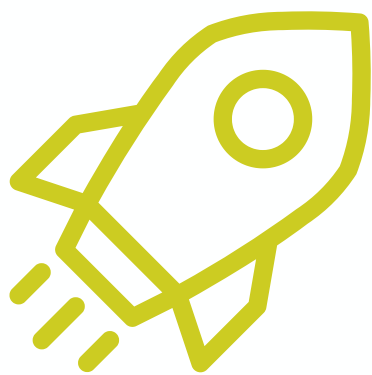


JOIN NOW

NEW **KWF** funding initiative
for your **entrepreneurial future** as a
student or researcher!

vor.GRÜNDEN

Support for innovative and
technology-oriented Startup projects



Do you have an idea and are considering
whether self-employment could be a
possible career path?

Now you have the opportunity to develop
your idea without taking any initial risks.

For nine months, you will be employed at the
University of Klagenfurt and receive professional
and strategic support in developing your business
model.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:
APRIL 06, 2026**

PROJECT START 01.10.2026

PROGRAM

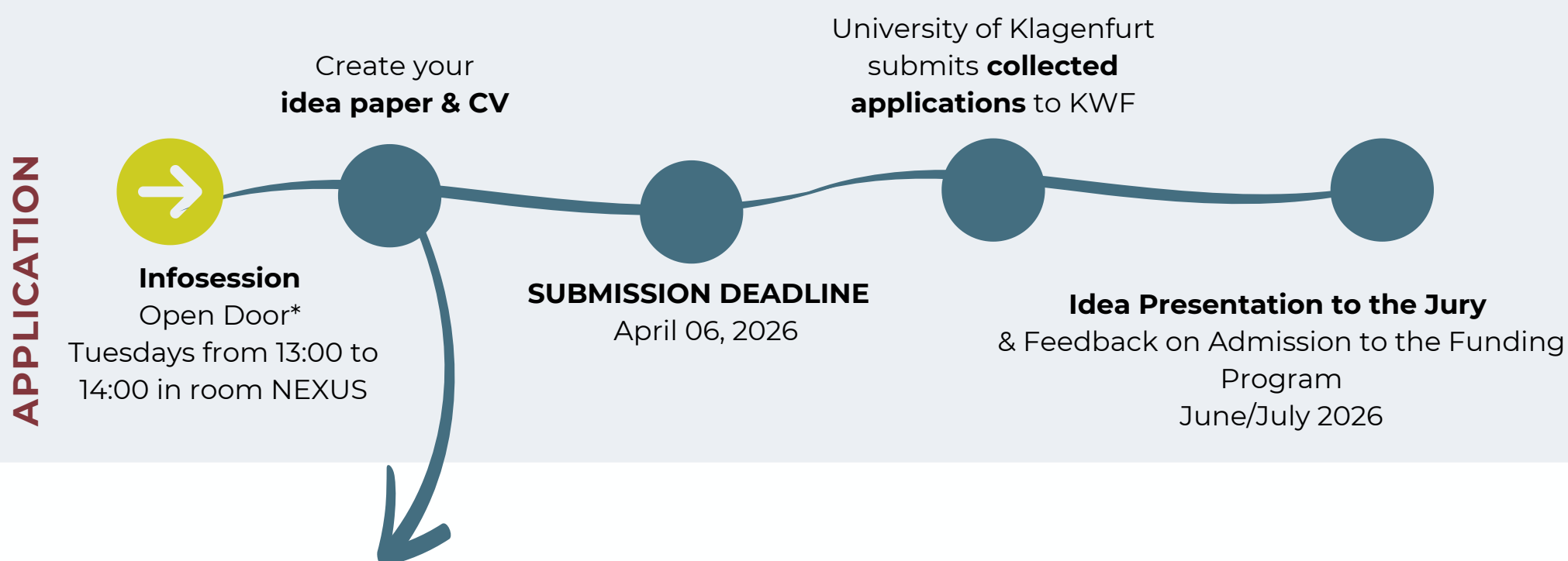
FOR STUDENTS AND RESEARCHERS

The aim of pre.START is to bring startup ideas with economic potential from the academic environment to market readiness.

This KWF initiative supports individuals from universities, universities of applied sciences, and non-university research institutions in the implementation of their product or service ideas.

Professional and entrepreneurial guidance enables the preparation of a startup project.

PROCESS

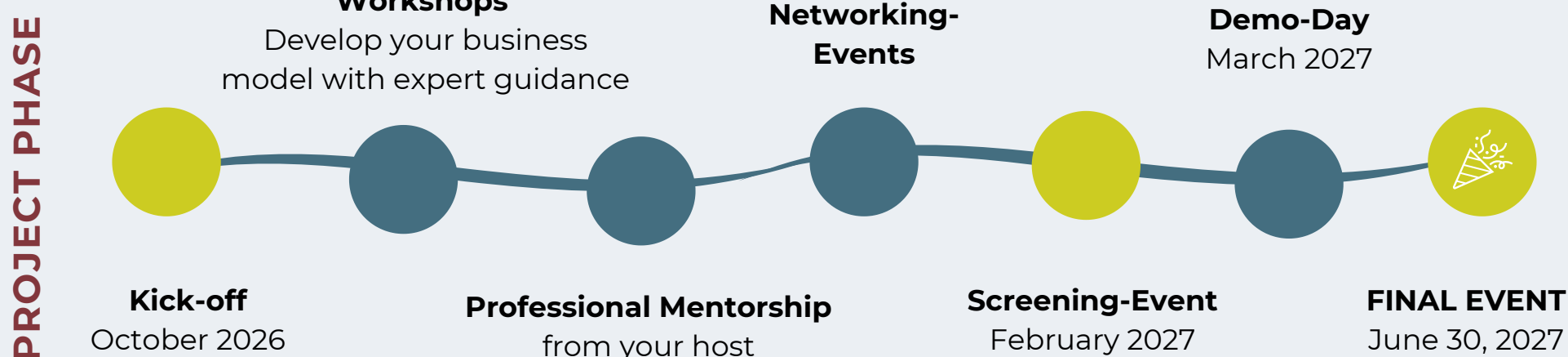


APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS - Idea Paper

- Business idea with innovative potential
- Project planning
- Contribution to sustainability
- Market situation
- Business planning



You can participate in the vor.GRÜNDEN program individually or as a team



YOUR SUPPORT PACKAGE INCLUDES:



1. Financial Support for Business Idea Development

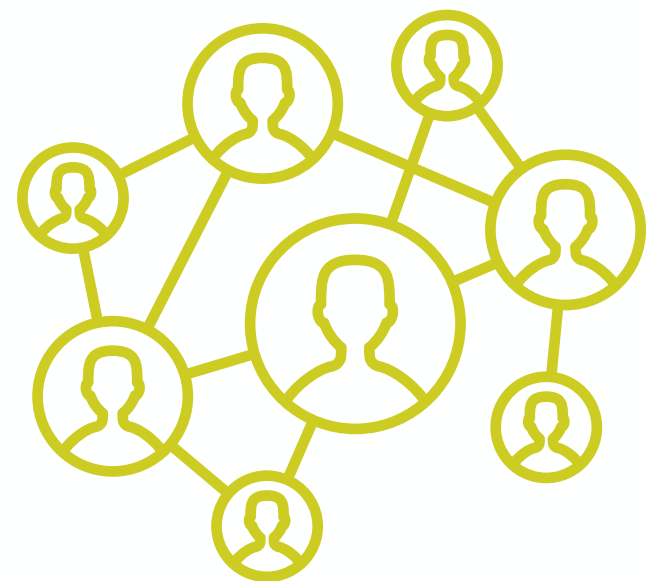
- Your innovative startup project will receive non-repayable funding.
- You will be employed at the University of Klagenfurt, allowing you to focus fully on developing your business idea without immediate financial risk.
- Additional consulting budget of €6,500.

2. Professional Consulting & Exclusive Workshops

- Experienced experts will support you from idea to implementation.
- A mentor from a relevant university institute will provide professional guidance.
- Free participation in the build! Up workshop series by the build! Startup Center.
- Individual consulting by the Spin-off Manager.
- The University of Klagenfurt's Research Services will assist with administrative matters and financial processing.

3. Expand your Contacts & Network

- Access to a strong startup network and insights into the startup ecosystem in Carinthia/Austria.
- Free participation in inspire! connect events by aspire! Center for Entrepreneurship, Innovation & Social Competence
- Free access to the lecture series "Entrepreneurship in Practice".



4. Gain Valuable Experience

- To participate, you must not yet hold a business license or have founded a company in the same field.
- Even if you don't start a business immediately after the program, you will gain entrepreneurial experience.
- The program helps you refine your concept and lay a solid foundation for your startup.

**The most important resources for STARTING:
Expert knowledge,
financial resources, and
a strong network.**

YOUR NEXT STEPS

1

LET'S MEET

Come to the Open Door
on Tuesdays from 1:00 to 2:00 PM
@NEXUS Community Hub
or
arrange an **individual timeslot**
with the Spin-off Manager



2

APPLICATION

Receive the **idea paper template** and
all necessary information



Find a host

Together, we will find the right host
(academic mentor) who will professionally
support you throughout the process at the
University of Klagenfurt.



3

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Submit all documents by April 06, 2026:



CONTACT

**We support you in the
application process and
accompany you throughout
the program.**



*Spin-off Managerin
Isabella Hold
isabella.hold@aau.at



Forschungsservice
Verena Ganner-Weyrer
Verena.Weyrer@aau.at



Forschungsservice
Sonja Faber
sonja.faber@aau.at