



## FAQ

Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2020 | 4 pm (CET)

General information about the webinar “Financing Your Research in Baden-Württemberg”	
Who hosted the webinar?	<p>Laura Busch   In-Sook Choi            BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG INTERNATIONAL Agency for International Economic and Scientific Cooperation            Contact: <a href="mailto:laura.busch@bw-i.de">laura.busch@bw-i.de</a>   <a href="mailto:in-sook.choi@bw-i.de">in-sook.choi@bw-i.de</a>  <a href="http://www.bw-i.de">www.bw-i.de</a>   <a href="http://www.bw-career.de">www.bw-career.de</a></p>
Who were the speakers?	<p>Laura Busch            BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG INTERNATIONAL Agency for International Economic and Scientific Cooperation            Contact: <a href="mailto:laura.busch@bw-i.de">laura.busch@bw-i.de</a>  <a href="http://www.bw-i.de">www.bw-i.de</a>   <a href="http://www.bw-career.de">www.bw-career.de</a></p> <p>Dr. Amanda Sahrbacher            Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) - Academic Coordinator, Karlsruhe House of Young Scientists (KHYS)            Contact: <a href="mailto:amanda.sahrbacher@kit.edu">amanda.sahrbacher@kit.edu</a>  <a href="http://www.kit.edu">www.kit.edu</a></p> <p>Enrico Domenico Lemma, Ph.D.            Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Zoological Institute, Alexander-von-Humboldt-Foundation Postdoctoral Research Fellow            Contact: <a href="mailto:enrico.lemma@partner.kit.edu">enrico.lemma@partner.kit.edu</a>  <a href="http://www.kit.edu">www.kit.edu</a></p>

<b>Financing Your Research</b>	
Which funding schemes are available? Where to find an overview on funding programmes?	<p>Many different organisations and institutions are involved in funding research and fostering young academic talent. Research funding for international scientists in Germany is provided by government bodies and various organisations, as well as the industry.</p> <p>For specific funding opportunities in Baden-Württemberg, please check <a href="http://www.bw-career.de">www.bw-career.de</a> .</p> <p>Check out the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) funding database for an extensive overview on general German funding programmes for international researchers:</p> <p><a href="http://www.funding-guide.de">www.funding-guide.de</a> / <a href="http://www.research-in-germany.org/en/research-funding/funding-databases.html">http://www.research-in-germany.org/en/research-funding/funding-databases.html</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.research-in-germany.org/en/research-funding/funding-programmes/overview-postdocs.html">https://www.research-in-germany.org/en/research-funding/funding-programmes/overview-postdocs.html</a></p>
Which organisations offer funding?	<p>1) Research funding for international scientists in Germany is provided by government bodies and various organisations, as well as the industry.</p> <p>Find out about your <b>funding opportunities in Baden-Württemberg</b>: <a href="https://www.bw-career.de/en/for-applicants/tips-on-academic-careers/support-programs">https://www.bw-career.de/en/for-applicants/tips-on-academic-careers/support-programs</a></p> <p>2) An overview of the most significant <b>German funding organisations</b> for international researchers you find here: <a href="https://www.research-in-germany.org/en/research-funding/funding-organisations.html">https://www.research-in-germany.org/en/research-funding/funding-organisations.html</a></p>

<b>Individual questions</b>	
As for the aspirant grant (postdoc), one of the requirements is to submit the bachelors and masters certificate. However, I am aware of many PhDs who did not get a masters before their PhD. Can we still apply for that grant even if we did not get a master's degree before the PhD?	<p>A master's degree is a prerequisite in Germany to begin with a doctorate, therefore candidates for the Aspirant Grant (Postdoc) must 1) have completed their master before applying for the grant and 2) be currently working on their doctorate.</p> <p>The date before which you have to get your master's degree (or PhD) is usually clearly stated in the call. Normally, it is not important that the university provides the official certificate by that date, it is enough that the master thesis exam (or PhD defence) has been carried out by the stated date.</p>
Which long term positions other than professorship, which seems to be limited to a few lucky and excellent researchers, can an aspiring "Unbefristeter	<p>It is true that only few candidates for a professorship will actually become a professor (believing a recent study, 1 out of 23 candidates, see "<a href="#">Bundesbericht Wissenschaftlicher Nachwuchs 2017</a>"). Therefore, in order to maximize chances of success, this career path has to be planned long in advance. Long term positions</p>

<p>Mitarbeiter" (permanent employee) find? Are there national databases for such job postings? It seems that long term positions are very few and usually confined to a very specific research area. Is that so?</p>	<p>are very rare as well. If such jobs are available they are usually published on universities' websites or on job search platforms like <a href="http://www.academics.de">www.academics.de</a> for instance.</p>
<p>Do only researchers living outside of Germany can apply for this fund or also international researchers currently living in Germany?</p>	<p>Regarding the <b>KIT Aspirant Grant (Postdoc)</b>, this grant is open to all external candidates independently of nationality or current employer inside or outside Germany.</p> <p>Regarding the <b>Humboldt Postdoctoral fellowships</b>, international researchers can apply even if they have been already living and working in Germany for no more than six months at the moment of the submission. Please always check very carefully the eligibility criteria before starting the application process.</p>
<p>What's the most valuable qualification, criteria to apply successfully for a fellowship?</p>	<p>It depends on the specific call. Some funding agencies give more importance to the research proposal; others give priority to the CV and academic achievements (publications, conferences, etc.). Try to understand the evaluation criteria (usually published when the call is issued), in order to strengthen what the evaluation committee expects from you.</p>
<p>How important is it to be in contact with the Principal Investigator or lab I want to apply with my fellowship? Should I contact them, too, or is it sufficient just to apply for my fellowship program?</p>	<p>It is important to meet or get to know people you aim to work within the framework of a research fellowship/grant. At KIT the Aspirant Grant (Postdoc) enables you to come to Karlsruhe for one month and get an impression of your future research conditions, should you apply for a fellowship/grant within a research team/lab here at KIT. Make use of it!</p> <p>Personal recommendation from our speaker, Enrico Lemma: Try to get in touch with them before applying to any call. It is important that you create a relationship of mutual trust and cooperation before starting planning something bigger. If possible, try to make short (visiting) stays in order to get familiar with people and places (labs, town, etc.). This will both increase your chances of getting funded and possibly avoid conflicts later.</p>
<p>Do I need to have submitted my doctorate for a fellowship application?</p>	<p>Some funding agencies accept applications of persons just about finishing their doctorate, but usually you must have completed the doctorate once the fellowship/grant starts.</p> <p>For <b>Humboldt postdoctoral fellowships</b> you must have earned your PhD maximally 4 years before the proposal submission. See also answer to question 1</p>

<p>What are the requests for funding programs in specific research areas e.g. architecture and urban planning?</p>	<p>This depends on the funding agencies. Please check carefully the requirements of each call.</p>
<p>For the KIT Young Investigator Preparation Programme: Is it possible to apply as a German citizen currently doing a Postdoc in Germany (but not at KIT) (I have done my PhD and a Postdoc abroad)?</p>	<p>Yes of course you can apply. KIT is interested in every external excellent application!</p>
<p>Can I apply to several fellowships at the same time? Is it possible to send two or more different proposals to one or more programs?</p>	<p>Actually, it is recommendable to apply for several programmes at the same time but be aware, once you receive funding; you should inform the other funding organisations where you have applied. Normally, you cannot receive funding twice for the same research project.</p>
<p>Where can I find open positions?</p>	<p>You can find open positions either on the website of each university or research institute or on job portals like <a href="http://www.academics.de">www.academics.de</a> for instance. Find general information where to look for open positions on <a href="https://www.research-in-germany.org/en/jobs-and-careers/your-job-search.html">https://www.research-in-germany.org/en/jobs-and-careers/your-job-search.html</a> .</p>
<p>Is German a language requirement for applications of fellowships?</p>	<p>There are no general requirements for necessary language skills. Application requirements and necessary language skills tend to vary from programme to programme. For some research areas it is important to speak German. For more details check the specific application criteria of each programme. In most disciplines, institutes and universities, English is the lingua franca and you can complete your PostDoc in English. However, much of the committee work is in German, which might be of relevance at the advanced PostDoc phase - transition to professorship. Also, it will be valuable to establish larger networks in Germany.</p> <p>For <b>Humboldt postdoctoral fellowships</b> it is not a requirement, since a German course will be offered in case you are awarded the fellowship. Personal feeling: English is commonly spoken in universities, but it is better to have at least a A2-B1 (CEFR) German level to better work and live. Think about a short German course even before leaving your country.</p>
<p>I'm interested to make a research stay (3-6 months) in an institution in Baden-Württemberg. Are there available funding programs for this kind of research stays?</p>	<p>There are Short-Term Research Grants for research stays from 3 up to 6 months, offered by the DAAD. Please check <a href="http://www.funding-guide.de">www.funding-guide.de</a> for detailed information.</p>

<p>I am about to finish and submit my thesis. But the degree award takes about 6 months to 1 year. So, Is it a good option to apply at this time or shall I wait till my degree is awarded first?</p>	<p>If you submit your thesis and this counts as having completed your master, then you should be able to apply. So, if these 6-12 months are needed just to get an official certificate, this is usually not a problem for the funding agencies. If these 6-12 months are required because of thesis discussion/improvement/review, so you cannot really be awarded with a "MSc status", then you may need to wait before applying. (See also answer question 1)</p>
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**Useful Links:**

[www.bw-career.de](http://www.bw-career.de)

<https://mwk.baden-wuerttemberg.de> (Ministry of Science, Research and Arts Baden-Württemberg)

<https://www.bwstiftung.de> (Baden-Württemberg Stiftung – state’s foundation)

[www.daad.de](http://www.daad.de)

[www.research-in-germany.org](http://www.research-in-germany.org)

[www.make-it-in-germany.com](http://www.make-it-in-germany.com)



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