

TUM Researcher | CareerDesign@TUM

Information for Supervisors

Who is the target audience of the pilot program?

The TUM Researcher Level 2 program is aimed at (international) researchers at TUM (temporary/permanent in pay grade E/A13 or higher) with an excellent doctorate and usually another 1-2 years of experience in research and teaching who want to expand and deepen their interdisciplinary research skills.

The target group is primarily scientific staff from the Schools, in our research centers and in the central scientific institutions of TUM, who would like to take on a responsible (leadership) role in research in the future.

How is the program structured and how long will it take?

The duration of the program is usually 12 months and a maximum of 24 months. The program includes a formal (online) course offering, online self-study and career coaching, as well as various transfer-enhancing elements that support applying what has been learned in current work activities. These elements include 1-2 lab visits to other research units, peer mentoring, and a public engagement project. Pre-existing competencies and previously attended professional development activities may be credited as appropriate.

In addition to six compulsory modules: Leadership & Cooperation, Building & Managing Your Research Group, Research Strategy & Visibility, Third Party Funding, Data Science & Visualization and Science Communication & Public Impact, participants can tailor the program to their specific needs through elective modules and in-depth options.

What effort does the program require of the participants?

Participation usually takes place during working hours; the commitment of the participants to also contribute free time is sometimes required. The scope of the program is approximately 300 hours, of which only about 1/3 are synchronous (online) workshops and events, and the remaining 2/3 are flexible, individually designed elements.

Which benefits does the program bring for me as a supervisor?

The program strengthens your employees in mastering the complex, interdisciplinary (management) tasks in research and qualifies them for a responsible (leadership) role in research. It ensures the transfer of training and the application of what has been learned in everyday work, so that your employees and you yourself already benefit during the program. The program can open up additional career options for your employees besides professorship, e.g. in non-university research and research & development in industry, and thus promotes the motivation of your employees. The program can also be beneficial for an application for a professorship.

What is my role as a supervisor in this program?

You can support your employees by making them aware of the program and enabling them to participate. For their application, employees need a letter of recommendation from their supervisor as well as from another TUM manager or the manager during their doctorate. We ask for your support in case of inquiries!

Participants are expected to shadow in other units during the program to learn about new perspectives and areas of work. Please enable your staff to gain these new insights. Surely your unit can benefit from it! We would be very pleased if you would be willing to accept other participants in the program for observation in your unit.

When will the pilot program start?

Applications for the pilot program are open from June 12 until and including July 9, 2023. The program will start on November 20, 2023.

Who can I contact if I have further questions about the program?

Please do not hesitate to contact us:



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