

## About Us



The Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) funds top-level research in all branches of science and the humanities. We support individuals and projects that have been judged outstanding in a competitive peer-review process. We foster international scientific cooperation and are committed to promoting young researchers.

The DFG is science-driven: researchers choose the topics of their projects, and peer reviewers issue funding recommendations based on the quality of these projects. Funding decisions are made by committees made up of researchers and government representatives. The DFG is financed primarily by Germany's federal and state governments.

- **The DFG accepts funding proposals from researchers with a doctoral degree who live and work in Germany or plan to do so in the future.**

## Contact

### Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft

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### DFG Links

DFG funding programmes for young researchers:  
[www.dfg.de/en/magazine/research\\_careers](http://www.dfg.de/en/magazine/research_careers)

Information on DFG-funded projects:  
[www.dfg.de/en/funded\\_projects](http://www.dfg.de/en/funded_projects)

### DFG Programme Staff

For contact information please visit the DFG website.

#### Research careers – scientific queries:

Department II: Scientific Affairs

#### Research careers – procedural questions:

Quality Assurance and  
Programme Development Division

#### Research careers – strategy:

Research Careers Division

Photos: DFG, D. Ausserhofer, CFN Karlsruhe, Peter Winandy/RWTH Aachen,  
Private Archive Prof. P. Roquette, AIP Emilio Segre Visual, Print: Engelhardt, Neunkirchen, April 2010

Basic layout: besscom, Berlin; Design: Michaela Dreike, DFG

English



## Promoting Research Careers

DFG Programmes for Postdocs

## Our Mission – Our Approach



Creative and intelligent minds are the key to successful science and research. That is why the DFG puts a special focus on promoting young researchers. We are committed to helping young talent pursue cutting-edge investigations in top-level settings and become independent early on in their careers.

Flexible individual funding and customised excellence programmes give young researchers the opportunity to advance their careers and undertake projects in all branches of science and the humanities.

## Early Independence for Young Researchers

### Temporary Position

This funding mechanism provides you with funding for a temporary postdoctoral position in conjunction with a proposal for a research grant. You select the research setting in Germany that you think will provide the best conditions for your project.

### Research Fellowship

This fellowship enables you to carry out research in a country of your choice, either independently or with other qualified researchers. The fellowship may also be used to study new investigative methods or to complete a larger research project.

## Project-based Postdoctoral Qualification

### Postdoctoral Researcher in a Research Training Group

As a postdoc you help design the research and qualification programmes of an existing Research Training Group and explore new research topics for your future career. In return we expect you to share your experience with doctoral researchers in the programme. An overview of current Research Training Groups is available on our website.

### Investigator in a Research Project

Following your doctorate you can assume responsibility as a researcher in a current DFG-funded project. This will give you the opportunity to advance your qualifications and improve your career prospects by gaining experience and building networks. A list of funded projects can be found in our internet database GEPRIS.



## Excellence Programmes



### Emmy Noether Programme

This programme is aimed at outstanding scientists and academics with between two to four years of postdoctoral research experience (or up to six years for licensed medical doctors). It allows you to head your own independent junior research group working on a project for five or, in exceptional cases, six years. It offers a fast-track opportunity to qualify for a leading position in research.

### Heisenberg Programme

If you already have all the qualifications for a professorship, the Heisenberg Programme may be the right option for you. As you prepare for a leading academic position, we provide you with funding for up to five years to work on an advanced research topic. There are two variations of the programme: the portable Heisenberg fellowship, which also allows you to go abroad for some time; and the Heisenberg professorship, which offers you the prospect of a tenured position at a German university, provided you receive a positive review.