

Research Grants – One-Year Grants for Doctoral Candidates • DAAD

Overview

Objective

This programme offers you the opportunity to carry out research primarily as part of doctoral projects in Germany. The scholarships are funded by the German Federal Foreign Office.

Who can apply?

You can apply if you have above-average qualifications and

- are already taking a doctoral degree or
- are not yet taking a doctoral degree and you have already completed a Master's degree or Diplom, or in exceptional cases a Bachelor's degree, at the latest by the time the funding period begins.

Postdocs may **not** apply.

What can be funded?

The programme provides funding for a research project or continuing academic training at a state or state-recognised institution of higher education in Germany or a non-university research institute, which is being carried out in agreement with a supervisor in Germany.

Duration of the funding

- Funding is provided for between 7 and a maximum of 12 months. Please indicate in your application how long you wish to receive funding. The funding period will then be determined during the selection process by a selection committee. The committee takes into account your study plan.
- The grant is non-renewable.

Value

- Depending on academic level, monthly payments of 1,300 euros for doctoral candidates, 934 euros, if you are not taking a doctoral degree
- Payments towards health, accident and personal liability insurance cover (see also our [important information for scholarship applicants](https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/) [https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/] / section F, point 4)
- [Travel allowance](https://static.daad.de/media/daad_de/pdfs_nicht_barrierefrei/im-ausland-studieren-forschen-lehren/daad_reisekostenzuschuesse_stipendiaten.pdf) [https://static.daad.de/media/daad_de/pdfs_nicht_barrierefrei/im-ausland-studieren-forschen-lehren/daad_reisekostenzuschuesse_stipendiaten.pdf], unless these expenses are covered by the home country or another source of funding
- One-off research allowance (if you come from a [DAC country](https://intranet.daad.de/DAAD-Regelwerk/Gewusst_wie-Personenbez_Foerderung/Freigegebene%20Dokumente/Stipendienhandbuch%20Ausl%C3%A4nder%20Anlage%201.9%20OECD_DAC-Liste%202022-23.pdf#search=DAC) [https://intranet.daad.de/DAAD-Regelwerk/Gewusst_wie-Personenbez_Foerderung/Freigegebene%20Dokumente/Stipendienhandbuch%20Ausl%C3%A4nder%20Anlage%201.9%20OECD_DAC-Liste%202022-23.pdf#search=DAC], you will receive a flat rate of € 460; for all other countries the grant is € 260)

Under certain circumstances, you can apply for the following additional benefits after start of funding:

- monthly rent subsidy
- monthly allowance for accompanying family members. Please also read our [important information for scholarship applicants](https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/)

<https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/> / section F, point 3.

- In the case of a disability or chronic illness: subsidy for additional costs which result from the disability or chronic illness and are not covered by other funding providers: [Further information \[https://www.daad.de/en/the-daad/mobility-with-a-disability/\]](https://www.daad.de/en/the-daad/mobility-with-a-disability/)

To enable you to learn German in preparation for your stay in Germany, DAAD offers the following services:

- Payment of course fees for an online language course after receipt of the Scholarship Award Letter
- if necessary: Language course (2, 4 or 6 months) before the start of the research stay in Germany; the DAAD decides whether to fund the grant holder's participation and for how long depending on language skills and project. If a language course scholarship is granted and the working language at the host institute is German, participation is compulsory.
- Allowance for a personally chosen German language course during the funding period
- Reimbursement of the fee for a TestDaF or DSH test, which you can take either in your home country after you have received your Scholarship Award Letter or in Germany during your funding period.

Selection

An independent selection committee consisting of specialist scientists reviews applications.

The selection criteria are:

1. Qualification

- Academic achievements (grade point average, development of grades)
- Academic progress
- Knowledge of the language(s) of instruction or working language(s)
- If applicable, scholarly achievements after graduation, (e.g. publications, lectures, conference papers)

2. Quality of research project

- Quality of research proposal and preparation (originality, topicality and relevance of the project, choice of host institution and first contacts)
- Feasibility and consistency of study plan and schedule
- Incorporation of project within the overall doctorate (in terms of content and time), if relevant

3. Potential of applicant

- Career prospects: significance of the research project and stay in Germany for further academic, professional and personal development
- Motivation: academic and personal reasons for wanting to visit Germany, German language skills (if different from working language)
- Non-study-related activities: non-study-related knowledge and skills, civic engagement

The selection committee also gives due consideration to equal opportunities; you can provide relevant information in the application form.

For more information on the selection procedure, go to [Important Scholarship Information \[https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/\]](https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/) / Section E.

Application requirements

What requirements must be met?

Please check if the following criteria are fulfilled:

- As a rule, applicants should not have graduated any longer than six years before the application deadline. Please also read our [important information \[https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information\]](https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information)

[information-for-scholarship-applicants/](#) for scholarship applicants / section A, point 2.

- If you have already started your doctorate, it also applies that the start of the doctorate should not be longer than 3 years ago. Please also read our [Important Scholarship Information \[https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/\]](https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/) / Section A, point 2.
- For applicants from the fields of human medicine, veterinary medicine and dentistry, other regulations are applicable. Please refer to [www.daad.de/extrainfo \[https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/scholarship-database/additional-information-medicine/\]](https://www.daad.de/extrainfo).
- Your application **cannot** be considered, if you have been resident in Germany for longer than 15 months at the application deadline.
- Eligible Applicants:
- US or Canadian citizens or permanent residents
- Foreign nationals who live in the USA or in Canada and by the time of application deadline have gained their last degree in the US/Canada or will be gaining it before the beginning of their funding period.

Language skills

- [Download DAAD Certification of German Language Competency \[https://www.daad.org/files/2022/09/Sprachnachweis_Formular1.pdf\]](https://www.daad.org/files/2022/09/Sprachnachweis_Formular1.pdf)
- Good German language skills - especially for students taking arts subjects - are usually a requirement for study and research projects in Germany. Exceptions are possible if the project is carried out in English.
- DAAD Language Evaluation Form (Sprachnachweis): If you have any knowledge of German, submit this document signed by a faculty member (professor or teaching assistant) of the German Department at your institution. If you have no knowledge of German and your study language in Germany is English, be sure to submit this certificate anyway, indicating that your study language is English, and write at the top "No knowledge of German." (Please note that German is not a requirement).

Application Procedure

Application deadline

Application deadlines are updated annually in the second quarter. In most cases, they are in the same period as the previous year. You can find the current dates here:

November 3rd, 2023

Selection date spring 2024

Start of the funding from October 2024

Please click the following link for important country-specific application information: <https://www.daad.org/en/find-funding/country-specific-information-for-us-applicants/> [https://www.daad.org/en/find-funding/country-specific-information-for-us-applicants/]

Application documents

Certificates, proof of credits, certifications and translations may be scanned in non-certified form and uploaded to the DAAD portal. The DAAD reserves the right to request certified copies of the documents.

Documents to be uploaded to the DAAD portal

- Online application form
- Full **curriculum vitae** in tabular form (max. 3 pages)
- List of your published publications (max. 10 pages), if applicable
- Description of academic and personal reasons for your planned project in Germany (**letter of motivation**: 1-2 pages), taking account of the following question: What do you hope to gain from your project in Germany (personally, professionally, for your career)? Please

the following question: what do you hope to gain from your project in Germany (personally, professionally, for your career)? Please upload the letter of motivation under 'study project/motivation' in the DAAD portal.

- A **proposal**, prepared and formulated by yourself, as well as a description of previous research work (max. 10 pages in total). A proposal is an extensive and detailed description of the research project which has been discussed with the academic adviser in Germany. Please also read our [Important Scholarship Information \[https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/\]](https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/) / section B, point 2. Please upload the proposal under 'research project' in the DAAD portal.
- **Schedule** of planned research work
- **Confirmation from the academic host in Germany**; the confirmation must refer to your project and guarantee that the host institute in Germany will provide you with a workplace. Also read our [Important Scholarship Information \[https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/\]](https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/) / section C, point 3. Please upload the confirmation from the academic host under 'acceptance of host institution' in the DAAD portal.
- **University degree certificate indicating final grade(s)**: the certificate must be subsequently submitted before the grant-supported research begins if it is not available at the time of application.
- One recent, supporting **letter of recommendation** (previously: 'reference form') from a university teacher which provides information about your qualifications. Please regard the instructions given on the tab '**Submitting an application**'.
In the current application procedure, the recommendation can be sent to the DAAD by post as an alternative to uploading it on the portal. Please note the information given under 'Application location' for this purpose.
- Other documents which support your application (example: certificates of employment, proof of practical training/internships or social commitment etc.)
- All university certificates on all annual examinations with individual grade(s), incl. explanation of grading system.
- [DAAD Certification of German Language Competency \[https://www.daad.org/files/2022/09/Sprachnachweis_Formular1.pdf\]](https://www.daad.org/files/2022/09/Sprachnachweis_Formular1.pdf)

The application procedure occurs online through the DAAD portal.

Please note that the access to the application portal only appears while the current application period is running. After the application deadline has expired, the portal for this programme is not available until the next application period.

Application location

Regional Office New York
German Academic Exchange Service
871 United Nations Plaza
10017 New York, N.Y.
United States of America
Tel.: +1 (212) /758-3223
Fax.: +1 (212)/755-5780
E-Mail.: daad.newyork@daad.de [<mailto:daad.newyork@daad.de>]
WWW.: <http://www.daad.org> [<http://www.daad.org>]

Please note

- Your application is only valid if you submit all the required documents to the DAAD portal on time.
- For submitting references by post, the postmark date serves as proof that they have been dispatched on time.
- (If further documents are to be submitted by post, please send them as soon as possible.)
- The DAAD portal closes at 24.00 hrs. (CET or CEST) on the last application day. **If possible, please do not send your application on the final date in case technical problems occur.**
- Incomplete applications cannot be considered. You are responsible for ensuring that your application is complete.
- The application documents remain with the DAAD. Your personal data is saved by the DAAD in accordance with the Federal Data Protection Act and with the EU Data Protection Regulation insofar as this data is needed to process the application.

Contact and Consulting

Information and advisory centres

Regional Office New York
German Academic Exchange Service
871 United Nations Plaza
10017 New York, N.Y.
United States of America
Tel.: +1 (212) /758-3223
Fax.: +1 (212)/755-5780
E-Mail.: daad.newyork@daad.de [<mailto:daad.newyork@daad.de>]
WWW.: <http://www.daad.org> [<http://www.daad.org>]

DAAD Informationpoint San Francisco
c/o Goethe Institute
101 Montgomery, suite 1900
San Francisco, CA, 94104 USA
United States of America
Tel.: +1 (415)/986-2021
E-Mail.: ip.sanfrancisco@daad.de [<mailto:ip.sanfrancisco@daad.de>]
WWW.: <https://www.daad.org/ic-san-francisco> [<https://www.daad.org/ic-san-francisco>]

DAAD Information Point Toronto
c/o Munk School of Global Affairs
University of Toronto
Toronto, Ontario M5S 3K7
Canada
Tel.: +1 (416)/946-8116
E-Mail.: ip.toronto@daad-net.de [<mailto:ip.toronto@daad-net.de>]
WWW.: <http://www.daad-canada.ca> [<http://www.daad-canada.ca>]

More detailed information

- DAAD website 'Important information for DAAD scholarship applicants' [<https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/>]
- DAAD website section 'Doing a PhD and Research in Germany' [<https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/phd-studies-and-research/>]
- Website 'Research in Germany' [<https://www.research-in-germany.org/en.html>]
- Website 'GERiT – German Research Institutions' [<https://www.gerit.org/en/>]
- [Checklist \[/bundles/daadadminlbh/uploads/live/4866.pdf\]](#)

Further information

Weitere Informationen zu diesem Stipendium finden Sie auf der DAAD Nordamerika Webseite:
<https://www.daad.org/en/find-funding/graduate-opportunities/research-grants/>

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Please also take note of our [important scholarship information \[https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/\]](https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/).

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