Admission

- start: anytime during the year
- all doctoral researchers at the UFZ are members

If you are motivated to do your doctorate on current questions in the field of environmental research, within a network of people driven by the same passion and ideals, then the UFZ is the right place for you.

For doctoral positions at the UFZ see:
 www.ufz.de/career

Contact

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About us

The Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research - UFZ is a competence centre for environmental sciences, where natural sciences and social sciences as well as engineering disciplines work together on complex human-environment interactions.

Our graduate school HIGRADE “Helmholtz Interdisciplinary GRADuate School for Environmental Research” offers an excellent qualification programme and ample networking opportunities. Doctoral researchers are trained in a broad range of environmental disciplines according to their individual needs for careers both within and outside academia.

The HIGRADE training programme covers scientific courses, transferable skills, statistics/IT tools and career development offers. The scientific course programme relates to the major fields of environmental research at the UFZ:

- Land use, Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services
- Water & Soil
- Chemicals in the Environment & Health
- Social Sciences
- Modelling & Monitoring

Our doctoral researchers are encouraged to work interdisciplinarily in a vibrant, international research environment with excellent infrastructure. Each doctoral researcher at the UFZ is supported by an advisory committee and the graduate school.

What we offer

Training
- Scientific courses
- Transferable skills training
- Statistics and IT tools

Career Development
- Career planning workshops
- CareerCafé with UFZ alumni
- Coaching & support

Events
- HIGRADE PhD conference
- Annual PhD retreat
- Welcome meeting

Funding
- Travel funding
- Family support
- Networking events

Consultation and Support
- Information & contact point
- Personal consultation
- Progress monitoring

Working at the UFZ

The UFZ is a research centre of the Helmholtz Association, Germany’s largest scientific organisation. It has an international, collegial and family-friendly atmosphere. More than 300 doctoral researchers from around 40 countries contribute to an active and lively community at the UFZ. You are invited to join several activities, such as recreation offers, e.g. sports clubs, gym, UFZ health day, or UFZ initiatives, e.g. Environmental Group, International Café.

Protection of the environment, responsible use of resources and sustainable thinking are important issues not only in research but also in the daily life of the UFZ.

Looking for additional support? Find it here:
- UFZ International Office
- UFZ Family Support Office
- Do-it - UFZ PhD Representatives

What our doctoral researchers say:

“highly motivated colleagues and lots of opportunities to get in touch with other guest scientists and projects”

“inspiring interdisciplinary atmosphere and superb scientific infrastructure”

“HIGRADE encourages PhDs to have a look beyond their scope, which is important for scientists”