Dear Sir or Madam,

As part of efforts to contain the spread of the coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2), subject to the provision of funds by the federal and state governments, the DFG is implementing the following measures and arrangements for fellowship recipients and fellows working in DFG programmes:

For fellowship recipients who are in Germany during an interruption to their work and cannot start their fellowship abroad again at the anticipated time due to travel restrictions, closure of the host institution, etc., the fellowship will continue to be paid for a maximum of three months. The foreign allowance will be paid in accordance with statutory requirements. If expenses arise in the host country during the interruption to the fellowship (e.g. rent), an allowance (covering dual residence costs, etc.) will be paid in addition to the fellowship for a period of up to three months. The allowance will be paid up to a maximum of the total foreign allowance to which the recipient was originally entitled.

Fellowship recipients who are unable to commence their fellowship in a host country due to an entry ban can begin their fellowship activities in Germany, provided it is possible to work on the research project outside the foreign host research institution. No foreign allowance will be paid for time spent in Germany. The DFG will cover additional expenses (rent for accommodation already arranged in the host country, etc.) for a period of up to three months, up to a maximum of the foreign allowance applicable to the host country.

For fellowship recipients who return to Germany early (up to three months before the fellowship abroad is due to end), the fellowship will continue to be paid for the time spent in Germany. No additional request is required. The foreign allowance will be paid in accordance with statutory regulations.
For fellowship recipients whose fellowship is coming to an end and who cannot return to Germany due to an entry ban, the fellowship will be extended for up to three months. The extension will apply regardless of whether the fellowship recipient can make use of the host institution’s resources.

For fellows employed in DFG projects, the following arrangements apply:

Expenses (cancellations, rent for up to three months, rebookings, etc.) that arise as part of DFG projects in which fellows are employed can be settled through the project as direct project expenses.

Periods of absence for fellows due to containment measures will be covered by the DFG for a period of up to three months. Evidence must be provided of the costs and durations involved upon completion of the project.

Should insufficient funds be available towards the end of the research project due to previously arising expenses, the additional funds required will be made available to the project by the Z-FiN-2 team to the amount of the additional costs arising.

Yours sincerely,

Jurij v. Kreisler