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](http://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](http://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
- 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

**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](http://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](http://www.freiheit.org/Promotionsfoerderung/185c2275i126/index.html)

**Hans Böckler Stiftung (Gewerkschaften)**

**Homepage:** [www.boeckler.de](http://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](http://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

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**Evangelisches Studienwerk e.V. Villigst**

**Homepage:** [www.evstudienwerk.de](http://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

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**Stiftung der Deutschen Wirtschaft**

**Homepage:** [www.sdw.org](http://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

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**Andrea von Braun Stiftung**

**Homepage:** [www.avbstiftung.de](http://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](http://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](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