

# Module

## Temporary Substitutes for Clinicians



Disclaimer: The English translation of this document is provided for informational purposes. In the event of a discrepancy between the English and the German versions, the German text takes precedence.

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## I Objective

This module can be used to request staff funding to enable doctoral-level physicians and doctoral-level licensed psychologists who have patient-care responsibilities to participate in a DFG-funded project. Funding is used to either finance appropriately qualified medical personnel who take over the patient-care responsibilities of the physicians and doctoral-level licensed psychologists participating in the DFG project, or to directly finance the physician or doctoral-level licensed psychologists participating in the DFG project.

Temporary substitute positions are available for the following:

- Physicians and dentists
- Veterinarians
- Licensed psychologists

## II Description

Physicians in university hospitals and academic medical centres/teaching hospitals and doctoral-level licensed psychologists typically spend a substantial amount of their time on patient-care responsibilities. To enable doctoral-level physicians and doctoral-level licensed psychologists working in patient care to be temporarily released from their clinical obligations to participate in a DFG-funded project, the DFG offers grants for temporary substitute positions.

Such grants are designed to enable clinicians to focus on a DFG-funded research project. This applies to basic-research projects as well as to projects in patient-oriented, clinical-scientific research.

Temporary substitute funding is awarded in the following flat amounts (regardless of the actual salary of the person on leave):

- for physicians a flat amount per year (in accordance with the TV Ä pay scale) in the category “medical research assistant”
- for doctoral-level licensed psychologists a flat amount per year (in accordance with the TVöD pay scale) in the category “postdoctoral researcher and comparable”.

When applying for a temporary substitute clinician position, the pay scale must always be selected on the electronic proposal form (physicians: TV Ärzte, licensed psychologists: TV L).

The flat amount can be supplemented by university or hospital funds, e.g. through their core support. For details, please refer to the following overview

[www.dfg.de/formulare/60\\_12](http://www.dfg.de/formulare/60_12)

A substitute position can be requested within the framework of a funding proposal (as part of a research grant, under the Emmy Noether Programme or Heisenberg Programme, in connection with a workshop for early career investigators, within the Walter Benjamin Programme or within coordinated programmes such as Clinical Research Units, Research Units, Collaborative Research Centres, or Research Training Groups) to cover the applicant’s own leave. Partial leave, with partial continuation of clinical duties, as well as full leave from clinical responsibilities may be requested for the duration of the project.

Additionally, an applicant may request funding to cover the leave of other doctoral-level physicians or doctoral-level licensed psychologists participating in the project who are primarily concerned with patient-care responsibilities.

It is also possible for several individuals to share a temporary substitute position.

If the individual will be participating in the project full time and assume leadership responsibilities throughout the duration of the project, he/she may instead apply for a “temporary position as principal investigator”.

[www.dfg.de/formulare/52\\_02](http://www.dfg.de/formulare/52_02)

### III Special Provisions

If a proposal for a temporary substitute is submitted later than the project proposal (as a supplemental proposal to a DFG-funded project), it can only be considered if it specifies the DFG-funded project on which the person to be substituted will work. In addition, it must explain why this personnel requirement could not be predicted at the time the project proposal was submitted and why it cannot be covered by core support. The supplemental proposal is subject to the duration of the original project.

For coordinated programmes such as Collaborative Research Centres, Research Units and Clinical Research Units, this module can either be submitted with individual projects or as part of the network’s coordination project.

Under the Walter Benjamin Programme, a temporary substitute position can only be requested for the applicant.

The hiring recommendation for the DFG-funded temporary substitute position rests with the grant recipient for research grants (this pertains to both the individual grants programme and individual projects in Research Units or Clinical Research Units); with the grant recipient under the Emmy Noether and Heisenberg Programmes; in the case of temporary substitute positions approved for the coordination project of a Research Unit, usually with the spokesperson;

- in the case of temporary substitute positions approved for the coordination project of a Clinical Research Unit, usually with the head of the project;
- with the spokesperson of a Research Training Group.
- For Collaborative Research Centres, hiring authority is regulated by the statutes.

Note that for reasons of employment law, the employer must consent to the DFG-funded substitution of staff doctoral-level physicians and a doctoral-level licensed psychologist. This issue must be settled with the employer(s) and confirmed by the DFG before the positions are filled.

## **IV Proposal Instructions**

State and justify the number of requested substitute positions. If available at the time of proposal submission, please provide the names of the clinician who will be substituted, the employment term (where applicable) and explain why the temporary substitute position is necessary (extent of clinical duties).

Please explain what criteria will be used and what type of leave will be made possible by the substitute position (training or rotation plan).

## **V Renewal Proposals/Final Reports**

The renewal proposal/final report must describe the clinician's actual involvement in the project. This includes describing which persons were involved in which projects and when, whether clinical and research activities were combined and, if so, why and for what periods of time, and if participating clinicians were or will be involved in publications resulting from the project or those that are planned.