

Application guidelines

Else Kröner Fresenius Award for Development Cooperation in Medicine 2026

People with disabilities

Please note the following information when nominating a project for the Else Kröner Fresenius Award for Development Cooperation in Medicine 2026.

The award honors both a project in this year's chosen field and the individual leading this project.

The eligibility requirements are detailed below.

Project:

- ✓ Must help people living with disabilities and offer educational and awareness-raising measures, along with preventive and curative care services.
- ✓ Must involve health workers within the existing care system, village communities, and community health workers.
- ✓ Must operate efficiently and with minimal resources so that the project can be incorporated into the national healthcare system.
- ✓ Must serve as a model project – the award should celebrate successes that have already been achieved.
- ✓ Applications will be accepted for projects in developing countries, as defined by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). See [here](#) for the criteria and current country list.
- ✓ Must be in a politically stable, safe country.
- ✓ Funding may not have already been received for the project from the Else Kröner-Fresenius Foundation.
- ✓ Must currently be underway, have run for at least two years, and be expected to continue running for at least one more year.

Award winner:

- ✓ Must demonstrate outstanding dedication to the project and play a decisive role in its direction.
- ✓ Must afford professional expertise and many years of experience in the field.

Nominating organization:

- ✓ Must be the organization responsible for the project.
- ✓ Must be a nonprofit or public-law enterprise based in the project country or elsewhere in Europe (including an EFTA country or the United Kingdom). Government-run or -affiliated organizations are not eligible for this award.
- ✓ If a project is nominated by multiple organizations, the individual responsible for this project who is worthy of recognition must be named.
- ✓ The nominating/lead organization acts as the funding recipient and is responsible for allocating the prize money awarded by the Foundation.

Award money:

- ✓ The award is endowed with €250,000.
- ✓ At least €200,000 must be put toward implementation, further development, or scaling up the winning project (see above).
- ✓ Up to €50,000 of the award money may be allocated to the recognized individual and their team. This portion can be used flexibly for further education or professional training for the recognized individual, team development, training or workshops for the project team, study visits or internships, leadership or project management training, participation in relevant international conferences, mentoring or coaching programs, or bonuses rewarding the

exceptional performance of project staff. Private consumption with no professional relevance is not permitted.

- ✓ May be spent over a period of up to three years.

Nomination:

- ✓ May be no longer than six pages in length (excluding the cover page and attachments).
- ✓ The cover page should include the project title, the names and contact details of the nominating organization and its authorized representative, the project leader nominated for recognition, and a brief project description (max. half a page).
- ✓ Must detail the project context, relevance, activities already implemented, number of people benefiting from the project, milestones achieved, and project successes. Must additionally include a project outline, [logical framework](#), and [budget](#) detailing how the prize money would be used.
- ✓ Can be written in either German or English.

Attachments:

- ✓ Cooperation agreement from all involved partner organizations
- ✓ Proof of the nominating organization's nonprofit status
- ✓ Where relevant, proof of the DZI donation seal
- ✓ Signed data storage consent form

Applications must be submitted via email (j.heusinger@ekfs.de) by March 15, 2026.



Else Kröner-Fresenius Foundation

Else Kröner-Fresenius-Stiftung is a non-profit foundation dedicated to the funding and advancement of medical research and the support of medical-humanitarian projects. With an annual funding volume amounting to roughly 60 million euros it is currently the largest foundation in Germany that actively funds and supports medicine.

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