

EU funding: European Research Council (ERC)



Introduction to the ERC: a wonderful opportunity for individual researchers at any career stage to win significant funding, time and space to pursue their biggest, most ambitious research ideas

The ERC is one of the most important EU funding opportunities for individual researchers and one of the world's most prestigious and attractive research funding opportunities. Very competitive and awarded through global competition, ERC grants are very well known across the world and across disciplines; winning an ERC grant will enhance your career, whatever your career stage. The ERC holds three main grant competitions every year, streamed by career stage:

- **Starting Grants:** talented early-career researchers having already produced excellent supervised work, ready to work independently and showing potential to be research leaders
- **Consolidator Grants:** researchers wishing to consolidate their independence by establishing a research team and continuing to develop a successful career in Europe or who've recently created their own independent, excellent research team and want to strengthen it
- **Advanced Grants:** established, leading principal investigators seeking long-term funding to pursue a ground-breaking, high-risk project

Below are some important ERC information sources.

Work Programme 2022

The ERC's annual Work Programme gives information on the ERC's aims and objectives and detailed information on eligibility and other rules as well as timeframes for each of the ERC's 2022 grant competitions.

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/wp-call/2022/wp_horizon-erc-2022_en.pdf

Information for Applicants 2022

An 'Information for Applicants' is published for each ERC call. There is much continuity year-on-year; the 2022 documents will therefore give a very good insight into any future year's call.

Starting: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/information-for-applicants_he-erc-stg-cog_en.pdf

Consolidator: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/information-for-applicants_he-erc-stg-cog_en.pdf

Advanced (2021, 2022 not yet released): https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/information-for-applicants_he-erc-adg_en.pdf

ERC videos

[ERC CLASSES](#)



ERC 2022 grant competitions webinar recording

[Q&A - ERC Grant Competitions 2022](#)



Positioning yourself as a competitive candidate

As the applicant CV and profile weigh heavily in the funding decision, you must consider how to position yourself for an ERC proposal, as building up your CV and achievements takes time. See the accompanying slides for more information on the kind of CV that you will need, to be a competitive candidate.

To discuss an ERC application

Contact the College Research Development Team and the Overseas Team. The Overseas Team is the University's central team leading support to EU application activity. The Overseas Team will take the lead in supporting your ERC proposal. We can also advise you on the suitability of your research idea and profile.