

## Exploratory Teaching Space

10<sup>th</sup> Call for proposals:

### *ETS Teaching and Learning Innovation Grants*

**Deadline: Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

#### **Background**

The „Exploratory Teaching Space“(ETS) invites applications for the *ETS TEACHING AND LEARNING INNOVATION GRANTS*.

ETS supports initiatives that make a positive contribution to RWTH's strategic priorities in learning and teaching in the two main areas: **instructional (didactical) innovation e.g. e-learning/blended learning and independent student learning**. These grants provide funding for the development of innovative teaching and learning concepts.

*In October 2009, RWTH Aachen University received an award for its Institutional Strategy "Students in the Focus of Excellence" in the competition "Excellent Teaching". Since then more than [100 projects](#) have been successfully implemented at the university. New ideas were realized and integrated in various faculties and partly transferred to other departments/disciplines.*

**Please note:** With this year's call we have modified the procedure: The ETS call for proposals has become "**ETS Teaching and Learning Innovation Grants**". Applications can only be submitted in a **2-step procedure** (for details see below). Grantees will receive an **ETS Grant certificate** at the end of their project.

#### **General conditions**

The projects should aim at supporting students in their autonomous learning process and they should address a large group of students. We explicitly welcome innovative and creative ideas even if they contain elements of risk (in that the approach/resource has not been widely explored in the particular discipline or at RWTH Aachen University). Also welcome are applications that have already been successfully implemented at other universities or at RWTH but that are still new for a specific discipline. Projects that are already under a national or international funding programme are not eligible.

This call is open to all staff at RWTH (RWTH professors, research assistants or research groups) interested in further developing teaching and learning concepts.

#### **Evaluation criteria**

A committee will evaluate applications based on the following criteria:

- Instructional innovation of the teaching/learning concept for RWTH (or your specific faculty/discipline). (essential)  
If applicable: Convincing presentation of experiences with this teaching concept at other locations. (desirable)

- Promotion of autonomous learning: The concept should promote the independent learning of students and ideally address a broad target group. (essential)
- Transferability of the teaching concept to other subject areas. (desirable)
- Financial independency: The concept should be designed in such a way that it is self-sustaining after start-up financing. (essential)
- Integration of the RWTH service facilities for learning. (essential if applicable)

## The 2 step application process

### 1. Mandatory consultation by the Center for Teaching and Learning Services (CLS)

Prior to submitting a proposal applicants have to give a short oral presentation (max. 10 minutes) of their project idea to members of the CLS. Afterwards, 10 minutes are available for discussion, during which the CLS gives feedback and shows the support possibilities of the university.

The dates for the presentation are:

Wednesday	12/06/2019, 10am - 5pm
Thursday	13/06/2019, 9am - 5pm
Friday	14/06/2019, 9am - 5pm

or

Monday	17/06/2019, 9am - 5pm
Tuesday	18/06/2019, 9am - 5pm

Please use the following [link](#) to arrange a time slot for your presentation.

**Booking deadline: Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2019.**

For organizational questions please contact the CLS team by email or telephone:  
[info@cls.rwth-aachen.de](mailto:info@cls.rwth-aachen.de), +49 241 80 99111.

**The CLS team's advice is only intended to assist you with your application and does not affect the outcome of your proposal. The feedback does not necessarily need to be implemented and does not constitute an exclusion criterion.**

**Please note:** Proposals that have not been presented and discussed with the CLS will be excluded from the reviewing process.

### 2. Application submission

After the consultation, proposals have to be submitted online. The proposal's maximum length is 5 pages including all tables and images. The maximum size of the appendix is 1 page.

**The proposal** can be written in English or German **and must contain:**

- A description of the goals and the impact of the project: what new possibilities are there for the teacher and the students? Which gap in the existing teaching offers is being addressed by the project?
- Mention of previous experiences, e.g. survey of weak points and possibilities for improvement or applicability of existing teaching concepts.
- A description of how the concept improves autonomous student learning.
- Work schedule and financial plan (please refer to the *Entgelttabelle* TV-L for personnel costs)
- Expected outcomes
- A description of whether the teaching concept is sustainable and transferable to other subject areas (Please include a letter of intent of possible partners)

**Please note:** Applications that do not comply with the formal requirements cannot be considered.

**We recommend to consider the QM paper** [QM in Studium und Lehre](#) and the concept paper [Digitalisierungsstrategie](#), based on the strategy concept "Excellent Teaching 2009" ([Strategiekonzept Exzellente Lehre 2009](#)).

A list of already funded ETS projects can be found here: [ETS project data base](#)

### **Funding**

The total budget for all ETS grants is 200.000 €. For each project a maximum of 30.000 € can be applied for. Eligible costs are: Staff expenses and material costs. Instruments that constitute core support and travel expenses cannot be covered. No funding is provided for activities offered for free by internal service institutions, as e.g. IT-Center or the Center for Teaching and Learning Services (CLS).

**Deadline for submission: Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

**Project start:** October 2019

**Project duration:** 6-12 months

At the end of the project duration a fact sheet must be filled out as a final report. This will be made available online via the ETS website. The ETS Grant certificate is issued thereafter.

**Please apply at:**

<https://formular.zhv.rwth-aachen.de/lip/action/invoke.do?id=ETS>

Instructions for the online submission are attached.

### **Contact:**

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