

ABC Seed Funding for Network Consolidation

ABC offers the new funding scheme ‘Seed Funding for Network Consolidation’ that fosters interdisciplinary, intersectoral and (inter)national collaboration aimed at innovative, cutting edge research.

Aim

ABC Seed Funding is intended to support mid-career ABC members in consolidating **interdisciplinary, (inter)national**, and preferably **intersectoral** (collaboration with non-academic societal partners) networking activities. The aim is to enhance collaborations with (inter)national scientific and societal partners in the field of brain and cognition and as such, to increase ABC’s reputation and visibility in Europe and the rest of the world. The fund should pave the way for EU applications by a consortium (e.g. Horizon Europe: Global Challenges, Societal Challenges; Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions (MSCA): Doctoral Networks, Cofund; COST; EU4Health Programme; ERC Synergy Grant) and/or applications by a consortium in the context of the Dutch National Research Agenda (NWA).

N.B. This funding scheme is not intended to support the preparation of personal grants (ERC Starting/Consolidator/Advanced, NWO Veni/Vidi/Vici) or grant proposals for the NWO Open Competition.

Closing date

Deadline for submission is 01 October 2021

The submissions will be evaluated by ABC Advisory Board. We aim to inform applicants of the outcome of their application within 3 weeks from the date of submission.

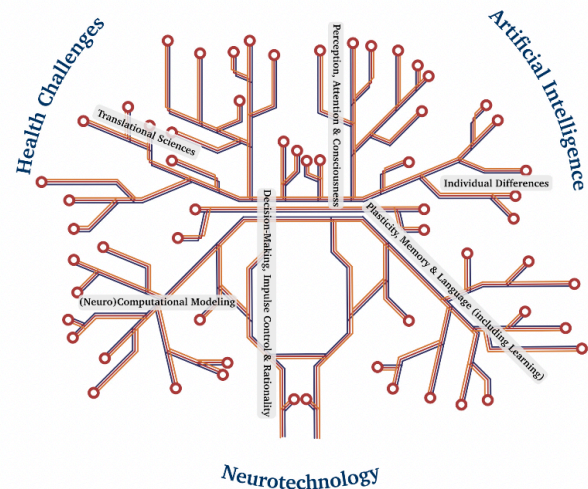
Intended start dates of selected ABC Seed Funding projects: 01 February 2022 or 01 June 2022

What can be applied for?

Two types of seed funds are offered: 1. International Network Consolidation, 2. National Network Consolidation

1. International Network Consolidation

Intended for organizing network meetings at the UvA with foreign (**international**) scientific and preferably societal (**intersectoral**) partners from at least four different countries and different disciplines (**interdisciplinary**), with the aim of further developing and strengthening international collaboration, and ultimately submitting an application for EU funding by an international consortium.



The ABC International Network Consolidation grant offers:

- Release time from teaching duties of 0,2 FTE for one semester (6 months; this can be split between two researchers), or equivalent 0.2 FTE to assist the researcher in daily duties.
- Bench fee for network meetings: € 5000.
- Professional consultant for process-guidance and grant-writing (€ 5.000-10.000).

The funding will be used to temporarily reduce work-load for ABC members (e.g., release from teaching duties, help with day-to-day research activities) to enable them to prepare an application for EU or NWA funding by a consortium. The ABC members are the proposal coordinators of the consortium. The bench fee for the proposal coordinators will cover the costs of organizing meetings with consortium partners for the preparation of the joint application. The bench fee for a partner will cover personal travel and accommodation expenses.

2. National Network Consolidation

If you intend to apply for funding for research within one or more of the 25 routes of the Dutch National Research Agenda (NWA), please note that NWO offers network grants for the organization of matchmaking events. The purpose of the Matchmaking events is to form (new) consortia across the entire knowledge chain and developing proposals for innovative research. More information is available via www.nwo.nl/en/funding/our-funding-instruments/nwa/dutch-national-research-agenda---matchmaking-events/dutch-national-research-agenda---matchmaking-events.html.

The ABC National Network Consolidation grant offers:

- Release time from teaching duties of 0,2 FTE for one semester (6 months; this can be split between two researchers), or equivalent 0.2 FTE to assist the researcher in daily duties (e.g., research assistants or lab managers).
- Professional consultant for process-guidance and grant-writing (€ 5.000-10.000)

Who can apply?

- Main applicants are ABC members with at least a 0.5 fte appointment at the UvA.
- Applicants are ABC members, and have a tenured position or a temporary appointment for the duration of the EU or NWA application process and the research project.
- Applicants intend to conduct the proposed research project at the UvA, following the award of the grant.

Application requirements

- Applications are drawn up in accordance with the guidelines provided below.
- Main goal: increase (inter)national visibility and reputation ABC, contributing to future consolidation ABC
- The envisaged research project relates to one or more of the ABC themes and/or transversal perspectives and UvA's new strategic plan ('instellingsplan'). Proposals relating neurotechnology, mental and physical health (challenges), (providing data to) AI, contributing to the solution of societal challenges are particularly welcomed.
- Applicants and co-applicants may only submit one proposal.

Applications assessment

The ABC Advisory Board will consider the applications on the basis of

- The potential to increase ABC's (inter)national visibility and reputation, contributing to future consolidation of ABC (20%);
- the quality of the consortium (20%);
- the scientific quality and feasibility of the proposed project (30%);
- the organization and coherence of the work plan (30%).

Information Annex

[Guidelines for drawing up application for an ABC Network Consolidation grant](#)