

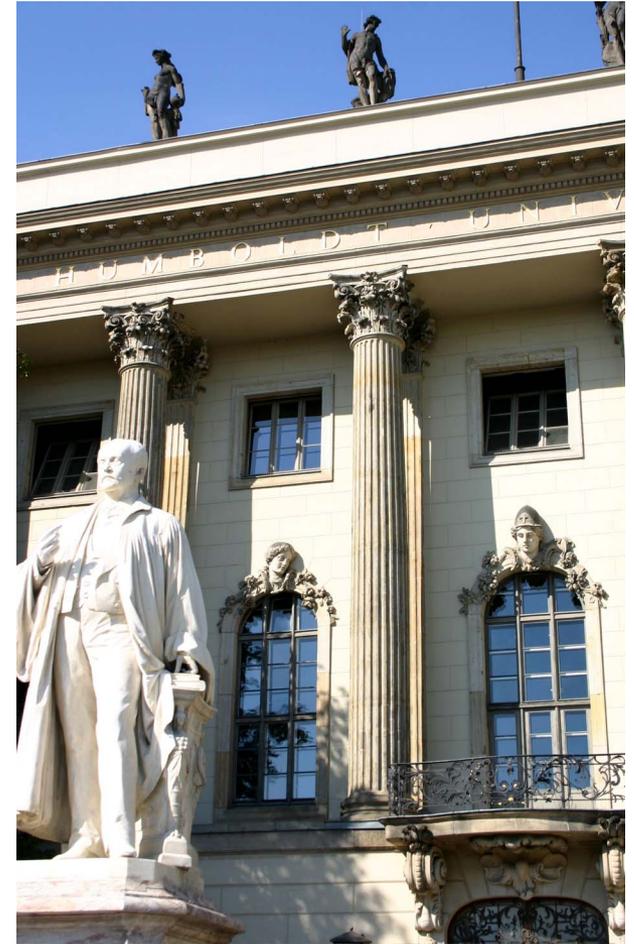


Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Third-Party Funding: Opportunities and Programs

Dr. Barbara Schauenburg

<https://www.hu-berlin.de/en/research/szf/>



Individual Grants

- Research Grants (Sachbeihilfe)
- Emmy Noether Programme
- Heisenberg Programme
- Research Fellowships

Coordinated Programs

- Research Units (Forschergruppen)
- Collaborative Research Centers (Sonderforschungsbereiche)
- Research Training Groups

-
- ✓ Eligibility: researchers (PostDoc) at German universities or comparable institutions of higher education
 - ✓ Allowance rate individual grants: 30-40%

Purpose

- Enable scientists and academics to carry out a research project on a specifically defined topic within a limited time period.

Duration and Requirements

- Flexible depending on the specific project (often: 3 years)
- Extendable
- Peer review

Typical extent of funding

- 1-2 PhD students/ researchers
- 1 student assistant
- Consumables (incl. travel, workshops)

Purpose

- Give outstanding researchers the opportunity to satisfy the prerequisites for appointment as a university professor by leading an independent junior research group and performing relevant teaching duties

Duration and Requirements

- 3 + 3 years
- Peer review

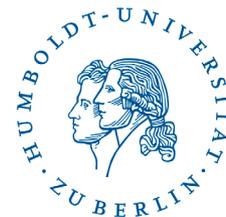
Typical extent of funding

- 1-2 PhD students, 1 PostDoc
- 2 student assistants
- Consumables (incl. travel, workshops, etc.)

Purpose

- Enable outstanding researchers who meet all the requirements for appointment to a long-term professorship to prepare for a senior academic role while continuing their research work

Heisenberg position	Heisenberg professorship
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 + 2 years • E14/E15 • habilitation or an equivalent qualification • Peer review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 + 2 years • W2/W3 • habilitation or an equivalent qualification • Joint proposal by researcher and the university • University provides permanent position • Peer review



Purpose

- Enable researchers at an early stage of their scientific career to carry out a clearly defined research project at a place of their choice abroad or to acquaint themselves with new scientific research methods

Duration and requirements

- 3 months to 2 years
 - not extendable
 - 6 months return fellowships
- Peer review

Typical extent of funding

- Fellowship depending on the country (California approx. 3.400€ / month)

Purpose

- Fund research groups in which those involved collaborate closely on specific medium-term research projects whose anticipated findings would not be able to be achieved within the scope of the individual grants programme

Duration and requirements

- Usually 2 x 3 Jahre
- Two stage application (draft + full proposals)
- Decisions on first-time funding for Research Units are made by the DFG's Senate four times per year
- Draft proposals can be submitted at any time



Typical extent of funding

- Medium, one-digit group size:
 - 1-2 PhD students per project, 1 student assistant, consumables
- “Z-Projekt“, funds for
 - Visiting scientists, workshops, travel, press/PR
 - Gender equality

Why participate in coordinated projects?



- Work on highly relevant questions in an inspiring environment
- Very good infrastructure and comfortable funding
- Networking in Germany and abroad
- Visibility
- Employability / „Berufbarkeit“
- Establishing a „DFG track record “



Third-party funding



- Federal government (Federal Ministry of research and education, BMBF, and others)
- Foundations
Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, Einstein Foundation Berlin, Volkswagen Foundation, etc.
- DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service)
- Land (federal state(s), e.g. Berlin IBB)
- International funding agencies



- **Targeted calls** following a political agenda (Hightech strategy of the federal government)
- **Framework programmes** (sustainable development, photonics, etc.)
- Within these calls: **Junior research groups**
- Allowance rates and funding volumes vary noticeably between calls
- Focus **programmes for universities** (e.g. tenure track programme, German Institutes)



- The digital economy and society
 - The sustainable economy and energy
 - The innovative workplace
 - Healthy living
 - Intelligent mobility
 - Civil security
-
- ✓ Extensive support from the research service center with the proposal and the project
 - ✓ Other Federal Ministries have own framework programmes and calls



Alexander von Humboldt Foundation



- Focus of Funding: researchers from abroad
- Funding line for researchers from Germany:
Feodor Lynen Research Fellowship
- **Host for research fellows**
- **Awards:** AvH professorship, Anneliese Maier & Sofia Kovalevskaja research award,...(for researchers from foreign institutions only)



Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung



Feodor Lynen Fellowships

- PhD 4 years prior to application
- 6 to 24 months abroad
- Fellowship (1.750 €) plus addition for specific country, consumables
- Return fellowships

Allowance rate: 40%

Proposals can be submitted at any time, decisions are made in February, June, and October

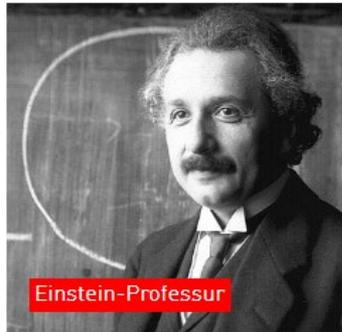
Aims

- To promote excellent cross-institutional research projects in Berlin.
- To raise the visibility of Berlin as a centre of research excellence.
- To enable new forms of cooperation between universities and non-university research institutions.
- To evaluate new fields of research, to give strategic advice on identifying focuses of future research.
- To encourage top international scientists to collaborate with Berlin institutions.

Mainly individual funding

Einstein Stiftung Berlin
Einstein Foundation Berlin

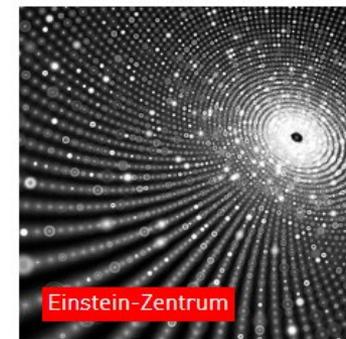
Personenförderung



Projektförderung



Strukturförderung



Einstein research project

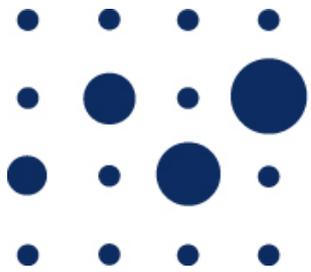
Comparable to a DFG research grant, but the project has to be especially innovative, interdisciplinary and strategically important

Einstein circle

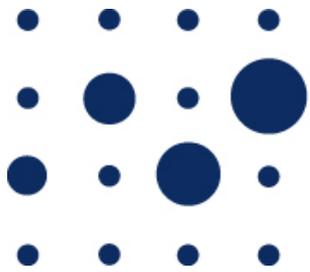
Regular meeting (2-3 p.a.) of a fixed group of researchers (from Berlin and elsewhere) for three years to prepare a joint proposal within another funding line

Einstein Junior Fellow

W2 equivalent for 3 years, tenure track option



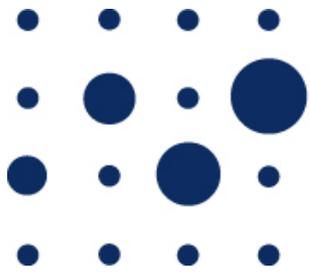
- **Focus:** high risk, innovative research
- Individual and Project funding
- **Freigeist fellowship**
- **Lichtenberg professorship**
- **Life?** – A Fresh Scientific Approach to the Basic Principles of Life
- **Experiment!** – In search of bold research ideas



Freigeist Fellowship

- up to 1 million €
- up to 5 (+3) years
- outstanding junior researchers who wish to carry out research at the boundaries between established fields of research
- prerequisites: PhD degree no longer than four years prior to submission; linked to research institution in Germany; completed change of academic environment and research sojourn abroad

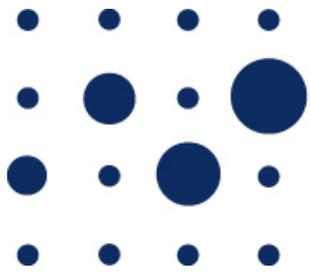
Deadline: October 11, 2018



Lichtenberg-Professur

- up to 1.5 million €
- up to 5 years
- outstanding (young) researchers who want to carry out independent research in innovative and interdisciplinary areas
- prerequisites: tenure-track commitment of the university; up to 4/7 years of postdoctoral experience; research experience abroad; change of academic environment
- 10-12 Professorships per year

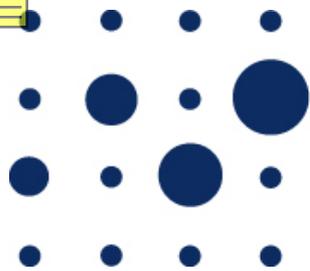
Deadline: June 5, 2018



Life? – A Fresh Scientific Approach to the Basic Principles of Life

- up to 1.5 million €
- up to 5 years
- researchers at all stages of their postdoctoral career; single or integrative joint projects (up to 5 partners), opt. to include international partners
- outstanding projects at the interface between natural and life sciences investigating the principles of life

Deadline: autumn 2018



Experiment! – In search of bold research ideas

- up to 120,000 € (flexible use)
- up to 18 months
- postdoctoral researchers and professors in Germany, optionally international partners
- short application; anonymized jury selection plus lottery (test phase)

Establish counterintuitive hypotheses as well as unconventional methodologies or technologies, and to focus on entirely new research approaches.

- Focus: Internationalisation of research
- **Fellowships for stays abroad for researchers from Germany** (usually up to 3 months)
- **Fellowships for visiting researchers**
- Support for **scientists in danger**



- The **GIF Regular Program** supports cooperative research projects conducted jointly by German and Israeli scientists.
- The **GIF Young Scientists' Program** aims to encourage young scientists and help them establish first contacts with potential counterparts in Israel or Germany. The program supports researchers within 8 years after completing their Ph.D.
- The aim of the **GIF Young Scientists' Meetings (GYSM)** is to create a platform for young scholars from both countries. (5 years after after Ph.D.)

Awards & career development



Awards

- Smaller discipline-specific awards
- Please contact the RSC if you want to / need to be nominated by the university

Coaching & Qualification

- Several offers from different funding agencies (e.g. Robert Bosch foundation)

Innovation as an option



An increasing number of funding organizations offer funding lines to explore innovation potential / proof of concept, e.g.

- **Validation of the innovation potential of scientific research, VIP+**
Federal ministry of economics
- **Transfer projects (DFG)**

Advise & Support : Humboldt-Innovation GmbH

Research Service Center



Explore funding opportunities online

- **EL**ectronic Research **F**unding **I**nformation System (**ELFI**)

all funding agencies with current or standing calls

- **DFG.DE**

Comprehensive information in English on every funding line and its regulations and procedures

- **FOERDERINFO.BUND**

Federal funding advisory service for research and innovation. Most calls are published in German

Research Service Center



Three third-party funding **teams**

- DFG
- EU
- Third-party funded research

and... team **innovation management** (Humboldt Innovation)

Contact the respective team depending on the funding line you are interested in.