submission date(s) for follow-up funding as described above (half a page max.)
— Budget plan (1 page max.) for material expenses
— CV (4 pages max.) of postdoc
— Two letters of reference

Submission deadline: November 1st 2023

Evaluation:
Project proposals will be evaluated by the FI EMS Board and proposed to the rectorate for funding.

Project proposal submission (by the host): Please send them by email to the FI EMS office fi-ems@uni-heidelberg.de as a single PDF with “Interdisciplinary postdoc fellowships” as subject.

For any questions, please contact the FI EMS scientific coordinator fania.geiger@uni-heidelberg.de.

Heidelberg University stands for equal opportunities and diversity. Qualified female candidates are especially invited to apply. Persons with severe disabilities will be given preference if they are equally qualified. Information on job advertisements and the collection of personal data is available at www.uni-heidelberg.de/en/job-market.