

Scholarship programs in Germany

Please note: One-year completion scholarships for PhD students who have already received a long-term scholarship but need some more time to complete their dissertation are theoretically possible with a lot of the programs listed below. The actual granting of a scholarship is always an individual matter and dependent on many factors. If you are interested in such a completion scholarship we would suggest that you approach one of the foundations with a profile that matches your interests and ask about your options.

Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes

Homepage: www.studienstiftung.de

Profile:

- Domestic and foreign PhD students from German universities or research facilities who demonstrate outstanding performance, initiative and responsibility in their field
- In some cases it is possible for PhD students from external universities (outside of Germany) to be funded
- Maximum age: 37
- No other financial aid/scholarships. Part-time work is limited to 10h/week in academic fields and 5h/week in other sectors
- Maximum of 5 years since the final degree
- PhD students must be suggested by a professor or lecturer
- No more than 1 year since the start of the dissertation project
- Applications can be submitted in English. CV must be German
- Dissertation project should be planned out to be finished in 3 years
- PhD students from graduate schools or other structured forms of doctoral studies (without financial aid) will also be considered

Duration: Two years. Two extensions of six months are possible. Maximum duration is three years, four years for students with children

Amount of financial aid/other funding: 1050€/month plus 100€ research allowance/month. Non-material funding. If applicable, children and family allowance

Dates: Application possible at any time

Avicenna-Studienwerk

Homepage: www.avicenna-studienwerk.de

Profile:

- PhD students of Muslim faith with superior performance in their field, active engagement in society, commitment to the Muslim faith and an interest in interreligious exchange
- Exceptions for non-Muslim PhD students possible
- PhD candidates from abroad can apply for a scholarship if they are in the early stages of their doctoral work, enrolled at a German university and fluent in German
- English letters of recommendation and an English summary are possible. Candidates must speak German at C1 level
- Completion scholarship possible
- PhD students from graduate schools or other structured forms of doctoral studies (without financial aid) will also be considered
- No maximum age limit

Duration: Not yet announced. Probably two years with an option to extend the scholarship for one year. Please refer to the homepage for current figures

Amount of financial aid/other funding: 1050€/month plus 100€ research allowance/month. Non-material funding. If applicable, children and family allowance

Dates: Please refer to the homepage for current dates

Ernst Ludwig Ehrlich Studienwerk

Homepage: www.eles-studienwerk.de

Profile:

- Domestic and foreign PhD students from German universities or research facilities who demonstrate outstanding performance, initiative and responsibility in their field
- Involvement in Jewish communities, the social sector, youth work, student organizations and society
- In some cases it is possible for PhD students from external universities (outside of Germany)

to be funded

- Doctoral thesis is closely connected to issues of the Jewish community
- German citizenship, citizenship of an EU state or educational resident status as per BAföG §8 required
- Doctoral project at a university in an EU-country or Switzerland
- Application should be during the starting phase of the doctoral project
- Applications should be submitted in German, English letters of recommendation are possible
- Completion scholarships only in exceptional cases
- No maximum age limit
- PhD students from graduate schools or other structured forms of doctoral studies (without financial aid) will also be considered

Duration: Two years. Extensions up to three years possible. Cases of hardship (children, sickness, etc.) can extend the duration

Amount of financial aid/other funding: 1050€/month plus 100€ research allowance/month. Non-material funding. Own wealth will be factored in

Dates: Application deadline 30 April each year, processing time approximately 6 months

Friedrich Ebert Stiftung FES (SPD)

Homepage: www.fes.de/studienfoerderung

Profile:

- Outstanding domestic and foreign PhD students from German universities or research facilities
- Sociopolitical involvement in social democracy is very important.
- Maximum age: 30 (exceptions possible)
- Candidates must speak German at C1 level
- Applications and CV can be submitted in English
- PhD students from graduate schools or other structured forms of doctoral studies (without financial aid) will also be considered
- Non-material funding is mandatory

Duration: Two years. Extensions up to three years possible. Cases of hardship (children, sickness, etc.) can extend the duration

Amount of financial aid/other funding: 1050€/month plus 100€ research allowance/month. Non-material funding. If applicable, children and family allowance

Dates: Application possible at any time

Hanns Seidel Stiftung (CSU)

Homepage: www.hss.de

Profile:

- Outstanding domestic and foreign PhD students from German universities or research facilities
- Active socially, sociopolitically or in the Church
- Doctoral project at a university in Germany
- Maximum age: 32
- German citizenship or educational resident status as per BAföG §8 required
- Application and CV must be in German, letters of recommendation can be in English. Candidates must speak German at C1 level

- No completion scholarships
- PhD students from graduate schools or other structured forms of doctoral studies (without financial aid) will also be considered

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Duration: Two years. Extension up to 2.5 years possible

Amount of financial aid/other funding: 1050€/month plus 100€ research allowance/month. Non-material funding. If applicable, children and family allowance

Dates: Application deadlines are 15 January and 15 July each year. Processing time approximately 4 weeks

Heinrich Böll Stiftung (Die Grünen)

Homepage: www.boell.de/de/stiftung/stipendien

Profile:

- Domestic and foreign PhD students from German universities or research facilities who demonstrate outstanding performance, initiative and responsibility in their field and are involved in green ideas
- Domestic and foreign PhD students from German universities or research facilities. Exceptions are possible for PhD students who are enrolled at a foreign university
- Applications must be submitted in German, summaries can be written in English. Selection interviews are held in German. Candidates must speak German at B2 level
- Doctoral projects related to the issues of the Heinrich Böll Stiftung are preferred
- No maximum age
- Women, people with a migrant background, students from non-academic families are particularly encouraged to apply
- No completion scholarships
- PhD students from graduate schools or other structured forms of doctoral studies (without financial aid) will also be considered

Duration: Two years. Extensions up to three years possible

Amount of financial aid/other funding: 1050€/month plus 100€ research allowance/month. Non-material funding. If applicable, children and family allowance. Different amounts for candidates from outside of the EU

Dates: Application deadlines are 1 March and 1 September for German candidates and 1 March for foreign candidates. Processing time approximately 6 months. For more information follow this link:

http://www.boell.de/sites/default/files/uploads/2015/03/a2-1_bewerbung_prom_maerz2015.pdf

Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung (Die Linke)

Homepage: www.rosalux.de/studienwerk/promotionsstipendium.html

Profile:

- Enrollment at a German or foreign university with a German doctoral thesis supervisor
- Very good final degree
- Social commitment along the lines of the ideals of the Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung
- Very good knowledge of the German language (proof might be required for foreign candidates)
- Women, socially deprived and people with disabilities are favored over other candidates with similar performance

Duration: Two years. Extensions up to three years possible

Amount of financial aid/other funding: 1050€/month plus 100€ research allowance/month. Non-material funding. If applicable, children and family allowance

Dates: Application deadlines are 15 April and 15 October.

Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (CDU)

Homepage: www.kas.de

Profile:

- Domestic and foreign PhD students from German universities or research facilities who demonstrate outstanding performance, initiative and responsibility in their field

- In some cases it is possible for PhD students from foreign universities in the EU or Switzerland to be funded
- Intellectual skills, ethical values, general and political involvement, personality
- Maximum age: 32, 34 for students with children
- Applications and summaries must be submitted in German, letter of recommendation can be written in English
- Knowledge of the German language
- Maximum of 5 years since the final degree
- Active participation in the non-material funding
- PhD students from graduate schools or other structured forms of doctoral studies (without financial aid) will also be considered
- Completion scholarships are possible

Duration: Two years. Extensions up to three years possible

Amount of financial aid/other funding: 1050€/month plus 100€ research allowance/month. Non-material funding. If applicable, children and family allowance

Dates: Application deadlines are 15 July and 15 September. Processing time approximately 3 months

Friedrich Naumann Stiftung (FDP)

Homepage: www.freiheit.org

Profile:

- Domestic and foreign PhD students from German universities
- Sociopolitical and liberal involvement. Candidates must have outstanding expertise in their field
- Application must be submitted in German
- PhD students from graduate schools or other structured forms of doctoral studies (without financial aid) will also be considered

Duration: One year. Extensions up to three years possible

Amount of financial aid/other funding: 1050€/month plus 100€ research allowance/month. Non-material funding. If applicable, children and family allowance

Dates: Please refer to their homepage for current dates:

<http://www.freiheit.org/Promotionsfoerderung/185c2275i126/index.html>

Hans Böckler Stiftung (Gewerkschaften)

Homepage: www.boeckler.de

Profile:

- Domestic and foreign PhD students from German universities or research facilities who demonstrate outstanding performance, initiative and responsibility in their field
- Active social involvement especially in the context of unions
- In some cases it is possible for PhD students from external universities (outside of Germany)

to be funded

- Maximum age: 40
- Summaries can be written in English. Selection interviews can be held in English

Duration: Two years. Extensions up to three years possible

Amount of financial aid/other funding: 1050€/month plus 100€ research allowance/month. Non-material funding. If applicable, children and family allowance. Additional funding for research trips, conference visits and language classes possible

Dates: Application deadlines are 1 February, 1 June and 1 October each year

Canuswerk e.V. (Catholic Church)

Homepage: www.cusanuswerk.de

Profile:

- Outstanding domestic and foreign PhD students from German universities or research facilities
- Social involvement and committed affiliation to the Catholic Church
- No non-German candidates at foreign universities

- Knowledge of the German language (approximately C1)
- Application must be submitted in German. Summaries can be written in English
- PhD students from graduate schools or other structured forms of doctoral studies (without financial aid) will also be considered

Duration: Two years. Extensions up to three years possible

Amount of financial aid/other funding: 1050€/month plus 100€ research allowance/month. Non-material funding. If applicable, children and family allowance. Additional funding for research trips, conference visits and language classes possible

Dates: Application deadline is 27.1.2016

Evangelisches Studienwerk e.V. Villigst

Homepage: www.evstudienwerk.de

Profile:

- Excellent performance in the field
- Social involvement (church, school, environment, politics, society)
- Membership of the Protestant Church (exceptions are possible)
- Foreign PhD students must be supervised at a German university
- Application, CV and summary can be submitted in English
- Knowledge of German is not mandatory
- PhD students from graduate schools or other structured forms of doctoral studies (without financial aid) will also be considered

Duration: Two years. Extensions up to three years possible

Amount of financial aid/other funding: 1050€/month plus 100€ research allowance/month. Non-material funding. If applicable, children and family allowance

Dates: Application deadlines are 1 June and 1 December each year

Stiftung der Deutschen Wirtschaft

Homepage: www.sdw.org

Profile:

- Excellent performance in the field
- Social involvement (e.g. school, university, tutoring, voluntary work)
- Social skills, good general education, joined-up thinking, communication skills
- Applications, summaries and CVs can be submitted in English, short summary in German is required
- Knowledge of the German language (B1)
- PhD students from graduate schools or other structured forms of doctoral studies (without financial aid) will also be considered

Duration: Two years. Extensions up to three years possible

Amount of financial aid/other funding: 1050€/month plus 100€ research allowance/month. Non-material funding. If applicable, children and family allowance. Additional funding for research trips, conference visits, foreign health insurance and language classes possible

Dates: Selection process takes place in autumn each year

Andrea von Braun Stiftung

Homepage: www.avbstiftung.de

Profile:

- No formal conditions
- Focused on inter- and transdisciplinary projects that enable cooperation between different academic fields
- Development of new interdisciplinary theories, methods and approaches

Duration: Decided on an individual basis

Amount of financial aid/other funding: Decided on an individual basis

Dates: Application deadline September/October 2015

FAZIT Stiftung (FAZ):

Homepage: <http://www.fazit-stiftung.de>

Profile:

- PhD students from all academic fields but focused on journalism and the press
- Financially disadvantaged candidates are preferred
- Applications must be submitted in German
- Maximum age: 28

Duration: Two years

Amount of financial aid/other funding: Usually between 800 and 1000 euro/month. Additional funding for research or conference trips, printing costs and part-scholarships possible

Dates: Application possible at any time

Gerda Henkel Stiftung

Homepage: www.gerda-henkel-stiftung.de

Profile:

- Final degree with a grade of 1.5 or above
- Focus on historical humanities like archaeology, history, ancient Islamic studies, history of art, history of law, pre- and early history and history of science
- Foreign and German PhD students enrolled at any university worldwide may apply
- Applications can be submitted in English
- PhD students from graduate schools or other structured forms of doctoral studies (without financial aid) will also be considered

Duration: Two years

Amount of financial aid/other funding: 1400 euro/month plus additional funding for travel and materials. If applicable, children and family allowance

Dates: Application possible at any time

ZEIT-Stiftung

Homepage: www.zeit-stiftung.de

Profile:

- Mainly focused on own projects
- Innovative capabilities, sustainability, cross-linking (international) projects that create synergistic effects, novel projects
- Involvement and motivation
- Liberal, cosmopolitan values, intercultural exchange, interdisciplinary projects
- Candidates must make an effort to gain additional funding partners
- No funding to close budgetary gaps

Duration: Decided on an individual basis

Amount of financial aid/other funding: Decided on an individual basis

Dates: please refer to their homepage

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD)

Homepage: www.daad.de

Profile:

- Doctoral project at a German or foreign university. Focus on PhD students who don't have access to appropriate research and supervision options
- Not more than 3 years into the doctoral project
- Knowledge of the German language (exceptions are possible)
- Foreign candidates must not have been resident in Germany for more than one year at the time of the application
- Applications can be submitted in English

Duration: Decided on an individual basis. Usually 3 years. In some cases 4 years

Amount of financial aid/other funding: 1000 euro/month. Additional funding for travel, health insurance and language classes

Dates: please refer to their homepage (depends on the different countries)

Immanuel-Kant-Promotionsstipendium

Homepage: www.bkge.de/Foerderungen-Stipendien-BKM/Immanuel-Kant-Stipendium

Profile:

- Domestic and foreign PhD students from German universities or research facilities who demonstrate outstanding performance, initiative and responsibility in their field
- Doctoral projects concerned with German culture and history in Eastern Europe. Focus on interrelations with neighboring peoples
- Excellent final degree
- Doctoral project expands the current state of the research
- Applications can be submitted in English
- Knowledge of the German language not mandatory
- PhD students from graduate schools or other structured forms of doctoral studies (without financial aid) will also be considered

Duration: Two years

Amount of financial aid/other funding: 1050 euro/month. Additional funding for married candidates, children and travel

Dates: Application deadline is 31.12.2015

Berlin Program for Advanced German and European Studies

Homepage: <http://www.fu-berlin.de/en/sites/bprogram>

Profile:

- PhD students from North American (USA and Canada) universities
- Doctoral project focused on social, cultural and humanistic questions in Germany and/or Europe
- Comparatory and interdisciplinary doctoral projects with a contemporary and historical framework are preferred

Duration: 10 to 12 months

Amount of financial aid/other funding: 1100 euro/month. Additional funding for children and family possible

Dates: will be announced in autumn 2015