

## **Call for proposals : “WPI Thematic Programs & (Olga Taussky) Pauli fellows”**

The Wolfgang Pauli Institute (WPI) is an interdisciplinary research training “Center of Excellence” in STEM (math,informatics, physics,...) and LIFE-Sciences (biology, medicine,...).

The WPI organizes, with co-funding of the Austrian Federal Ministry for Science and Research (BM.FWF = "Bundesministerium für Frauen, Wissenschaft und Forschung"), the ***WPI Invitation and Pauli Fellows Program***. About 7 ***“Thematic Programs”*** provide the frame for an international exchange scheme in fields of research where strong groups exist in Vienna/Austria. The choice of topics and setup of the *thematic programs* fosters interdisciplinary collaboration of Austrian groups in various fields among them and internationally. Each program should contain post-graduate and post-doctoral training.

Each *thematic program* typically includes at least one ***“Pauli Fellow”*** as co-organizer over the whole duration of the program, in particular senior French scientists on paid leave to the WPI in the frame of the “Institut CNRS Pauli” or the analogue cooperation with INSERM. Priority and special funding is given to **female *“Olga Taussky Pauli Fellows”***

Co-funding : Note that the funding provided by the WPI matches the funding provided by the organizers from other sources, i.e. co-funding of at least 50 % is required, and every proposal has to contain a list of co-funding projects (on a national level and e.g. in the framework programs of the EC), where eventually also submitted proposals or credible plans to do so can be listed .

"Gender-mainstreaming": *thematic programs* with a female main organizer or including a female *Olga Taussky Pauli fellow* are given priority and receive special funding-

Duration of thematic programs is 12 months, from 1 July until 30 June.

### **Program Funding**

The WPI provides a **financial support** for a thematic program in the range of Euro 20,000 – 50,000. The total amount of WPI funding depends on the “co-funding” that the organizers provide from other sources, with a minimum requirement of 50 %.

Visiting scientists can be either reimbursed the cost of travel or the cost of hotel (if it is reserved by the WPI), or receive a flat rate "per diem" of max. 80 Euro per night.

In case of longer stays, flat rate grants according to the needs, in a range of 500 – 2500 Euro per month are possible.

The WPI effectively supports long term stays of "foreign" scientists, in particular as **Pauli Fellows** who keep their income at home (e.g. during sabbaticals, CNRS detachment), and who come to Vienna/Austria to work with "local" colleagues. These prestigious fellowships are awarded in the frame of the *WPI thematic programs*. The WPI assists in all administrative/organisational aspects and funds all additional "mobility cost" ((family) accommodation, school for children etc., travel ,...)

**Visiting Pauli PostDocs** within the *thematic programs* receive a scholarship grant for a maximum duration of six months per calendar year.

Scholarship holders have a permanent residence outside Austria and a health insurance on their own. Analogously, **PhD students** can be hosted at the WPI for periods up to 6 months at WPI with a scholarship grant amounting to Euro 1,000 to 2,000 per month.

**Program Evolution.** Accepted thematic programs are dynamically allocated WPI funding in the evolution of the program in agreement between the organizers and the WPI directorate, in order to optimize the impact of the WPI subvention.

## Guidelines for Program Proposals

**Submission of the 1-3 pages word or pdf file is by e-mail to [wpi@mat.univie.ac.at](mailto:wpi@mat.univie.ac.at).**  
Deadline for the submission of proposals for new programs is 8 Mai 2026 with program activity starting from 1. July 2026 on, until 30. June 2027.

Organizers are encouraged to consult the directorate about their projects in advance to help structure their project and eventually combine it with thematically similar proposals.

**Proposal Content:** proposals should contain:

- Names + e-mail addresses of the organizers, including **a responsible local organizer** (e.g. someone involved in a co-funding project) and at least one Pauli Fellow.
- Financial demand to the WPI.
- A list of actively involved groups / co-funding projects in Vienna and other additional sources of funding for visitors, post-docs.
- Specification of funding for the (Olga Taussky) Pauli fellow(s).
- A suggested period.
- A preliminary list of planned “events” like workshops, conferences, “schools” etc.
- A short description of the scientific goals of the program, including a description of the international interactions.
- A preliminary list of scientists to be invited.

**Three step peer assessment:** Proposals can only be submitted by groups that have already passed an international peer reviewed evaluation. The directorate collects proposals and sends them to the General Assembly of the WPI full members for approval/modifications. The resulting list is then sent to the members of the International Scientific Board for tacit approval or removal / modifications of thematic programs.

Additional Funding: Organizers of programs have to assure 50 % additional external financial sources for their program: scientists willing to come in general on their own funds, direct contributions from other sources, other sources funding post-docs or graduate students actively participating in the program, etc. Combinations of WPI programs and conferences elsewhere, supported by other sources, are encouraged. WPI can co-fund costs that are difficult/impossible to get refunded by universities with their restrictive rules.

Collaboration between programs: the organizers of the *thematic programs* will be in continuous contact with the directorate in order to dynamically optimize the allocation of resources (office space and funding etc) and interdisciplinary contacts between the programs.