

A high-angle photograph of a multi-story library atrium. The space is characterized by a large, white, slanted glass skylight that allows natural light to filter in. The atrium is filled with various indoor plants, including trees and climbing vines, which are housed in a long, white planter box. Below the planter, the ground floor is furnished with numerous study tables and chairs, some of which are occupied by people. To the left, there are bookshelves filled with books. The overall atmosphere is bright and modern.

Special information  
on research  
funding in  
Germany



## Funding

We have compiled funding options for your research in Germany below. You can find the target groups and the respective duration of the programme in parentheses. Please check the current conditions and durations of the programmes [online](#).

### Alexander von Humboldt Foundation

- Alexander von Humboldt Professorship (Senior Researchers/5 years)
- Fraunhofer-Bessel Research Award (Senior Researchers/6–12 months)
- Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel Research Award (Senior Researchers/6–12 months)
- Georg Forster Research Award (Senior Researchers/6–12 months)
- Georg Forster Research Fellowship for Experienced Researchers (Senior Researchers/6–18 months)
- Georg Forster Research Fellowship for Postdoctoral Researchers (Postdocs/Junior Researchers/6–24 months)
- Humboldt Research Award (Senior Researchers/6–12 months)
- Humboldt Research Fellowship for Experienced Researchers (Senior Researchers/6–18 months)
- Humboldt Research Fellowship for Postdoctoral Researchers (Postdocs/Junior Researchers/6–24 months)
- Sofja Kovalevskaja Award (Postdocs/Junior Researchers/5 years)

### Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds

- PhD Fellowships (PhD Students/2 years)

### German Research Foundation (DFG)

- Emmy Noether Programme (Postdocs/Junior Researchers/6 years)
- Grants to Support the Initiation of International Collaboration (Postdocs/Junior Researchers/maximum of 3 months, Senior Researchers/maximum of 3 months)
- Heisenberg Programme (Senior Researchers/maximum of 5 years)
- Research Grants (Postdocs/Junior Researchers/up to 3 years + extension, Senior Researchers/up to 3 years + extension)
- Research Training Groups (PhD Students/2–3 years, Postdocs/Junior Researchers/2–3 years)
- Support for Early Career Researchers within Collaborative Research Centres (PhD Students/2–3 years, Postdocs/Junior Researchers/2–3 years)

### European Funding Programmes

- ERC Advanced Grants (Senior Researchers/up to 5 years)
- ERC Consolidator Grants (Senior Researchers/up to 5 years)
- ERC Starting Grants (Postdocs/Junior Researchers/up to 5 years)
- ERC Synergy Grants (Postdocs/Junior Researchers/up to 6 years, Senior Researchers/up to 6 years)
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie European Fellowship (Postdocs/Junior Researchers/12–24 months, Senior Researchers/12–24 months)
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Networks (PhD Students/up to 4 years)

### Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)

- Green Talents (PhD Students/up to 3 months, Postdocs/Junior Researchers/up to 3 months)

### Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft

- Fraunhofer Attract (Postdocs/Junior Researchers/5 years + long-term prospect, Senior Researchers/5 years + long-term prospect)
- Fraunhofer-Bessel Research Award (Senior Researchers/6–12 months)
- Individual Doctoral Projects at Fraunhofer Institutes (PhD Students/3–6 years)

### German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)

- Bilateral Exchange of Academics (Postdocs/Junior Researchers/2 weeks to 3 months, Senior Researchers/2 weeks to 3 months)
- DLR-DAAD Research Fellowships in the Fields of Space, Aeronautics, Energy and Transportation Research (PhD Students/36 months, Postdocs/Junior Researchers/6–24 months, Senior Researchers/1–3 months)
- Postdoctoral Researchers International Mobility Experience (PRIME) (Postdocs/Junior Researchers/18 months)
- Re-invitation Programme for Former Scholarship Holders (PhD Students/1–3 months, Postdocs/Junior Researchers/1–3 months, Senior Researchers/1–3 months)
- Research Grants—Bi-nationally Supervised Doctoral Degrees (PhD Students/up to 2 years)

- Research Grants—Doctoral Programmes in Germany (PhD Students/up to 4 years)
- Research Grants—One-Year and Short-Term Grants (PhD Students/7–12 months short-term grants 1–6 months, Postdocs/Junior Researchers/1–6 months)
- Research Stays for University Academics and Scientists (Postdocs/Junior Researchers/1–3 months, Senior Researchers 1–3 months)

### Helmholtz Association

- Funding of First-Time Appointments of Excellent Women Scientists (Senior Researchers/5 years)
- Funding to Recruit Top-Level International Women Scientists (Senior Researchers/funding of permanent appointments)
- Helmholtz Research Schools and Graduate Schools (PhD Students/3 years + 1 year extension)
- Helmholtz Young Investigators Groups (Postdocs/Junior Researchers/6 years)

### Joint initiative between German universities and research organisations

- Max Planck Schools (PhD Students/5 years)

### Leibniz Association

- Individual Doctoral Projects at Leibniz Institutes (PhD Students/2–3 years + extension)
- International Visiting Scholars at Leibniz Institutes (Senior Researchers/depends on host institution)

- Leibniz Graduate Schools and Leibniz ScienceCampi (PhD Students/2–3 years + extension)
- Leibniz Junior Research Groups (Postdocs/Junior Researchers/5 years)
- Leibniz Programme for Women Professors (Senior Researchers/5 years + tenure-track or 5 years with a permanent position)

### Max Planck Society

- Individual Doctoral Projects at Max Planck Institutes (PhD Students/3 years + extension)
- International Max Planck Research Schools (PhD Students/3 years + extension)
- International Visiting Researchers at Max Planck Institutes (PhD Students/up to 6 months, Postdocs/Junior Researchers/up to 2 years, Senior Researchers/up to 2 years)
- Lise Meitner Excellence Programme (Postdocs/Junior Researchers/5 years + tenure track)
- Max Planck Grants for Advanced Postdoctoral Training (Postdocs/Junior Researchers/2–3 years)
- Max Planck Research Group Leader at a Max Plack Institute (Postdocs/Junior Researchers/5 years + extension)

### PHD STUDENTS

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

### POSTDOCS/JUNIOR RESEARCHERS

Young researchers who hold a doctorate or a qualification that is equivalent to a doctorate

### Volkswagen Foundation

- Freigeist Fellowship (Postdocs/Junior Researchers/5 (+3) years or 6 (+2) years)
- Lichtenberg Endowed Professorships (Senior Researchers/Amount is paid at one time. Support over 5 years. The professorship is permanent)



More information and funding options:

Association of German Foundations

www.stiftungssuche.de  
(only in German)

DAAD

www.funding-guide.de  
www.phdgermany.de

EURAXESS Germany

www.euraxess.de

European Funding Options

www.kowi.eu

Stifterverband

www.deutsches-stiftungszentrum.de/foerderung  
(only in German)

### SENIOR RESEARCHERS

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

### FUNDING FOR MIXED TARGET GROUP