1 | About the DFG

2 | DFG Funding Opportunities for Doctoral Researchers

3 | Advice & Links
The DFG is the largest **independent** and self-governing research **funding organisation** in Germany.

It is an **association** under German private law.

It serves **all branches** of science and the humanities.
Our Mandate

► Promote the advancement of science and the humanities by funding research projects, research centres, networks and infrastructure.

► Providing scientific policy advice.

► Support gender equality in the German scientific and academic communities.

► Encourage the advancement and training of early career researchers.
In 2018,

- the DFG funded around 33 200 projects with a budget that totalled € 3.4 billion
- the funding decisions were made on the basis of about 22 500 reviews written by 15 300 researchers
Eligibility

Researchers

▸ who have completed their scientific training, i.e. who hold a doctorate and

▸ who (would like to) work in Germany

…are eligible to submit their own proposal.
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2 | DFG Funding Opportunities for Doctoral Researchers

3 | Advice & Links
DFG Funding Opportunities for Research Careers

- Students
- Doctoral Researchers
- Early Postdocs
- Advanced Postdocs
- Appointable Professors

- Emmy Noether Programme
- Walter Benjamin Programme
- Heisenberg Programme

- Individual Research Grant incl. Temporary Position for Principle Investigators

- Positions in DFG-funded projects
  - Student Assistant
  - Doctoral Position
  - Postdoc Position

DFG Funding Opportunities for Doctoral Researchers
8 Karlsruhe | 02.04.2020
There are **thousands of positions** for doctoral and postdoctoral researchers in DFG-funded projects:

- Individual projects *(Einzelförderung)*
- Research Units *(Forschungsgruppen)*
- Priority Programmes *(Schwerpunktprogramme)*
- Collaborative Research Centres *(Sonderforschungsbereiche)*

**GEPRIS**

Geförderte Projekte der DFG

[www.gepris.dfg.de](http://www.gepris.dfg.de)
Positions in DFG-Funded Projects

- **Duration** of funding depends on project (typically 3 years)
- A university or research institute in Germany employs you
- **Position**: E13 TvöD/TV-L
- **Application**: to the project’s PI
DFG Funding Opportunities for Research Careers

DFG Funding Opportunities for Doctoral Researchers

- Students
- Doctoral Researchers
- Early Postdocs
- Advanced Postdocs
- Appointable
- Professorship

For individuals:
- Walter Benjamin-Programme
- Emmy Noether-Programme
- Heisenberg-Programme

For projects:
- Individual Research Grant

Positions in DFG-funded projects:
- Student Assistant
- Doctoral Position
- Postdoc Position

DFG Funding Opportunities for Doctoral Researchers
Karlsruhe | 02.04.2020
Research Training Group (RTG)

**Goal:** qualification of doctoral researchers within the framework of a focused research programme and a structured training strategy

- Established by universities
- **Clear research focus,** often interdisciplinary programme
- Around 10 researchers as supervisors
- Thought-out supervision strategy
- Integration into matching research environment
- Tailored qualification programme, often also including soft skills offers
Research Training Group (RTG)  
Your Benefits  

- Positions (or fellowships) for all doctoral researchers  
- Team spirit: scientific exchange with other doctoral researchers and scientists  
- Constant improvement of the programme through direct feedback  
- Funds for scientific networking:  
  - International Summer Schools & conferences  
  - Invitation of guest scientists  
  - Research stays abroad  
- Equal opportunities and dedicated support for doctoral researchers with children
International Research Training Group (IRTG)

- Joint research and training programme with one or two partner institutions outside of Germany
- International co-supervision
- 6-12 months research stay abroad
### Examples of Research Training Groups in Your Region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Informatics</td>
<td>Energy Status Data - Informatics Methods for its Collection, Analysis &amp; Exploitation</td>
<td>Karlsruhe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>Soft Tissue Robotics</td>
<td>Stuttgart with Auckland, New Zealand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Process Engineering</td>
<td>SIMET - Simulation mechanisch-elektrisch-thermischer Vorgänge in Lithium-Ionen-Batterien</td>
<td>Karlsruhe; Offenburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials Science</td>
<td>Werkstoffverbunde aus Verbundwerkstoffen</td>
<td>Karlsruhe; Darmstadt; Frankfurt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thermo-dynamics</td>
<td>Droplet Interaction Technologies</td>
<td>Stuttgart; Dalmine; Trento</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>Adaptation of maize-based food-feed-energy systems to limited phosphate resources</td>
<td>Hohenheim with Beijing, China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Translational Evolutionsforschung</td>
<td>Kiel; Borstel; Karlsruhe; Plön</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Asymptotic Invariants and Limits of Groups and Spaces</td>
<td>Karlsruhe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Distribution of Research Training Groups in 2018

N = 248

- Natural Science: 27%
- Life Science: 31%
- Engineering Science: 14%
- Humanities and Social Science: 28%
Research Training Groups
How to apply

► Look for open positions, e.g. on website
► Apply directly to the Research Training Group *(the DFG is not involved in the selection process)*
► Doctoral researchers with external funding can be associated
  → Access to RTG qualification measures, meetings etc.
Research Training Groups
Funding

- three years of funding guaranteed
- positions: 65%-100% TV-L/TVöD E13
- (rarely) fellowships: 1.000-1.365 €

Specific measures for doctoral researchers with children
- extended funding duration after parental leave
- childcare support
Topics

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Advice for a Research Career

► Develop your own and independent research profile
► Publish independently (or with various researchers)
► Be mobile and find the best environment for your research
► Build networks of collaboration partners
► Take advantage of advice and information services at your institution
Search for jobs and post your offer!

Take advantage of EURAXESS and find your job in research. EURAXESS lists thousands of vacancies and fellowships from more than 40 European countries and other regions in the world.

Find talented and experienced staff at the click of a button. EURAXESS lists thousands of European and global vacancies and fellowships.

https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs
Links and Resources

► DFG’s early career grant programmes: www.dfg.de/research_careers

► GERiT – German research institutions: www.gerit.org/en

► GEPRIS – database of all DFG-funded projects: www.gepris.dfg.de/en

► FAQs for future and enrolled doctoral researchers: www.dfg.de/en/research_funding/faq

► General questions: info-nachwuchs@dfg.de