



SCIENTIA Career Development

Call for Applications 2026

The SCIENTIA program is a one-year career development program for **young female scientists** at Julius Maximilian University of Würzburg (JMU). The focus is on the personal development of the participants and their individual career planning. Key elements of the program include establishing a mentoring relationship, development of key skills, and networking within JMU and beyond.

Target group: The program is aimed at **advanced doctoral students and postdocs** who want to plan their next career move.

Program elements:

Mentoring:

During the matching phase (the first three months of the program), the program management team will help you find a suitable mentor. The mentoring phase lasts nine months, during which you will have the opportunity to benefit from your mentor's experience and work on your own goals.

Networking:

Regular meetings organized by the program management promote interdisciplinary networking among participants. In addition to interacting with all participants in the SCIENTIA program, you will be part of a fixed cohort that will accompany you from the start of the program to the closing event. Furthermore, self-organized peer group meetings offer the opportunity to discuss the specific challenges and requirements of your current career phase.

Qualification:

Workshops on career-related topics and skills provide additional qualifications for a career within or outside academia. All training courses are conducted by external trainers for your group. The courses are mainly held in person and are flexibly bilingual (English and German).

Career Guidance:

Even before the kick-off event, you will be invited to a personal meeting to determine your individual starting point and goals for the duration of the program. Halfway through the program, a perspective meeting with the program management will provide an opportunity to reflect on developments to date and gain new impetus for your strategic career planning as a (future) leader. The kick-off and closing events will provide additional impetus for personal goal setting and mark the start of a sustainable network.

Program duration: 12 months, from **January 2026 to December 2026**.

The program will start with a **meet and greet on January 19, 2026**, followed by kick-off events for the respective groups on February 3 and 4, 2026 (postdocs) and February 10, 2026 (PhDs).

In order to benefit from the program, **we expect you to participate continuously in the career program's offerings** (networking meetings, workshops, information events) throughout the entire period and to independently coordinate one-on-one meetings with your mentors.

Upon successful completion of the mentoring program, you will receive a certificate from the Gender Equality Academy.

Application and deadline: Your application to participate in the SCIENTIA Career Development Program should include the following documents:

- completed [application form](#)
- CV
- a short cover letter explaining your motivation and your goals for the program; key questions to consider could be:
 - What are my long-term career goals?
 - What would I like to work on?
 - In what areas do I need support?
 - What do I expect from the program's offerings?
 - What do I hope to gain from the exchange and networking with my peers?

Please send your application documents **by November 15, 2025**, via email to scientia@uni-wuerzburg.de. The contact person is Sophie Renninger.

Personal interviews will take place in December 2025.

If you have any questions, please contact Sophie Renninger at scientia@uni-wuerzburg.de.

We look forward to receiving your applications and getting to know you personally!