

**Call for Proposals: Funding of PICAIS Events at the University of
Passau, Germany**
Application deadline: 15 October 2026
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The Passau International Centre for Advanced Interdisciplinary Studies is the University's central platform for academic excellence and interdisciplinary research. It promotes research aligned with the [University's research profile](#), supporting interdisciplinary project ideas that break new ground in terms of the topics examined and the methods employed. The centre is especially dedicated to the advancement of early career researchers and the creation of opportunities for network-building and interdisciplinary cooperation. PICAIS attracts international visiting scholars to Passau and integrates them into the University's academic community.

PICAIS invites applications for a funding programme for academic events (e.g. conferences, lecture series, symposia, research seminars, summer schools and workshops) to be held at the University of Passau. As these scholarly events are held in cooperation with PICAIS, they should contribute to its objectives, in particular that of establishing sustainable research collaborations.

PICAIS welcomes proposals for all forms of academic events that facilitate excellent research and initiate or promote networking. Participants may include scholars from one specific discipline or a mix of many disciplines.

The call is open to all disciplines, topics and methodological traditions.

PICAIS especially seeks to sponsor events that are related to one area of the [University's research profile](#), consisting of established and emerging research areas. Proposals for interdisciplinary scholarly events are preferred.

Established research areas

- Cybersecurity and Data Protection
- Digital Platforms
- Resilient Democracies
- AI and Language

Emerging research areas

- Sustainable Transformation
- Integrated Health
- European Identities

Special consideration is given to proposals submitted by and/or involving early career researchers. The same applies to proposals for internationally competitive alliances. The involvement of international speakers is obligatory. Nevertheless, other topics and formats are possible.

Funding

Funding is provided for

- travel expenses for a maximum of three external speakers to and from Passau (second-class rail ticket or economy-class air ticket); please list each speaker/participant eligible for funding
- accommodation expenses for a maximum of three external speakers in Passau
- coffee breaks for active (non-student) participants/speakers
- conference resources and consumables, such as printing expenses for leaflets and posters; conference support by student assistants

Since the funds will most likely cover only part of the costs, complementary funding will have to be provided by the applicants. PICAIS funds are to be treated as subordinate if third-party funds (e.g. participation fees) are available.

The PICAIS office and the University's services will support the organisers in preparing, running and documenting the event.

For detailed information on funding, please refer to our [funding guidelines](#) and [leaflet on flat fees](#), available online.

Application Details

If you are interested in receiving PICAIS Event Funding, please send your application to the PICAIS office

- ➔ by using the [application form](#) provided and
- ➔ by sending an email to picaais@uni-passau.de.

The current call invites applications for the year 2026 and 2027.

The application deadline is Thursday, 15 October 2026.

Your proposal should not exceed eight pages in sections A to D (Arial 11 pt, 1.2 pt line spacing, cf. template online) and must include the following five parts:

A	Applicant Details , general information and planned event date	up to 3 pages
B	Proposal , complete with • event description (research questions, cooperation partners) • contribution (or the value added) for the University of Passau	up to 2 pages
C	List of invitees, co-organisers/cooperation partners (if applicable) and preliminary programme	up to 2 pages
D	Budget plan (cf. the information leaflet on flat fees and the Funding section in the Funding Guidelines)	1 page
E	CV(s) of organiser(s)	no page limitation

The application must be submitted in English and as Word or PDF document (please do not submit scans of your application form). Page limitations may not be exceeded for the application documents, apart from the CVs, for which there are no page limitations or formatting requirements.

Application Requirements

At least one of the applicants must be a member of the University of Passau. Applicants must have a doctoral degree.

Applicants acknowledge that, in case of funding, the event must be advertised as a PICAIS event. Beneficiaries of PICAIS funding are obliged to submit a brief (500-word) press release on the event within 14 days of conclusion of the event.

If your proposal is not approved, you are welcome to resubmit a revised version for a future call. The revised proposal, once received, will be treated as a new proposal.

Review Process and Selection Criteria

PICAIS is charged with carrying out the application and selection procedure. The proposals are evaluated on a competitive basis by the [Research Advisory Board](#) and, if deemed necessary, by additional external reviewers.

The selection criteria are focused on the promotion of internationally competitive and interdisciplinary research events. We will seek reasonable social and intellectual diversity in our funding cohorts. We especially intend to increase the number of female researchers to promote gender equality.

The following criteria will be considered in the review process:

- 1) Quality of the proposed event topic
- 2) Research profile(s) of the applicant(s)
- 3) Preliminary programme
- 4) Contribution to the objectives of the University of Passau

The review process is typically completed within eight weeks after application deadline.

Contact

For more information on the funding programme, the application process and funding guidelines, you can contact the PICAIS office directly or visit our [website](#).

If you have any further questions, please get in touch with:

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