

# Guide to the "Close the Gap" funding program

## 1. Background

The "Close the Gap" program was first announced in 2021 and aims to promote the publication performance of young female scientists. To increase the proportion of female first and last authors at the faculty, this personalized funding is intended to support young female scientists who experience restrictions in their scientific work.

## 2. Target group

The program, created to promote postgraduate female clinicians, natural scientists and humanities scholars employed at the UKE, targets young female scientists who have already submitted a manuscript as first or last author to a high-quality journal in their field and have had it returned for revision. Please note that only young female scientists belonging to the core area of the UKE can be funded. Unfortunately, clinics primarily focused on patient care with no scientific focus (e.g. MVZ, Martiniklinik) cannot be considered.

## 3. Funding amount

Up to 5,000 Euros can be applied for. The funding amount should be used to ensure that the revisions are implemented quickly, allowing the publication to be resubmitted promptly. The funded researcher can use the amount flexibly for material or personnel resources (excluding financing of her own position and investment funds) and care costs (for the care of family members). Please note that the funding is tied to a specific year and be distributed over multiple years.

## 4. Criteria and requirements

Applicants must be the first or last author of a manuscript that is currently under revision at a subject-specific high-ranking journal. A journal is subject-specific high-ranking if it is among the top 33% (by impact factor) of the subject-specific journals in the Journal Citation Reports - Science Citation Index (JCR-SCI) or the Journal Citation Reports - Social Science Citation Index (JCR-SSCI) assigned to the applicant's respective subject areas.

## 5. Award procedure

The decision on funding is made by the Committee for the Advancement of Women and Gender Equality at the Faculty of Medicine. After a positive assessment of the application, the funding amount is usually made available to the applicant's center/clinic within a maximum of 4 weeks and must be drawn down there. Applicants are asked to inform their clinic management and the commercial management of their respective center/clinic about the funding after receiving positive feedback to ensure that the funds are used correctly.

**Applications must be submitted as a PDF by email to [gleichstellung@uke.de](mailto:gleichstellung@uke.de) by the 15th of the respective month. For further information on how to apply, please refer to the application form on the homepage of the Equal Opportunities Office.**