

## NEPS CALL FOR MODULES 2020

### Call for Modules for the National Educational Panel Study 2020

The National Educational Panel Study (NEPS) collects data on competence development and educational trajectories over the entire life course for more than ten years. For this purpose, the NEPS currently follows about 40,000 people from infants to adults throughout Germany every year. Based on a comprehensive theoretical framework (see Blossfeld & Roßbach 2019), the interdisciplinary NEPS network is putting together survey designs and programs for six starting cohorts (for more information: [www.neps-data.de](http://www.neps-data.de)).

Starting with an open "Call for Modules" (CfM), the NEPS will now regularly open its survey program to external content. In NEPS-CfM 2020, proposals for question modules in all starting cohorts and for all target groups can be submitted for surveys starting in autumn 2021 (a study overview for the years 2021-2024 is provided [here](#)). The modules can have a scope of up to 5 items. Suggestions for methodical questions are also possible and welcome.

#### General conditions and requirements:

- Provision of the developed items for use and publication in NEPS instruments
- Documentation of the items in the [NEPS Survey Paper](#) series
- Publication of analysis results only after release of the NEPS data as Scientific Use File (SUF)
- Contact person for the implementation period, field time and data preparation
- Eligible for submission are scientists and scholars who belong to a research institution but are not part of the NEPS network themselves

#### Selection criteria:

- Innovative, theoretically and/or methodologically grounded question
- Proof of the scientific quality of the items (written documentation, cognitive pretests if necessary)
- Thematic fit to the NEPS with added value beyond the existing and individual interests (potential for use)
- Utilization of the longitudinal design of the NEPS
- Relevance to science and practice and/or society
- Potential for comparison/harmonization with other studies
- Increasing the attractiveness for respondents

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Website: [www.neps-data.de/neps-cfm2020-en](http://www.neps-data.de/neps-cfm2020-en)

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Timetable and selection procedure:

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| 09/30/2020        | <p>Submission of a short outline of the project (max. 3 pages) with information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• research needs: motivation and explicit questions as well as theoretical background, literature</li> <li>• content and methodological reference to the NEPS (specification of cohort(s), if necessary design, in particular timing for panel items) with concurrent presentation of the additional benefit/distinction from the existing</li> <li>• notes on operationalization and quality assurance, example items (if not yet available: notes on the planned procedure for quality assurance)</li> <li>• proof of the applicant's professional expertise with regard to the research field</li> </ul> |
| Selection stage 1 | Review of methodological feasibility by a NEPS-CfM committee at LifBi and examination of the necessity for further pretests; identification of the possible field; consultation with submitters if necessary   |
| 10/14/2020        | Feedback from the NEPS-CfM committee and request for the development of a concrete proposal after a positive decision  |
| 01/15/2021        | <p>Submission of a detailed outline of the project (5-10 pages) based on the brief outline, supplemented by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• elaborated proposal for the items</li> <li>• proof of the scientific quality of the items</li> </ul>  |
| Selection stage 2 | Expert rating by the members of the Annual General Meeting of NEPS   |
| 02/26/2021        | Final decision by the LifBi Board of Directors, based on a recommendation from the Annual General Meeting of NEPS  |
|                   | Implementation into the NEPS processes: start of item integration into the survey program up to 10 months before the start of the field, depending on the starting cohort; the survey phase varies between 3 and 6 months; the prepared data of the Scientific Use File are available at the latest 18 months after the end of the field   |