

Brief Information about the Scholarships of the Bavarian Gender Equality Promotion (BGF)

Status 07/25

Aims and principles of funding

The research fellowships serve to **promote young female academics**. The aim of the funding is to qualify young female academics for a professorship or management position. The funding is intended to support female scientists, especially in phases of transition (e.g., preparation of an application for funding by a third-party donor). The Scientia Fellowship is intended to bridge the gap between research and **living expenses** and must not be used to supplement fellowships from other funding organisations or income from a professional activity. Rather, the focus is on research and proposal writing for future projects during this time. For scholarship holders, **participation in at least three events** of the SCIENTIA career development programme is obligatory.

Who can apply for the scholarships?

As a **researcher**, you are generally eligible to apply for a research fellowship if you are integrated into the **German academic system**, are **active in teaching and research at the University of Würzburg** or will be active for at least the duration of the fellowship.

Duration of funding

The research fellowship is awarded for a period of **up to one year**. Postdoctoral and habilitation scholarships can be extended in justified cases of hardship upon application.

How do I apply?

Applications for funding can be submitted to the Office of the University Women's Representative **at the end of each semester (31 March / 30 September)**. In addition to the general online application form, the application must also include a **curriculum vitae** (including school and university education in tabular form) and a **description of your project** in order to enable a professional assessment. A list of the other documents to be submitted can be found in the "Programme information". In addition, participation in the **general information event on 15.7. or 13.8.2025** as well as **a consultation with the Office of the University Women's Representative before submitting the application is a prerequisite for the application**. The decision on funding is made by the University Women's Representative in close cooperation with the University Equal Opportunities Commission.

Types of funding

- **Scholarships for female post-doctoral researchers:** This funding is intended to enable women who have completed a doctorate to begin, continue and/or complete a project that qualifies them for a university career. As a rule, applicants should have completed their doctorate with at least "very good" (magna cum laude). In addition, the duration of the doctorate must not have exceeded four years as a rule. The scholarship amount is 2,400 €. The faculty to which the project is assigned must certify the close institutional connection of the scholarship holder and guarantee it for the duration of the funding. The scholarship holder is expected to participate in teaching for the duration of the scholarship (2 SWS are recommended).
- **Habilitation scholarships:** Support is provided for young female academics who are seeking a habilitation in accordance with Art. 98 BayHIG (Bavarian Higher Education Innovation Act) in the version announced on August 5, 2022. Applicants must provide **proof of acceptance as a habilitation candidate by the faculty**. The scholarship amount is 2,800 €. The scholarship holder is expected to be involved in teaching for the duration of the scholarship.
- **Scholarships for excellent young academics:** This funding is intended to enable young academics who have **already submitted their habilitation thesis** to continue their academic work in the phase between submission of the thesis and completion of the habilitation procedure. The scholarship amount is 3,200 €. It is recommended that teaching events will be held.
- **Doctoral scholarships** - only possible in very exceptional cases: This funding can only be awarded in very exceptional cases and only for the **final phase of a doctorate** (max. 12 months) with above-average performance. This applies exclusively to cases in which completion has been delayed due to **special circumstances** (social or other hardship cases). In addition, only academic doctorates that serve as the basis for further qualification for a professorship can be funded. The scholarship amount is 1,200 euros. An extension is **not** possible.

Detailed information on this programme and on the subject of extensions can be found in the "[Programme information](#)" or can be obtained from the office of the University Women's Representative from your contact persons Friederike Münch or Natalie Nikolaus (scientia@uni-wuerzburg.de).