



# Funding your research in Germany

Grants, fellowships and awards for  
international PhD students and researchers

2016/2017



AN INITIATIVE OF THE

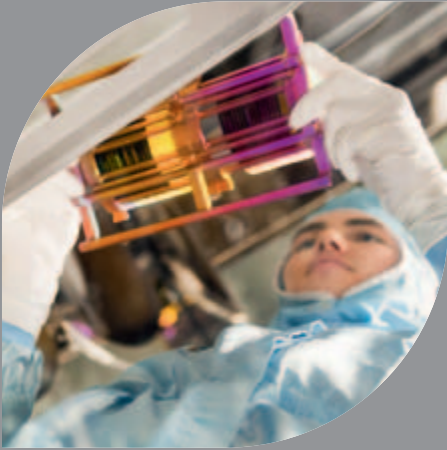
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## About this brochure

Germany is a great place for research. Become part of a large international research community and benefit from the funding opportunities for international researchers. We have compiled this brochure to help you find the right programme to finance your research stay as a PhD student, postdoc or senior researcher.

The tables at the beginning of our brochure allow you to gain an overview of the funding programmes that best match your needs. At the end of the brochure you will find a convenient list of all the funding organisations and their programmes together in one place.

We provide detailed information on a selection of the most important funding opportunities not only in Germany, but also in the European Union.

As a rule, you can apply directly to the programmes you find listed here. However, many funding programmes work indirectly: they support other research institutions that award scholarships and work contracts to researchers. We have also listed the largest programmes and information about how and where you can apply.

Links take you to additional information about the programmes or to application websites. Please check there on the details of the application procedure. We have not been able to include all this information in this brochure. In all cases, the relevant requirements published in the respective programme announcements or on the websites of the funding organisations shall apply.

Bear in mind that there are many more funding opportunities for your research stay, e.g. programmes that are for researchers in specific fields or only support a small number of individuals. Take a look at the databases at the end of this brochure to learn more.

For additional information, we recommend you contact the respective funding organisation.

We wish you every success!

Details of all programmes are also available online:  
[www.research-in-germany.org/funding-programmes](http://www.research-in-germany.org/funding-programmes)



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**PHD STUDENTS** Students who have a degree or a comparable qualification that entitles them to pursue doctoral study and who are working on a doctorate.



**POSTDOCS/JUNIOR RESEARCHERS** Young researchers who hold a doctorate or a qualification that is equivalent to a doctorate.



**SENIOR RESEARCHERS** Researchers who hold a doctorate or a qualification that is equivalent to a doctorate and have (several years of) relevant (research) experience.

Professional requirements can vary from one programme to another; please consult the respective programme for the precise requirements.

# Which programme is best for me?

## An overview of the funding programmes

### PHD STUDENTS

FUNDING PROGRAMME	DURATION	
	Research stay (up to 2 years)	Complete doctorate
DLR-DAAD Research Fellowships		■
Graduate Schools (DFG)		■
Green Talents (BMBF)	■	
Indiv. Doctoral Projects at Fraunhofer Institutes		■
Indiv. Doctoral Projects at Helmholtz Centres		■
Indiv. Doctoral Projects at Leibniz Institutes		■
Indiv. Doctoral Projects at Max Planck Institutes		■
Internat. Helmholtz Res. Schools & Grad. Schools		■
International Max Planck Research Schools		■
Internat. Visiting Researchers at Max Planck Inst.	■	
Leibniz Graduate Schools and ScienceCampi		■
MSC Innovative Training Networks		■
Re-invitation Programme (DAAD)	■	
Res. Grants – Bi-nationally Superv. Doct. Degrees (DAAD)	■	
Res. Grants – Doctoral Programmes (DAAD)		■
Res. Grants – One-Year and Short-Term (DAAD)	■	
Research Training Groups (DFG)		■
Support Early Career Res. in Clusters of Exc. (DFG)		■
Support Early Career Res. in Collab. Res. Centres (DFG)		■





TYPE OF FUNDING		TYPE OF DOCTORATE		PAGE
Grant/ scholarship	Work contract*	Individual doctoral project	Structured doc- toral programme	
■		■		18
■	■		■	26
■				28
	■	■		35
■	■	■		36
	■	■		37
	■	■		38
■	■		■	39
	■		■	40
■				41
■	■		■	44
	■		■	65
■				48
■		■		50
■		■	■	51
■		■	■	52
■	■		■	54
■	■	■	■	56
■	■	■	■	57

\* Provided by a university / non-university research institution



## POSTDOCS / JUNIOR RESEARCHERS

FUNDING PROGRAMME	DURATION	
	Short-term (up to 1 year)	Long-term (more than 1 year)
Bilateral Exchange of Academics (DAAD)	■	
DLR-DAAD Research Fellowships	■	■
Emmy Noether Programme (DFG)		■
ERC Consolidator Grants		■
ERC Starting Grants		■
Fraunhofer Attract		■
Georg Forster Research Fellowship (Humboldt)	■	■
Graduate Schools (DFG)		■
Grants to Support the Initiation of Internat. Collab. (DFG)	■	
Green Talents (BMBF)	■	
Head of Max Planck Research Group		■
Helmholtz Young Investigators Groups		■
Humboldt Research Fellowship	■	■
Internat. Visiting Researchers at Max Planck Inst.	■	■
Leibniz-DAAD Research Fellowships	■	
Leibniz Junior Research Groups		■
Max Planck Grants for Advanced Postdoct. Training		■
MSC European Fellowship		■
P.R.I.M.E. (DAAD)		■
Re-invitation Programme (DAAD)	■	
Research Grants (DFG)		■
Research Grants - One-Year and Short-Term (DAAD)	■	
Research Stays for Univ. Academics & Scientists (DAAD)	■	
Research Training Groups (DFG)		■
Sofja Kovalevskaja Award (Humboldt)		■
Support Early Career Res. in Clusters of Exc. (DFG)		■
Support Early Career Res. in Collab. Res. Centres (DFG)		■







TYPE OF FUNDING			CAREER LEVEL			PAGE
Fellowship/ grant	Work contract*	Funding**	Postdoctoral researcher	Junior research group leader	Junior professor	
■			■			17
■			■			18
	■	■		■		19
	■	■		■		62
	■	■		■		63
	■	■		■		20
■			■			25
■	■		■	■		26
■			■			27
■						28
	■	■		■		29
	■	■		■		31
■			■			34
■			■			41
■			■			43
		■		■		45
	■		■			46
■			■			64
	■		■			47
■			■			48
	■	■	■			49
■			■			52
■			■			53
■	■		■	■		54
		■		■		55
■	■		■	■	■	56
■	■		■	■	■	57

\* Provided by a university / non-university research institution

\*\* Generally includes the researcher's own salary and expenses for staff and consumables



## SENIOR RESEARCHERS

### FUNDING PROGRAMME

### DURATION

	Short-term (up to 1 year)	Long-term (more than 1 year)
Alexander von Humboldt Professorship		■
Anneliese Maier Research Award (Humboldt)		■
Bilateral Exchange of Academics (DAAD)	■	
DLR-DAAD Research Fellowships	■	
ERC Advanced Grants		■
Fraunhofer Attract		■
Fraunhofer-Bessel Research Award (Humboldt)	■	
Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel Research Award (Humboldt)	■	
Georg Forster Research Award (Humboldt)	■	
Georg Forster Res. Fellowship (Humboldt)	■	■
Grants to Support the Initiation of Internat. Collab. (DFG)	■	
Heisenberg Programme - Fellowship (DFG)		■
Heisenberg Programme - Professorship (DFG)		■
Humboldt Research Award	■	
Humboldt Research Fellowship	■	■
Internat. Visiting Researchers at Max Planck Inst.	■	■
Internat. Visiting Scholars at Leibniz Inst.	■	■
MSC European Fellowship		■
Re-invitation Programme (DAAD)	■	
Research Grants (DFG)		■
Research Stays for Univ. Academics & Scientists (DAAD)	■	





TYPE OF FUNDING			CAREER LEVEL			PAGE
Fellowship/ award	Work contract	Funding *	Experienced researcher	Research group leader	Professor	
		■		■		15
		■	■			16
■			■			17
■			■			18
	■	■	■			61
	■	■		■		20
■			■			21
■			■			22
■			■			23
■			■			24
■			■			27
■			■			30
	■	■			■	30
■			■			32
■			■			33
■			■			41
■	■		■			42
■			■			64
■			■			48
	■	■	■			49
■			■			53

\* Provided by a university / non-university research institution

\*\*Generally includes the researcher's own salary and expenses for staff and consumables

# A short introduction to German research funding

Research in Germany takes place at universities, research institutions and in industry. The funding of research is as diverse and complex as the German research landscape itself. For example, public institutions are not only funded by government or the states, but also by industry and the European Union. And private research can also receive public funds.

### WHO FUNDS RESEARCH?

The sectors that finance research and development are:

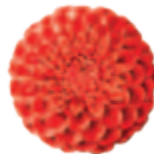
- government
- industry
- non-profit private institutions  
(e.g. foundations)
- foreign donors  
(above all, the European Union)

More than 84 billion euros a year are invested in research and development in Germany (2014). Industry makes the largest contribution to research and development funding: over two-thirds of all R&D spending is financed by companies.

The public sector provides almost one third of all spending on research and development in Germany. In 2014, that amounted to over 25 billion euros.

### HOW DOES GOVERNMENT FUNDING WORK?

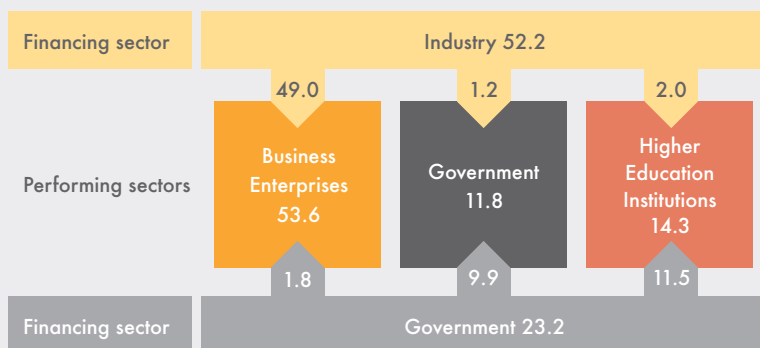
Germany is a federation of 16 states (Länder). The states share responsibility with the Federal Government for financing education and research as well as research funding. Federal and state governments use three types of instruments to fund research:





- Institutional funding: Federal and state governments directly finance more than 1,200 research establishments, including universities and research institutes.
- Project funding: Direct project funding is given to concrete areas of research and is implemented within the framework of specific programmes. This funding does not only benefit higher education institutions and research facilities, but also companies. Indirect project funding aims to develop and strengthen research infrastructure and research partnerships or networks. It primarily supports the research work of smaller and medium-sized research institutes and enterprises.
- Departmental research funding: Federal and state ministries also award research contracts directly to institutions. They do not only commission research by their own federal or state research establishments, but also award R&D projects to third parties.

#### GROSS DOMESTIC EXPENDITURE ON R&D IN 2013 in billion euros

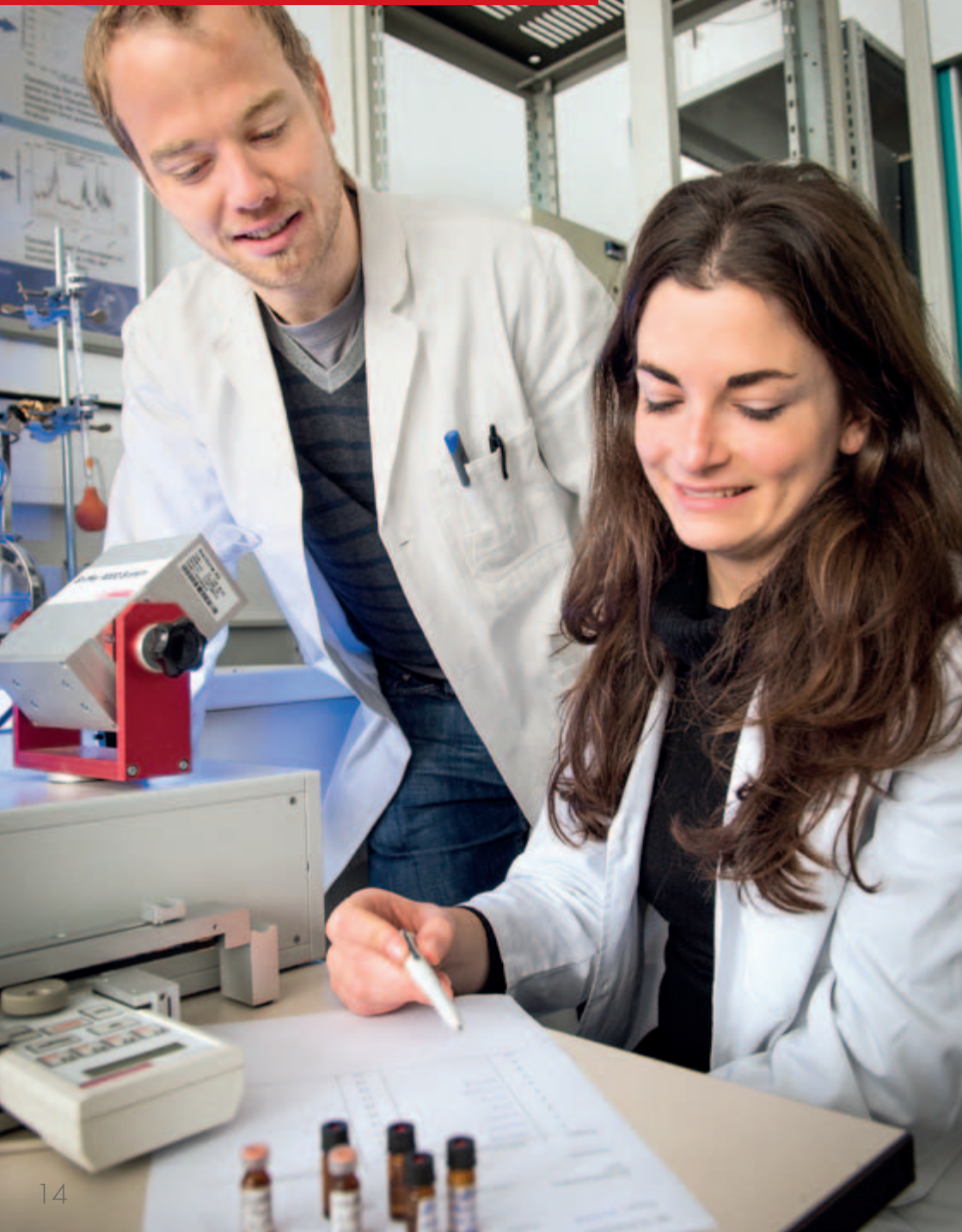


Funding is also provided by private non-profit organisations (0.2 billion euros) and foreign institutions (4.1 billion euros). Total funds: 79.7 billion euros.

2013, source: OECD (2016)

Learn more about the German funding system and the German funding organisations at [www.research-in-germany.org/funding](http://www.research-in-germany.org/funding)

# German funding programmes A-Z





Senior researchers



Alexander von Humboldt  
Stiftung/Foundation

## Alexander von Humboldt Professorship

### IN BRIEF

Winners of this most highly-endowed research award in Germany are honoured for their outstanding research record and can carry out long-term and ground-breaking research at a university or research institute in Germany.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Senior researchers who

- live and work outside Germany
- are eligible to be appointed to full professorships in Germany
- are internationally recognised as leaders in their research field
- can also be expected to complete further cutting-edge research in the future

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

- The Alexander von Humboldt Professorship is expected to contribute to the internationalisation of forward-looking research areas in Germany. In addition, it should achieve synergy effects in the development and structure of the host institution.
- The host institution must guarantee that the necessary infrastructure is available to carry out the award winner's research.

- Nominating institutions must explain how they intend to continue the award winner's long-term affiliation to their institution beyond the funding period.

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Funding of 5 million euros for researchers in experimental disciplines, 3.5 million euros for researchers in theoretical disciplines. Award winners may take up to 180,000 euros per year from the award funds as their personal income.

### DURATION

5 years.

### APPLICATION

Two selection rounds per year; deadlines: 15 April and 15 October. It is not possible for researchers to apply themselves; nominations can only be made by German universities or non-university research institutions jointly with German universities.



Senior researchers



Alexander von Humboldt  
Stiftung/Foundation

## Anneliese Maier Research Award

### IN BRIEF

Winners of this award for researchers in the fields of the humanities or social sciences are honoured for their outstanding research record and receive funding for cooperation on long-term research projects with fellow experts at a research institution in Germany.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Senior researchers who

- have predominantly lived and worked outside Germany for at least 5 years
- are outstanding researchers in the humanities or social sciences
- have internationally recognised academic achievements

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

The research collaboration with fellow specialists in Germany should make a lasting contribution to the further internationalisation of the humanities or social sciences in Germany.

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Award of 250,000 euros; extensive alumni sponsorship.

### DURATION

Up to 5 years.

### APPLICATION

The next application round will take place in 2017 (nomination deadline: 30 April 2017). It is not possible for researchers to apply themselves; nominations can only be made by established researchers employed at a university or another research institution in Germany.



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[www.humboldt-foundation.de](http://www.humboldt-foundation.de) > Sponsorship



Postdocs/Junior researchers  
Senior researchers

## Bilateral Exchange of Academics

### IN BRIEF

The programme supports research stays by researchers and scholars within the framework of bilateral exchange agreements between Germany and partner countries.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

International researchers who

- should generally hold a doctorate
- work in a higher education institution or a research institute in their home country
- have good academic achievement and, if applicable, publications
- have a convincing and well-planned research project

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

- The dates and purpose of the stay must be agreed in advance with the academic host institute in Germany. Applicants require a written acknowledgment from the host confirming the availability of a work place.

- Funding is only available when German researchers also apply for a research fellowship at the same time.
- In general, the costs of the outward and return journey are borne by the respective sending country.
- The programme is restricted to certain countries of origin. For country-specific information please check the programme website (see link below).

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Fellowship of 2,000 to 2,150 euros per month, depending on academic status.

### DURATION

2 weeks to 3 months.

### APPLICATION

Applications must be submitted online through the DAAD portal. You can access the application portal through the scholarship database. Some documents need to be sent separately by post. The application details vary from country to country. For country-specific information on addresses and deadlines please check the programme website (see link below).



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[www.funding-guide.de](http://www.funding-guide.de) (please select "DAAD funding programmes only")



**DAAD**

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service

PhD students  
Postdocs/Junior researchers  
Senior researchers



## DLR-DAAD Research Fellowships in the Fields of Space, Aeronautics, Energy and Transportation Research

### IN BRIEF

Outstanding scientists and researchers can conduct research and PhD students can complete a doctorate in the fields of space, aeronautics, energy and transportation research at an institute of the German Aerospace Center (DLR).

### WHO CAN APPLY?

PhD students, postdocs and senior researchers with

- a very good university degree equivalent to a German Master's degree or doctorate in a relevant subject
- fluent English language skills

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

The fellowships are defined and awarded on an individual basis. Each fellowship advertisement will indicate the specific qualification requirements and terms of the visit.

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

The fellowship for PhD students is roughly 1,500 euros per month with additional flat-rate travel allowance, health insurance and possible family allowances. Junior researchers receive a fellowship of 2,000 euros per month and senior researchers 2,300 euros per month. PhD students and junior researchers can attend a 2-month German language course in Germany (if desired).

### DURATION

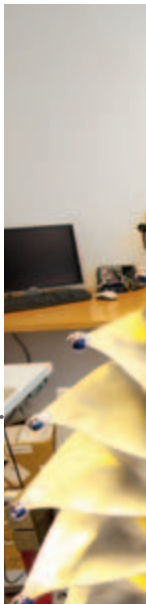
- 36 months for PhD students
- 6 to 24 months for junior researchers
- 1 to 3 months for senior researchers

### APPLICATION

Please visit the DAAD-DLR webpage for details of fellowships. Available fellowships and application deadlines are listed under "Current offers". Your application must be submitted online through the DAAD portal. You can access the application portal through the scholarship database. Some documents need to be sent separately by email and by post. For information on how and where to apply, please check the programme website (see link below).

[www.daad.de/dlr](http://www.daad.de/dlr)

[www.funding-guide.de](http://www.funding-guide.de) (please select "DAAD funding programmes only")





## Emmy Noether Programme

### IN BRIEF

Outstanding junior researchers can rapidly qualify for leading positions in science and research or for a university teaching career by heading an independent junior research group and assuming relevant teaching duties.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Postdocs with

- an excellent research project
- at least 2 years and up to a maximum of 4 years (medical researchers: up to 6 years) of postdoctoral experience
- substantial international research experience

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

International applicants are eligible if they intend to continue their research career in Germany after the end of the funding period.

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Funding for an independent junior research group covering expenses for staff and consumables necessary to complete the project during the funding period. This also includes funding for the employment of the research group leader.

### DURATION

Generally 5 years, maximum of 6 years.

### APPLICATION

Proposals can be submitted to the DFG at any time. Applications are submitted through an online application portal. You will find information about the application procedure on the programme website (see link below).





Postdocs/Junior researchers  
Senior researchers



## Fraunhofer Attract

### IN BRIEF

Fraunhofer Attract offers outstanding scientists the opportunity to develop innovative ideas towards an actual application by setting up their own research group in close cooperation with industry. The grant provides scientists with an attractive package of both funding and management responsibility, as well as outstanding working conditions in optimally equipped Fraunhofer labs.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Junior and senior researchers

- with excellent qualifications and an outstanding research track record
- with at least a PhD or equivalent qualification, preferably postdoctoral experience
- with a promising and innovative idea for industrial application matching the business and technology fields of a specific Fraunhofer Institute with a firm grasp of traditional leadership and management skills

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

The application must be submitted jointly by the researcher and the Fraunhofer Institute into which the research group is to be integrated.

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Work contract and funding of up to 2.5 million euros for 5 years (approx. 500,000 euros per year) for research staff, equipment and the group leader's salary.

### DURATION

5 years for the establishment of an independent group; long-term prospect of establishing a new R&D segment within the Fraunhofer Institute and assuming executive functions.

### APPLICATION

Two calls for proposals per year. Applications must be submitted to Fraunhofer by email. Only joint applications by the scientist and the institute director are considered. For addresses and application deadlines please check the programme website (see link below).



Senior researchers



Alexander von Humboldt  
Stiftung/Foundation



## Fraunhofer-Bessel Research Award

### IN BRIEF

Award winners are honoured for their achievements in the field of applied research and are invited to conduct a research project of their own choice with fellow experts at one of the Fraunhofer Institutes in Germany.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Senior researchers from all non-European countries who

- have predominantly lived and worked outside Germany for at least 5 years
- completed their doctorate less than 18 years ago
- are recognised internationally as outstanding researchers in their field of applied research
- are expected to continue producing cutting-edge research and have a lasting impact beyond their area of specialisation

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Award of 45,000 euros.

### DURATION

6 to 12 months. The research stay can be divided into blocks.

### APPLICATION

Nominations can be submitted at any time. It is not possible for researchers to apply themselves; nominations can only be made by the heads of institutes or senior researchers at Fraunhofer Institutes.





Senior researchers



Alexander von Humboldt  
Stiftung/Foundation

## Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel Research Award

### IN BRIEF

Award winners are honoured for their outstanding research record and invited to conduct a research project of their own choice in Germany in close collaboration with fellow experts at a research institution in Germany.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Senior researchers who

- have predominantly lived and worked outside Germany for at least 5 years
- are recognised internationally as outstanding researchers in their field
- are expected to continue producing cutting-edge research and have a lasting impact beyond their area of specialisation
- completed their doctorate less than 18 years ago

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Award of 45,000 euros.

### DURATION

6 to 12 months. The stay can be divided into blocks.

### APPLICATION

Nominations can be submitted at any time. It is not possible for researchers to apply themselves; nominations can only be made by established researchers employed at a university or another research institution in Germany.

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[www.humboldt-foundation.de](http://www.humboldt-foundation.de) > Sponsorship





Senior researchers



Alexander von Humboldt  
Stiftung/Foundation

## Georg Forster Research Award

### IN BRIEF

Award winners are honoured for their outstanding research record and are invited to conduct a research project of their own choice in Germany in close cooperation with fellow experts at a research institution in Germany. The award is granted to researchers from developing countries, emerging economies and transition states.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Senior scientists who

- are nationals of and have been living and working in developing countries, emerging economies or transition states for at least the last 5 years (excluding the People's Republic of China and India)
- are recognised internationally as outstanding researchers in their field and who have had a significant impact on their own discipline and beyond
- are expected to continue developing research-based solutions to the specific challenges facing transition and developing countries

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Award of 60,000 euros. In addition, award winners are invited to carry out research projects of their own choice in Germany in collaboration with fellow experts. To support the collaboration, additional funding of up to 25,000 euros can be granted for conference participation, materials and equipment.

### DURATION

6 to 12 months. The stay can be divided into blocks.

### APPLICATION

One selection round per year, deadline: 15 January. It is not possible for researchers to apply themselves; nominations can only be made by established researchers employed at a university or another research institution in Germany.





Senior researchers



Alexander von Humboldt  
Stiftung/Foundation

## Georg Forster Research Fellowship for Experienced Researchers

### IN BRIEF

Senior researchers in all disciplines from developing countries, emerging economies and transition states can carry out a research project in Germany in cooperation with an academic host of their choice in Germany. The research project must deal with issues of major relevance to the future development of the candidate's country or region of origin.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Senior researchers with

- citizenship of as well as principal place of residence and work in a developing country, emerging economy or transition state (excluding the People's Republic of China and India)
- excellent qualifications and a doctorate or a comparable academic degree completed less than 12 years ago
- their own, clearly defined research profile documented by a comprehensive list of academic publications that have been peer-reviewed according to international standards
- several years of independent research experience
- a good knowledge of German or English

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must present a confirmation that research facilities are available, as well as a mentoring agreement and a detailed expert's statement by an academic host at a research institution in Germany.

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Fellowship of 3,150 euros per month plus language course, travel expenses, family allowance, extensive alumni sponsorship and allowance for research costs (for the host institution).

### DURATION

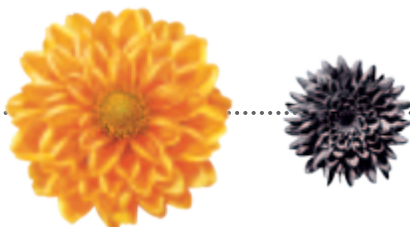
6 to 18 months, can be divided up into a maximum of 3 blocks within 3 years.

### APPLICATION

Applications can be submitted online at any time. You can access the online application form on the programme website (see link below).

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[www.humboldt-foundation.de](http://www.humboldt-foundation.de) > Sponsorship







## Georg Forster Research Fellowship for Postdoctoral Researchers

### IN BRIEF

Junior researchers in all disciplines from developing countries, emerging economies and transition states can carry out a research project in Germany in cooperation with an academic host of their choice in Germany. The research project must deal with issues of major relevance to the future development of the candidate's country or region of origin.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Postdocs with

- citizenship of as well as principal place of residence and work in a developing country, emerging economy or transition state (excluding the People's Republic of China and India)
- an outstanding doctorate or a comparable academic degree completed less than 4 years ago
- academic publications that have been peer-reviewed according to international standards
- a good knowledge of German or English

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must present a confirmation that research facilities are available, as well as a mentoring agreement and a detailed expert's statement by an academic host at a research institution in Germany.

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Fellowship of 2,650 euros per month, plus language course, travel expenses, family allowances, extensive alumni sponsorship and allowance for research costs (for the host institution).

### DURATION

6 to 24 months.

### APPLICATION

Applications can be submitted online at any time. You can access the online application form on the programme website (see link below).





PhD students  
Postdocs/Junior researchers



## Graduate Schools

### IN BRIEF

DFG-funded Graduate Schools offer PhD students the opportunity to complete their doctorate in excellent conditions as part of a structured doctoral programme. They also enable junior researchers to work on a top-level research project covering a broad research area in an excellent research environment at an institution with an international reputation. Highly qualified and renowned postdoctoral researchers can also take on the leadership of a project.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

PhD students and junior researchers with

- an outstanding university degree equivalent to a German Master's degree or doctorate in a relevant subject
- fluent English language skills

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Work contract or scholarship.

A work contract offers a salary based on the collective agreement for public sector employees of the German states.

### DURATION

Generally 3 to 4 years for PhD positions, otherwise dependent on the position.

### APPLICATION

Graduate Schools usually advertise vacancies and scholarships publicly, and the details can be found on their websites. Applications should be submitted to the coordinator of the respective Graduate School. You will find an up-to-date list of all Graduate Schools on the programme website (see link below).

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[www.dfg.de/en/excellence-initiative/gsc](http://www.dfg.de/en/excellence-initiative/gsc)





Postdocs/Junior researchers  
Senior researchers



## Grants to Support the Initiation of International Collaboration

### IN BRIEF

This programme serves to establish collaborative relationships between international partners. Researchers can sound out the opportunities for international collaboration or prepare a concrete joint research project. The programme funds bilateral workshops, trips abroad and guest visits.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Junior and senior researchers who

- hold a doctorate
- are working at a German research institution (in Germany or abroad)
- can outline the basis for the research benefit of the project as well as the concrete objective and the added value created by the international collaboration

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Grant including allowances for participation in bilateral workshops and events in the partner country. Support is provided for visits with daily allowances of 105 to 160 euros or monthly allowances depending on academic status; in addition, allowances are also paid for travel abroad.

### DURATION

Maximum of 3 months for trips abroad and guest visits; all activities must take place within 12 months.

### APPLICATION

Applications can be submitted to the DFG at any time. There is a special online application portal for this purpose. You will find information about the application procedure on the programme website (see link below).



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[www.dfg.de/en/bilateral\\_cooperation](http://www.dfg.de/en/bilateral_cooperation)



PhD students  
Postdocs/Junior researchers



## Green Talents

### IN BRIEF

The winners of this competition are invited to a science forum that takes them on a journey to leading German centres of environmental and sustainability research. Furthermore, Green Talents winners receive the unique opportunity to complete a BMBF-funded research stay at an institution of their choice during the year following the forum.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Non-German citizens or anyone not residing in Germany who

- is currently enrolled in a Master's or PhD programme or must have completed their degree (Master's/PhD) with significantly above-average grades in a similar programme no more than three years before the end of the application process
- has a strong focus on and an interdisciplinary approach to sustainable development
- has an excellent command of the English language

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Grant for a research journey and a research stay.

### DURATION

Two-week science forum; research stay of up to 3 months.

### APPLICATION

Detailed information and the application deadline as well as a link to the online application tool are available on the Green Talents website (see link below).



[www.greentalents.de](http://www.greentalents.de)



## Head of a Max Planck Research Group at a Max Planck Institute

### IN BRIEF

Junior researchers can conduct independent research work at a Max Planck Institute by establishing their own Max Planck Research Group. Candidates receive their own fixed budget to run their research group, in which PhD students and one postdoc work together on a specific research topic.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Highly qualified postdocs who

- have viable and innovative ideas
- have ideally already had one to two postdoctoral positions
- are in a position to realise an independent research project

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Funding and work contract. The level of funding depends on the respective research area and research focus. It covers funding for staff, materials and operating costs, including the researcher's own salary (based on the remuneration system for university teachers, current minimum 5,400 euros per month gross).

### DURATION

5 years with two possible extensions of up to 2 years each.

### APPLICATION

Application on advertisement only. Positions at specific institutes are advertised throughout the year. Central advertisements are normally published once a year in autumn. All positions are advertised in scientific journals and on their websites as well as on the websites of the respective institutes.





## Heisenberg Programme: Fellowship/Professorship

### IN BRIEF

Excellent researchers can prepare for a leading position in science and research and spend time working on an advanced research topic.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Senior scientists who

- qualify for a professorship by holding a postdoctoral habilitation degree or equivalent qualification
- have proven themselves by carrying out particularly outstanding research
- are expected to have the potential to gain further qualifications as university teachers

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

- The research project must be of high academic quality and originality and meet international standards.
- Applicants for a Heisenberg professorship must find a German university that intends to establish a new professorship and agrees to continue funding of the position after DFG funding expires. Proposals require a statement from the prospective host institution.

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Fellowship of 4,450 euros per month, or work contract for professorship with a salary based on the pay scale for professors (depending on the German state, university and the fellow's status).

### DURATION

Maximum of 5 years.

### APPLICATION

Applications can be submitted to the DFG at any time. There is a special online application portal for this purpose. You will find information about the application procedure on the programme website (see link below).





## Helmholtz Young Investigators Groups

### IN BRIEF

Junior researchers are granted independence early on and can set up and lead their own research group under excellent conditions in a research-oriented environment at a Helmholtz Centre. They are offered a long-term career perspective and participation in a tailored training and mentoring programme. Leaders of Young Investigators Groups work closely with university partners and have the opportunity to gain teaching experience and the qualifications for a career in higher education. Young Investigators Groups are currently funded in the following research fields: Energy; Earth and Environment; Health; Aeronautics, Space and Transport; Key Technologies; Matter.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Postdocs who

- have substantial international research experience
- have outstanding academic achievements
- completed their doctorate between 2 and 6 years ago

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

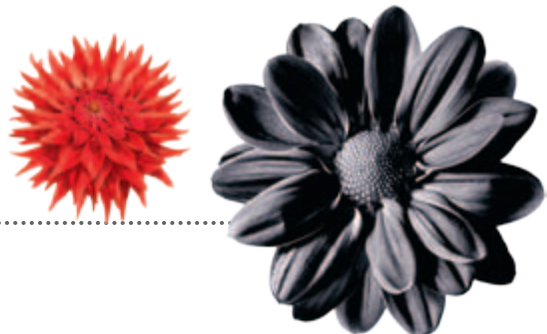
Funding amounting to a minimum of 250,000 euros per year, including expenses for materials, supplies and investments as well as work contracts for the group leader and for scientific or technical staff (3 on average). The salary of the group leader (generally based on the collective agreement for public sector employees) is currently approx. 3,700 to 4,600 euros per month gross.

### DURATION

5 to 6 years.

### APPLICATION

Candidates must apply directly to the respective Helmholtz Centre. You will find details of the application procedure and the application forms on the programme website (see link below). The deadline for applications will be published with the up-coming call for applications in January 2017.





Senior researchers



Alexander von Humboldt  
Stiftung/Foundation

## Humboldt Research Award

### IN BRIEF

Award winners are honoured for their outstanding research record and are invited to conduct a research project of their own choice in Germany in close collaboration with fellow experts at a German research institution.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Senior researchers who

- have predominantly lived and worked outside Germany for at least 5 years
- are recognised internationally as outstanding researchers in their field and who have had a significant impact on their own discipline and beyond
- are expected to continue producing cutting-edge research

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Award of 60,000 euros; extensive alumni sponsorship.

### DURATION

6 to 12 months. The stay can be divided into blocks.

### APPLICATION

Nominations can be submitted at any time. It is not possible for researchers to apply themselves; nominations can only be made by established researchers employed at a university or another research institution in Germany.



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[www.humboldt-foundation.de](http://www.humboldt-foundation.de) > Sponsorship







Senior researchers



Alexander von Humboldt  
Stiftung/Foundation

## Humboldt Research Fellowship for Experienced Researchers

### IN BRIEF

Senior researchers in all disciplines can carry out their own long-term research project in collaboration with an academic host of their choice at a research institution in Germany

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Senior researchers who

- do not live and work in Germany
- have excellent qualifications and a doctorate or a comparable academic degree completed less than 12 years ago
- already have their own research profile
- have several years of independent research experience
- have a good knowledge of German or English

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must present a confirmation that research facilities are available, as well as a mentoring agreement and a detailed expert's statement by an academic host at a research institution in Germany.

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Fellowship of 3,150 euros per month plus language course, travel expenses, family allowances, extensive alumni sponsorship and allowance for research costs (for the host institution).

### DURATION

6 to 18 months, can be divided up into a maximum of 3 blocks within 3 years.

### APPLICATION

Applications can be submitted online at any time. You can access the online application form on the programme website (see link below).



[www.humboldt-foundation.de](http://www.humboldt-foundation.de) > Sponsorship



## Humboldt Research Fellowship for Postdoctoral Researchers

### IN BRIEF

Junior researchers of all nationalities and disciplines can carry out their own long-term research project in cooperation with an academic host of their choice at a research institution in Germany.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Postdocs with

- an outstanding doctorate or a comparable academic degree completed less than 4 years ago
- academic publications that were peer-reviewed according to international standards
- a good knowledge of German or English

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must present a confirmation that research facilities are available, as well as a mentoring agreement and a detailed expert's statement by an academic host at a research institution in Germany.

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Fellowship of 2,650 euros per month, plus language course, travel expenses, family allowances, extensive alumni sponsorship and allowance for research costs (for the host institution).

### DURATION

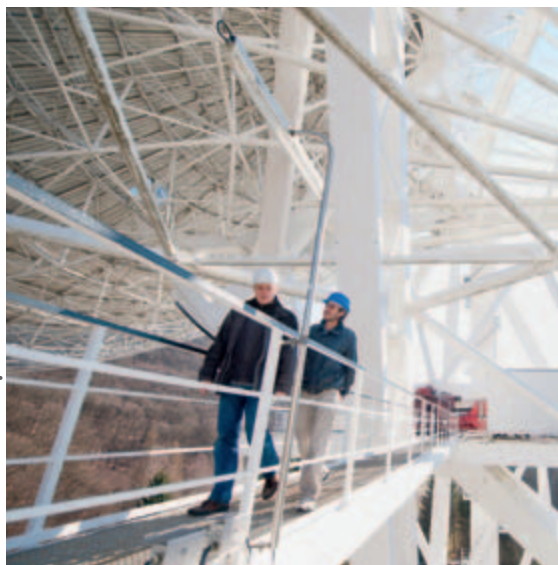
6 to 24 months.

### APPLICATION

Applications can be submitted online at any time. You can access the online application form on the programme website (see link below).



[www.humboldt-foundation.de](http://www.humboldt-foundation.de) > Sponsorship





## Individual Doctoral Projects at Fraunhofer Institutes

### IN BRIEF

PhD students can complete a doctorate while working on exciting projects in the newest areas of technology with state-of-the-art equipment at a Fraunhofer Institute.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

PhD students with

- an outstanding university degree equivalent to a German Master's degree
- the ability to conduct independent research
- teamworking and communication skills
- a good knowledge of the English language

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Work contract (usually part-time) with a salary based on the collective agreement for public sector employees. Bonuses possible depending on performance and success.

### DURATION

Generally 3 years with possible extension of up to 6 years.

### APPLICATION

Applications should be submitted to the respective Fraunhofer Institute. Vacancies and closing dates are advertised on the websites of individual institutes or on the job exchange (see link below).



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[www.fraunhofer.de](http://www.fraunhofer.de) > Jobs/Career

[www.fraunhofer.de](http://www.fraunhofer.de) > Institutes > Research Establishments



## Individual Doctoral Projects at Helmholtz Centres

### IN BRIEF

PhD students can complete a doctorate and receive an interdisciplinary post-graduate training while working in an excellent research environment at a Helmholtz Centre.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

PhD students with

- an outstanding university degree equivalent to a German Master's degree
- an academic qualification in an appropriate subject for the advertised doctoral research
- research experience
- English language skills

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Work contract (usually part-time); the salary is based on the collective agreement for public sector employees (currently approx. 3,600 euros per month gross for a full-time job) and depends on the candidate's profile and the subject of the PhD thesis. Individual centres can also award scholarships.

### DURATION

Generally 3 years with possible extension of up to 1 year.

### APPLICATION

Applications should be submitted to the Helmholtz Centre of the respective vacancy. Vacancies and closing dates are advertised on the websites of individual centres or on the job exchange (see link below).

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[www.helmholtz.de/en](http://www.helmholtz.de/en) > Jobs & Talent > Job Vacancies

[www.helmholtz.de/en](http://www.helmholtz.de/en) > About us > Helmholtz Centres





## Individual Doctoral Projects at Leibniz Institutes

### IN BRIEF

PhD students can complete a doctorate while working in an excellent interdisciplinary research environment at a Leibniz Institute.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

PhD students with

- an outstanding university degree equivalent to a German Master's degree
- the ability to conduct independent research
- teamworking and communication skills
- a fluent knowledge of the English language

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Work contract (usually part-time) with a salary based on the collective agreement for public sector employees of the German states (currently approx. 3,600 euros per month gross for a full-time job).

### DURATION

Generally 2 to 3 years with possible extension of up to 1 to 2 years.

### APPLICATION

Applications should be submitted to the respective Leibniz Institute. Vacancies and closing dates are advertised on the websites of the individual institutes or on the job exchange (see link below).



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[www.leibniz-association.eu](http://www.leibniz-association.eu) > Careers

[www.leibniz-association.eu](http://www.leibniz-association.eu) > Institutes & Museums



## Individual Doctoral Projects at Max Planck Institutes

### IN BRIEF

PhD students can complete a doctorate within the scope of research work conducted at a Max Planck Institute.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

PhD students with

- an outstanding university degree equivalent to a German Master's degree
- an academic qualification in an appropriate subject for the advertised PhD research or for a relevant PhD research proposal for the respective research project
- previous research experience
- a fluent knowledge of the English language

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Work contract with a salary based on the collective agreement for public sector employees, currently between 2,000 and 3,000 euros per month gross. Depending on personal profile and research area, higher remuneration is possible within the framework of a recruitment allowance. In addition, there is a special annual bonus. An (international) research stay may be subsidised.

### DURATION

3 years with possible extension of up to 1 year.

### APPLICATION

Applications can be submitted to the respective institute at any time. Vacancies are advertised on the websites of the individual institutes or the Max Planck job exchange (see link below). Job offers and advertisements are also published on Facebook and Twitter.





## International Helmholtz Research Schools and Graduate Schools

### IN BRIEF

The Helmholtz Research Schools and Graduate Schools offer structured doctoral programmes for highly qualified PhD students in partnership with universities. Young researchers gain considerable experience of close research cooperation between work groups.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

PhD students with

- an outstanding university degree equivalent to a German Master's degree
- an academic qualification in an appropriate subject for the respective research institute
- previous research experience
- a relevant PhD research proposal for the respective research group
- a good knowledge of the English language

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Work contract (usually part-time); the salary is based on the collective agreement for public sector employees (currently approx. 3,600 euros per month gross for a full-time position). Individual schools can also award scholarships.

### DURATION

Generally 3 years with possible extension by 1 year.

### APPLICATION

Applications should be submitted to the respective Helmholtz Research School or Graduate School. The individual schools advertise their vacancies or set application deadlines. You will find links to the different schools on the programme website (see link below).



## International Max Planck Research Schools

### IN BRIEF

PhD students can complete a doctorate in a structured programme that provides excellent research conditions.

International Max Planck Research Schools (IMPRSs) are jointly managed by Max Planck Institutes and universities.

Students have the choice of receiving their doctorates either from the German university or their home university.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

PhD students with

- an outstanding university degree equivalent to a German Master's degree
- an academic qualification in an appropriate subject for the respective research institute
- relevant research experience
- fluent English language skills

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Work contract with a salary based on the collective agreement for public sector employees; doctoral students currently receive just under 2,000 euros per month gross. Depending on personal profile and research area, higher remuneration is possible within the framework of a recruitment allowance. In addition, there is a special annual bonus. An (international) research stay may be subsidised.

### DURATION

3 years with possible extension by 1 year.

### APPLICATION

Applications must be submitted to the respective IMPRS. Vacancies and application deadlines are advertised on the websites of the respective institutes or research schools (see link below).

.....  
[www.imprs.mpg.de](http://www.imprs.mpg.de)  
[www.mpg.de/en](http://www.mpg.de/en) > Career > Jobboard







PhD students  
Postdocs/Junior researchers  
Senior researchers



MAX-PLANCK-GESellschaft

## International Visiting Researchers at Max Planck Institutes

### IN BRIEF

International researchers can conduct independent research at a Max Planck Institute. The programme aims to strengthen cooperation and promote networking between Max Planck Institutes and their international partners.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Scientists with

- outstanding qualifications
- acknowledged research experience

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Grant and travel allowances are dependent on personal profile and research project.

### DURATION

Dependent on the host institute. The duration varies and visits can start at any time. PhD students: up to 6 months; postdocs: up to 2 years.

### APPLICATION

Applications must be submitted directly to the respective Max Planck Institute. Vacancies are advertised on the websites of the individual institutes or the Max Planck job exchange (see link below). As a rule, fellowships for senior researchers are awarded on the initiative of the guests.



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[www.mpg.de/en](http://www.mpg.de/en) > Career > Jobboard  
[www.mpg.de/en](http://www.mpg.de/en) > Institutes



Senior researchers



## International Visiting Scholars at Leibniz Institutes

### IN BRIEF

Senior researchers can conduct research at a Leibniz Institute in Germany that relates to their specific field of interest. The respective Leibniz Institute will host the senior scientist and support his or her research in order to strengthen cooperation and promote networking between Leibniz Institutes and their international partners.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Senior scientists with

- outstanding qualifications
- acknowledged research experience

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Work contract or fellowship (depending on the financial resources of the host institute).

### DURATION

Dependent on the host institute. The duration varies and visits can start at any time.

### APPLICATION

Applications must be submitted directly to the respective Leibniz Institute. Please feel free to contact the Leibniz Institutes of your interest to enquire whether they host international visiting scholars. In addition, you will find information about positions and application deadlines on the Leibniz job portal linked below.



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[www.leibniz-association.eu](http://www.leibniz-association.eu) > Careers



Postdocs/Junior researchers

**DAAD**

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service



## Leibniz-DAAD Research Fellowships

### IN BRIEF

Outstanding, recently qualified international junior researchers can conduct research at an institute of the Leibniz Association in Germany.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Postdocs with

- an outstanding doctorate or a comparable academic degree completed less than 2 years ago
- a research project proposal which matches the selected Leibniz Institute
- an outstanding international list of publications
- excellent English language skills

Applicants must neither hold German nationality nor have resided in Germany for the last 6 months.

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Fellowship of 2,000 euros per month plus research allowance of 460 euros per year, health, long-term care, accident and personal liability insurance and a 2-month German language course in Germany (if desired).

### DURATION

12 months.

### APPLICATION

Please visit the DAAD-Leibniz webpage for details of fellowships. Your application must be submitted online through the DAAD portal. You can access the application portal through the scholarship database. Some documents need to be sent separately by email and by post. For information on how and where to apply, please check the programme website. The call for proposals for the year 2017 will be published at the beginning of January.

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[www.daad.de/leibniz](http://www.daad.de/leibniz)

[www.funding-guide.de](http://www.funding-guide.de) (please select "DAAD funding programmes only")



## Leibniz Graduate Schools and Leibniz ScienceCampi

### IN BRIEF

PhD students can train in a broad research area within an excellent research environment at an institution with an international reputation. They find ideal conditions for completing a PhD in a structured doctoral programme that can take place either at a Leibniz Institute or a partner university.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

PhD students with

- an excellent university degree equivalent to a German Master's degree
- an academic qualification in an appropriate subject for the respective graduate school

or who will meet these requirements within the next 6 months.

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Scholarship or work contract (usually part-time); grants for consumables and travel allowances.

The size of the scholarship is based on qualifications and amounts to between 1,150 and 1,450 euros per month.

The salary is based on the collective agreement for public sector employees of the German states (currently between approx. 2,300 and 3,500 euros per month gross for a part-time or full-time position depending on the salary scale of the respective state).

### DURATION

Scholarship for a maximum of 3 years. As a rule, work contracts are limited to 2 to 3 years with the possibility of extension.

### APPLICATION

Applications should be submitted directly to the relevant Leibniz Institute. Vacancies and application deadlines are advertised on the websites of the respective institutes or graduate schools (see link below).





## Leibniz Junior Research Groups

### IN BRIEF

Leibniz Junior Research Groups offer talented and promising junior researchers an opportunity to conduct independent research, employ their own staff and work with excellent equipment and infrastructures. Successful candidates are enabled to set up their own research group in the inspiring research environment of a Leibniz Institute.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Postdoctoral researchers who

- have completed their doctorate no longer than five years ago
- have proven outstanding academic achievements in their field and
- are planning to conduct an independent research project

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Funding covers the salary of the research group leader and two to three PhD students or a postdoctoral researcher, as well as materials and operating costs.

### DURATION

Five years.

### APPLICATION

Candidates are asked to contact the Leibniz Institute of their choice, which in turn applies centrally for the establishment of a Leibniz Junior Research Group. Calls are published on the Leibniz Association's website in March (see link below).





Postdocs/Junior researchers



MAX-PLANCK-GESELLSCHAFT

## Max Planck Grants for Advanced Postdoctoral Training

### IN BRIEF

Junior researchers can gain additional knowledge and skills at a Max Planck Institute on the basis of their prior professional qualifications.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Postdocs with

- an outstanding doctorate in a relevant field completed up to 10 years ago
- at least 2 years of research experience

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Work contract with a salary based on the collective agreement for public sector employees. The salary is agreed depending on personal profile and research project.

### DURATION

As a rule, work contracts are limited to 2 to 3 years.

### APPLICATION

Positions are advertised in scientific journals (also in international publications), on the Max Planck job exchange or on the website of the respective institute. It is also possible to take the initiative and contact the respective MPI directly.



[www.mpg.de/en](http://www.mpg.de/en) > Career > Jobboard  
[www.mpg.de/en](http://www.mpg.de/en) > Institutes





Postdocs/Junior researchers

**DAAD**

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service

This project has received funding from the EU's Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under grant agreement no. 605728.



## Postdoctoral Researchers International Mobility Experience (P.R.I.M.E.)

### IN BRIEF

The P.R.I.M.E. programme enables postdocs of all nationalities who see their long-term career in Germany to combine employment at a German university with a research stay outside Germany. At the same time, they can prepare their subsequent integration in a German institution through regular exchange.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Postdocs with

- outstanding qualifications
- a convincing research project that is consistent with the researcher's long-term career planning
- a research plan approved by the two host institutions

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

Applicants are themselves responsible for establishing contact with their envisaged hosts both outside and inside Germany. Please refer to the programme description for the further application requirements (see link below).

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Funded researchers receive a work contract at a German university covering the entire funding period. Remuneration is based on the normal pay rate for postdoctoral researchers there. Salaries may range from 3,500 to 4,500 euros per month gross, plus approx. 1,000 to 2,000 euros per month expatriate allowance during the 12 months of the research stay outside Germany. Travelling allowances are also paid.

### DURATION

18 months, of which the first 12 months are spent outside Germany and the following 6 months (integration phase) are spent at a German university.

### APPLICATION

Applications must be submitted online through the DAAD portal. You can access the application portal through the scholarship database. Some documents need to be sent separately by post. The next application round will be held in the first half of 2017.

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[www.daad.de/prime](http://www.daad.de/prime)

[www.funding-guide.de](http://www.funding-guide.de) (please select "DAAD funding programmes only")



PhD students  
Postdocs/Junior researchers  
Senior researchers

## Re-invitation Programme for Former Scholarship Holders

### IN BRIEF

This programme enables former DAAD scholarship holders to carry out research and work projects at a state-run or state-recognised university or non-university research institute in Germany. Working stays can also be based outside the academic sector.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Former recipients of DAAD research or study scholarships or former GDR scholarship holders

- with a convincing and well-planned research or work project for the stay in Germany
- with outstanding research achievements and, where appropriate, publications
- who returned to their home countries at least 3 years ago

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

- DAAD research or study scholarship holders must have been funded for at least 6 months, former GDR scholarship holders must have studied in Germany for at least 1 year.
- For country-specific information please check the programme website (see link below).

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Fellowship of 2,000 to 2,150 euros per month (depending on academic status) plus travel allowance, unless these costs are borne by another source.

### DURATION

1 to 3 months.

### APPLICATION

Applications must be submitted online through the DAAD portal. You can access the application portal through the scholarship database. Some documents need to be sent separately by post. The application details vary from country to country. For country-specific information on addresses and deadlines please check the programme website.

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[www.funding-guide.de](http://www.funding-guide.de) (please select "DAAD funding programmes only")







Postdocs/Junior researchers  
Senior researchers

## Research Grants

### IN BRIEF

Junior and senior researchers can realise a research project on a defined subject within a limited period of time. The programme provides support in modular form: depending on the project, it is possible to apply for funding for your own position, for assistants' positions or for a visiting researcher.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Postdocs and senior researchers who

- hold a doctorate
- are working at a German research institution (in Germany or abroad)
- have a research project of high academic quality and originality that meets international standards

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

The applicants must be supported by a statement from a German host institution indicating that it will assume employer responsibilities during the funding period and, in cooperation with the applicant, provide the necessary conditions to carry out the research project.

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Funding depends on the specific proposal modules. The work contract for the project leader's own position is generally based on the collective agreement for public sector employees.

### DURATION

Up to 3 years, with the possibility of an extension.

### APPLICATION

Applications can be submitted to the DFG at any time. There is a special online application portal for this purpose. You will find information about the application procedure on the programme website (see link below).



[www.dfg.de/research\\_grants](http://www.dfg.de/research_grants)



## Research Grants – Bi-nationally Supervised Doctoral Degrees

### IN BRIEF

The aim of this programme is to promote doctoral degrees at the home university with integrated research phases in Germany. International PhD students start their doctoral degree in their home country but subsequently spend research periods in Germany. The doctorate is completed in the home country with the participation of the German academic adviser. In addition, there is also the Cotutelle Doctoral Programme, which supports binational doctoral degrees on the basis of the so-called cotutelle procedure.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

PhD students with

- an excellent university degree equivalent to a German Master's degree
- a convincing and well-planned research project or course of continuing education

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

The doctorate must have been begun within the last 3 years.

For country-specific information please check the programme website (see link below).

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Grant of 1,000 euros per month plus additional allowances during stay(s) in Germany, such as health, accident and personal liability insurance contributions, as well as a one-off research grant.

### DURATION

Up to 2 years. Cotutelle Doctoral Programme: up to 18 months. The grant is suspended during stays at the home university.

### APPLICATION

Applications must be submitted online through the DAAD portal. You can access the application portal through the scholarship database. Some documents need to be sent separately by post. Application details vary from country to country. For country-specific information on addresses and deadlines please check the programme website.

[www.funding-guide.de](http://www.funding-guide.de) (please select "DAAD funding programmes only")





PhD students

**DAAD**

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service

## Research Grants – Doctoral Programmes in Germany

### IN BRIEF

International PhD students can realise a doctoral project (individually or in a structured programme) at a state or state-recognised German university or non-university research institution.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

PhD students with

- an excellent university degree equivalent to a German Master's degree
- a convincing and well-planned research project or course of continuing education

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

For country-specific information please check the programme website (see link below).

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

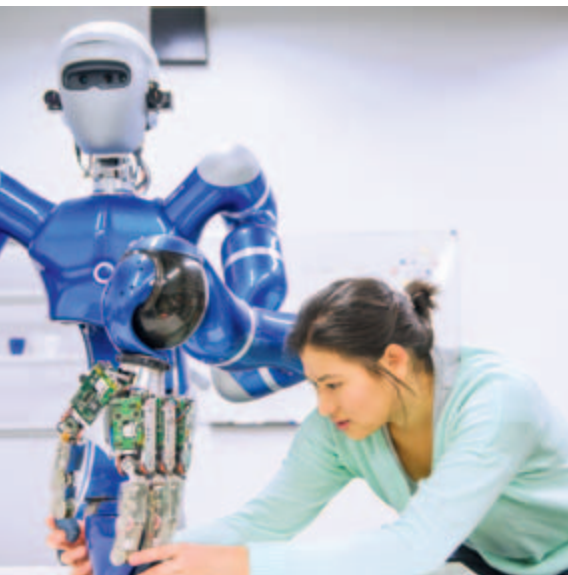
Grant of 750 to 1,000 euros per month (depending on qualifications) plus additional allowances, such as health, accident and personal liability insurance contributions, a possible travel subsidy, a one-off research grant and language course.

### DURATION

Up to 3 years, in exceptional cases up to 4 years.

### APPLICATION

Applications must be submitted online through the DAAD portal. You can access the application portal through the scholarship database. Some documents need to be sent separately by post. Application details vary from country to country. For country-specific information on addresses and deadlines please check the programme website.



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[www.funding-guide.de](http://www.funding-guide.de) (please select "DAAD funding programmes only")



## Research Grants – One-Year and Short-Term Grants

### IN BRIEF

International doctoral candidates and young scholars or researchers can realise a research project at a state or state-recognised German university or non-university research institution.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

PhD students and junior researchers with

- an excellent university degree equivalent to a German Master's degree or doctorate
- a convincing and well-planned research and training proposal for the stay in Germany that has been agreed with an academic supervisor at the prospective German host institution

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

For country-specific information please check the programme website (see link below).

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Grant of 750 to 1,000 euros per month (depending on qualifications) plus additional allowances, such as health, accident and personal liability insurance contributions, a possible travel subsidy, a one-off research grant and language course.

### DURATION

One-Year Grants: 7 months to usually 10 months.

Short-Term Grants: 1 month to a maximum of 6 months.

### APPLICATION

Applications must be submitted online through the DAAD portal. You can access the application portal through the scholarship database. Some documents need to be sent separately by post. Application details vary from country to country. For country-specific information on addresses and deadlines please check the programme website.



Postdocs/Junior researchers  
Senior researchers

## Research Stays for University Academics and Scientists

### IN BRIEF

International university teachers and researchers can conduct a short-term research stay at a state-run or state-recognised university or non-university research institute in Germany.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

International junior and senior researchers who

- should generally hold a doctorate
- work in a higher education institution or a research institute in their home country
- have good academic achievement and recent publications
- have a convincing and well-planned research project that must be coordinated with an academic host institute in Germany

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants require a written acknowledgment from the host confirming the availability of a work position.
- For country-specific information please check the programme website (see link below).

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Fellowship of 2,000 to 2,150 euros per month, depending on academic status, generally including a travel allowance.

### DURATION

1 to 3 months.

### APPLICATION

Applications must be submitted online through the DAAD portal. You can access the application portal through the scholarship database. Some documents need to be sent separately by post. The application details vary from country to country. For country-specific information on addresses and deadlines please check the programme website.



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[www.funding-guide.de](http://www.funding-guide.de) (please select  
"DAAD funding programmes only")



PhD students  
Postdocs/Junior researchers

**DFG**

## Research Training Groups

### IN BRIEF

Research Training Groups (Graduiertenkollegs) are set up by universities and pursue a focused research programme. PhD students and postdocs can complete a doctorate or engage in independent research activities. Additional skills programmes strengthen their expertise for the research and higher education job market. Highly qualified and renowned postdoctoral researchers can also take on the leadership of a project.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

PhD students and junior researchers with

- an outstanding university degree equivalent to a German Master's degree or doctorate in a relevant subject
- fluent English language skills

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

Specific requirements are laid down by the individual Research Training Groups and projects and the respective doctoral regulations. Research specialty and qualifications should match the focus of the respective Research Training Group or project.

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Work contract or scholarship.  
As a rule, a work contract offers a salary based on the collective agreement for public sector employees of the German states.

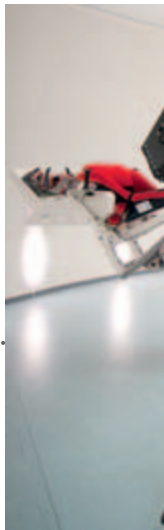
### DURATION

Work contracts and scholarships are usually limited to 2 to 3 years.

### APPLICATION

Research Training Groups usually advertise vacancies and scholarships publicly, and the details can be found on their websites. Applications should be submitted to the coordinator of the respective Research Training Group. You will find an up-to-date list of all Research Training Groups on the programme website.

Vacancies and scholarships are also advertised on the DFG's website (see link below).



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[www.dfg.de/gk/en](http://www.dfg.de/gk/en)  
[www.dfg.de/en](http://www.dfg.de/en) > Career Opportunities



## Sofja Kovalevskaja Award

### IN BRIEF

Junior researchers can establish their own working groups and spend 5 years working on a high-profile, innovative research project of their choice at a research institution in Germany.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Postdocs from abroad with

- a doctorate or a comparable academic degree completed with distinction less than 6 years ago
- cutting-edge academic achievements documented by a comprehensive list of academic publications that were peer-reviewed according to international standards
- a good knowledge of German or English

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must present a detailed expert's report from the academic host as well as a confirmation from the host institution.

Applicants should not have previously held a leadership position in Germany.

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Funding of up to 1.65 million euros to realise the approved research project; extensive alumni sponsorship.

### DURATION

5 years.

### APPLICATION

Applications are expected to become possible from spring 2017. Applications can be submitted online. You can access the online application form on the programme website (see link below).





PhD students  
Postdocs/Junior researchers



## Support for Early Career Researchers within Clusters of Excellence

### IN BRIEF

Clusters of Excellence offer PhD students and junior researchers opportunities to receive a structured doctoral training or work on a top-level research project. Highly qualified and renowned postdoctoral researchers can also take on the leadership of a project or a junior professorship within a Cluster of Excellence.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

PhD students and junior researchers with

- an outstanding university degree equivalent to a German Master's degree or doctorate in a relevant subject
- fluent English language skills

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Work contract or fellowship. A work contract offers a salary based on the collective agreement for public sector employees of the German states.

### DURATION

Work contracts and fellowships are usually limited to 2 to 3 years.

### APPLICATION

Clusters of Excellence usually advertise vacancies and fellowships publicly, and the details can be found on their websites. Applications should be submitted to the coordinator of the respective Cluster of Excellence. An up-to-date list of all Clusters of Excellence is available on the programme website.

Vacancies and fellowships are also advertised on the DFG's website (see link below).

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[www.dfg.de/en/excellence-initiative/exc](http://www.dfg.de/en/excellence-initiative/exc)  
[www.dfg.de/en](http://www.dfg.de/en) > Career Opportunities







PhD students  
Postdocs/Junior researchers



## Support for Early Career Researchers within Collaborative Research Centres

### IN BRIEF

Collaborative Research Centres (CRCs, Sonderforschungsbereiche) can offer PhD students and junior researchers opportunities to pursue an outstanding research programme that crosses the boundaries of disciplines, institutes, departments and faculties. The relevant university may also offer further opportunities for training its doctoral researchers, for example within a structured doctoral programme. Highly qualified and renowned postdoctoral researchers can also take on the leadership of a project or a junior professorship within a CRC.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

PhD students and junior researchers with

- an outstanding university degree equivalent to a German Master's degree or doctorate in a relevant subject
- fluent English language skills

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Work contract or fellowship. A work contract offers a salary based on the collective agreement for public sector employees of the German states.

### DURATION

Work contracts and fellowships are usually limited to 2 to 3 years.

### APPLICATION

CRCs usually advertise vacancies and fellowships publicly, and the details can be found on their websites. Applications should be submitted to the coordinator of the respective CRC. An up-to-date list of all CRCs is available on the programme website. Vacancies and fellowships are also advertised on the DFG's website (see link below).

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[www.dfg.de/sfb/en](http://www.dfg.de/sfb/en)  
[www.dfg.de/en](http://www.dfg.de/en) > Career Opportunities

## A short introduction to European research funding

The European Research Area is “a unified area open to the world, in which scientific knowledge, technology and researchers circulate freely”. That is why the EU supports research in a variety of ways as part of Horizon 2020 – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.

### **HORIZON 2020 – THE LARGEST EU RESEARCH PROGRAMME EVER**

Horizon 2020 is the European Union’s main instrument for promoting research, technological development and innovation from 2014 to 2020. It is the largest EU research and innovation programme ever with nearly 75 billion euros of funding available over 7 years.

### **FUNDING FOR EXCELLENT RESEARCH**

Almost one third of this enormous funding package – over 24 billion euros – is flowing into science and research. It is being used to support not only joint research projects, but also individual scholarships and networks, for example, to develop new talent. This support is divided between two programmes:

- European Research Council (ERC) grants enable outstanding scientists and scholars to conduct cutting-edge research in Europe. In a bottom-up approach, researchers from different fields can apply for various forms of funding.
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) offer a variety of different sponsorship programmes. They range from individual fellowships for experienced researchers to the support of networks that provide structured doctoral training programmes. MSC Actions also include an international exchange programme for people working in research and innovation. In addition, MSCA aim to support specific partnerships between the academic and the non-academic sectors.





### WHO CAN PROVIDE MORE INFORMATION?

If you have questions about EU funding instruments, contact one of the following service points:

The German National Contact Points for Horizon 2020 offer advice and information on EU funding instruments to potential applicants.

- [www.erc-germany.de](http://www.erc-germany.de) for ERC Grants or
- [www.nks-msc.de/en](http://www.nks-msc.de/en) for Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

The European Liaison Office of the German Research Organisations (KoWi) offers information, consulting and training on EU research funding for researchers, administrators and institutions, covering all steps of research careers, all instruments of the EU Framework Programme and all phases of any EU research project.

- [www.kowi.eu](http://www.kowi.eu)



European funding programmes A-Z





Senior researchers



**NKS ERC**  
Nationale Kontaktstelle zum  
EU-Programm Horizont 2020

## ERC Advanced Grants

### IN BRIEF

Senior researchers of any nationality can carry out research projects at the frontiers of knowledge at a host institution (universities, research institutions, companies and international organisations) in Germany (or another EU member state or Horizon 2020 associated country).

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Senior scientists with

- an outstanding track-record of significant research achievements in the last 10 years
- a ground-breaking and ambitious research proposal

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

The host institution must employ the researcher for at least the duration of the project. Applicants must provide a letter of commitment from the host institution.

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Funding of up to 2.5 million euros, in exceptional cases up to 3,5 million euros, to complete a research project of the researcher's choice. The researcher's salary may also be (partly) paid out of these funds.

### DURATION

Up to 5 years.

### APPLICATION

Applications must be submitted online by the researcher on behalf of the host institution through the Participant Portal (see link below). ERC Advanced Grants are advertised once a year. The application period for 2017 is from 16 May to 31 August 2017.



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[www.erc-germany.de](http://www.erc-germany.de)

<http://ec.europa.eu/horizon2020> > How to get funding? > Participant Portal



## ERC Consolidator Grants

### IN BRIEF

Postdoctoral researchers of any nationality can strengthen their research independence through the consolidation of their own research team at a host institution (universities, research institutions, companies and international organisations) in Germany (or another EU member state or Horizon 2020 associated country).

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Junior researchers

- who completed an excellent PhD, generally between 7 and 12 years ago
- who are at the beginning of an independent research career and have already shown research independence
- who have a promising academic track record
- who present a ground-breaking and ambitious research proposal

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

The host institution must employ the researcher for at least the duration of the project. Applicants must provide a letter of commitment from the host institution.

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Funding of up to 2 million euros, in exceptional cases up to 2.75 million euros, to complete a research project of the researcher's choice. The researcher's salary may also be (partly) paid out of these funds.

### DURATION

Up to 5 years.

### APPLICATION

Applications must be submitted online by the researcher on behalf of the host institution through the Participant Portal (see link below). ERC Consolidator Grants are advertised once a year. The application period for 2017 ends on 9 February 2017.





## ERC Starting Grants

### IN BRIEF

Postdoctoral researchers of any nationality can strengthen their research independence by establishing their own research team at a host institution (universities, research institutions, companies and international organisations) in Germany (or another EU member state or Horizon 2020 associated country).

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Junior researchers who

- completed an excellent PhD, generally between 2 and 7 years ago
- are at the beginning of an independent research career and have already shown research independence
- have a promising academic track record
- present a ground-breaking and ambitious research proposal

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

The host institution must employ the researcher for at least the duration of the project. Applicants must provide a letter of commitment from the host institution.

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Funding of up to 1.5 million euros, in exceptional cases up to 2 million euros, to complete a research project of the researcher's choice. The researcher's salary may also be (partly) paid out of these funds.

### DURATION

Up to 5 years.

### APPLICATION

Applications must be submitted online by the researcher on behalf of the host institution through the Participant Portal (see link below). ERC Starting Grants are advertised once a year. The application period for 2017 ends on 9 February 2017.



Postdocs/Junior researchers  
Senior researchers



## Marie Skłodowska-Curie European Fellowship

### IN BRIEF

Experienced researchers of any nationality can enhance their qualifications and diversify their competences by conducting a research project at a host institution (universities, research institutions, companies and international organisations) in Germany (or another EU member state or Horizon 2020 associated country).

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Junior and senior researchers who

- have completed a doctorate or at least 4 years of full-time research experience after their graduation
- have not resided or carried out their main activity in Germany for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the call deadline

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Fellowship of 4,650 euros per month gross (depending on the host country), plus 600 euros mobility allowance and (if applicable) 500 euros family allowance. Host institutions receive funds for research and indirect costs.

### DURATION

12 to 24 months.

### APPLICATION

Applications must be submitted to the European Commission jointly by the host institution and the researcher. This must be done using the electronic SEP system (Submission & Evaluation), which can be accessed through the Participant Portal. You will find details of the application procedure and deadlines in the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) section of the European Commission website (see link below).



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<http://ec.europa.eu/horizon2020> > How to get funding? > Participant Portal  
<http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions>  
[www.kowi.eu](http://www.kowi.eu) > Marie S.-Curie





## Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Networks

### IN BRIEF

PhD students receive structured doctoral training within these networks, which are formed jointly by different European institutions. They can apply for positions that are especially created by these networks.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

PhD students

- with a relevant excellent higher education degree
- who have not resided or carried out their main activity in Germany for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to taking up the position

### TYPE AND EXTENT OF FUNDING

Work contract with a salary of approx. 3,110 euros per month gross (depending on the host country); plus 600 euros mobility allowance and (if applicable) 500 euros family allowance. The research costs of the host organisation(s) are also supported.

### DURATION

The networks are funded for 3 to 5 years. PhD students can be employed in a network for a minimum of 3 months and a maximum of 3 years.

### APPLICATION

Positions created by the Innovative Training Networks are advertised on the EURAXESS job portal (see link below). It is not possible for individual researchers to apply directly to the EU. Applications must be submitted to the respective network. Please check the job advertisements for details of vacancies and deadlines.



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[www.euraxess.de](http://www.euraxess.de) > Jobs  
(please select "Only Marie Curie")  
[www.kowi.eu](http://www.kowi.eu) > Marie S.-Curie



## All funding programmes (Listed by funding organisation)

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## Useful links

### Research in Germany

The [www.research-in-germany.org](http://www.research-in-germany.org) website offers comprehensive information on the structure of research funding in Germany, a concise overview of individual funding opportunities at various organisations and numerous links to funding databases.

[www.research-in-germany.org/funding](http://www.research-in-germany.org/funding)

### DAAD funding database

The scholarship database of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) contains extensive information for those who are seeking financial support for their studies, research work or teaching assignments in Germany.

[www.funding-guide.de](http://www.funding-guide.de)

### PhDGermany

This German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) database contains details of PhD programmes at German universities and research institutions that are designed especially for applicants from abroad.

[www.phdgermany.de](http://www.phdgermany.de)

### Stifterverband

Founded in 1920, the Stifterverband supports research and higher education on behalf of the German business community and is comprised of more than 3,000 companies, foundations, business associations and individuals. This website provides a search engine for research grants and other funding opportunities offered by nearly 500 foundations.

[www.deutsches-stiftungszentrum.de](http://www.deutsches-stiftungszentrum.de)  
> Stiftungen A-Z > Förderung (in German)





## Association of German Foundations

The Association of German Foundations represents the interests of over 20,000 foundations in Germany. With over 4,000 members, it is the largest and oldest association of foundations in Europe. Its website offers a free online search facility covering roughly 10,000 foundations that are active in Germany.

[www.stiftungen.org/stiftungssuche](http://www.stiftungen.org/stiftungssuche)  
(in German)

## EURAXESS Germany funding database

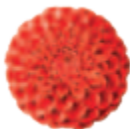
The EURAXESS Germany funding database contains information for international researchers on funding opportunities, vacancies, social security and tax matters as well as other issues relating to researcher mobility.

[www.euraxess.de](http://www.euraxess.de)

## European funding programmes

The European Liaison Office of the German Research Organisations (KoWi) helps you to find your way through the European funding jungle.

[www.kowi.eu](http://www.kowi.eu)



## About Research in Germany

The Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) launched the initiative to “Promote Innovation and Research in Germany” in 2006. Since then various measures and events have been organised under the brand “Research in Germany – Land of Ideas” to present German innovation and research in key international markets on behalf of the BMBF. The initiative seeks to strengthen and expand R&D collaboration between Germany and international partners.

This and many other Research in Germany publications are available at [www.research-in-germany.org/downloads](http://www.research-in-germany.org/downloads)

We hope that our brochures will offer you guidance for your career in the German research sector.

For more information about Research in Germany, please visit our website

[www.research-in-germany.org](http://www.research-in-germany.org)  
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**Note**

The DAAD places special emphasis on using language that treats women and men equally. The grammatical male form is occasionally used alone in this publication purely as a means of improving legibility. Naturally, these terms are meant in a gender-neutral way.

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Land of Ideas

