Guidelines
Heisenberg Programme

- Valid for proposals submitted up to 31 December 2017 -

As a result of a resolution of the DFG Joint Committee dated 4 July 2017, the Heisenberg Programme will be modified with effect from 1 January 2018.

The existing provisions as set out in the Heisenberg Programme Guidelines (DFG form 50.03_2017), Heisenberg Fellowship Module (DFG form 52.08_2017) and the Heisenberg Professorship Module (DFG form 52.09_2017) apply to proposals submitted up to 31 December 2017.

www.dfg.de/formulare/50.03_2017/
www.dfg.de/formulare/52.08_2017/
www.dfg.de/formulare/52.09_2017/
I Programme Information

1 Objective

The objective of the programme is to promote early career researchers who are eligible for appointment to a professorship and have demonstrated excellence in their research achievements.

The programme is intended both to stimulate progress in research and to maintain an outstanding pool of early career researchers for the scientific community while ensuring appropriate gender distribution.

2 Proposals

2.1 Eligibility

The Heisenberg Programme is aimed at researchers who are qualified for a professorship but have not yet been appointed. This qualification may have been attained through

- the Emmy Noether Programme,
- a junior professorship following positive evaluation,
- habilitation,
- DFG project positions,
- private-sector research or international research activity,
- heading an independent junior research group or other mid-level faculty positions,
- other habilitation-equivalent qualifications.

2.2 Format and deadline

2.2.1 The proposal may be submitted at any time up to 31 December 2017 under the existing provisions for the Heisenberg Programme. The proposal must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the relevant instructions (DFG form 54.02_2017).

www.dfg.de/formulare/54_02_2017/

2.2.2 The proposal may be submitted at any time from 1 January 2018 under the new provisions for the Heisenberg Programme. The proposal must be submitted according to the following guidelines:

www.dfg.de/formulare/54_02/
3 Duration

3.1 The following applies to renewal proposals submitted up to 31 December 2017:

Grants are generally awarded for a five-year period.

The initial grant is awarded for a three-year period. A two-year extension may be granted if a renewal proposal is submitted and receives a positive review.

The following applies to renewal proposals submitted from 1 January 2018:

A renewal must be requested as a new proposal to the Heisenberg Programme (valid for proposals from 1 January 2018) with a duration of 24 months; refer to the programme guidelines linked below (DFG form 50.03).

www.dfg.de/formulare/50_03

II Proposal Modules

To apply to the Heisenberg Programme, you may alternatively submit one of the following modules. For more details, please see the respective guidelines for each module.

1 Heisenberg Professorship

Use this module to request funding for a temporary professorship at a German university.

www.dfg.de/formulare/52_09/

Or

2 Heisenberg Fellowship

Use this module to request a fellowship grant of €4,450 (for your living expenses) and a general funding allowance. The fellowship is designed to enable you to dedicate yourself fully to your research activities. A Heisenberg fellowship can be converted into a Heisenberg professorship during the funding period if the appropriate requirements are met.

www.dfg.de/formulare/52_08/
III Special Provisions

A grant under the Heisenberg Programme allows you to work in a certain field of research. However, you may also apply for additional funding to work on specific projects. If you would like to conduct a project at a German research institution, you may apply for a research grant in addition to the respective Heisenberg module.

www.dfg.de/formulare/50_01/

IV Obligations

In submitting your proposal to the DFG, you agree to:

1. adhere to the rules of good scientific practice¹

The general principles of good scientific practice include, among others: maintaining professional standards, documenting results, rigorously questioning all findings, and attributing honestly any contributions by partners, competitors and predecessors.

Scientific misconduct is defined as the intentional and grossly negligent statement of falsehoods in a scientific context, the violation of intellectual property rights or impeding another person’s research work. The circumstances of each case will be considered on an individual basis. In cases where scientific misconduct has been established, the DFG may impose one or more of the following sanctions, depending on the nature and severity of the scientific misconduct:

- issuing a written reprimand to those involved;
- exclusion from the right to apply for DFG funds for a period of one to eight years, depending on the severity of the scientific misconduct;
- revoking funding decisions (complete or partial cancellation of the grant, recalling granted funds, demanding repayment of funds spent);

¹ The rules of good scientific practice are explained in detail in the white paper Safeguarding Good Scientific Practice and in the Funding Guidelines - General Terms and Conditions of DFG Grants (DFG form 2.00).
demanding that those concerned either retract the discredited publications or correct the falsified data (in particular by publishing an erratum), or appropriately indicate the DFG’s retraction of funding in the discredited publications;

- exclusion from acting as a reviewer or from membership in DFG committees for a period of one to eight years, depending on the severity of the scientific misconduct;

- denying voting rights and eligibility in elections for DFG statutory bodies and committees for a period of one to eight years, depending on the severity of the scientific misconduct.

By accepting funding, the recipient agrees to

2. use the grant exclusively and in a targeted manner to realise the funded project. The use and accounting of funds must conform to the relevant regulations of the DFG.

3. submit progress reports on the research according to the dates specified in the award letter and to present financial accounts to the DFG detailing the use of funds.

The DFG expects that the findings of the projects it funds be made available to the public.

V Publication of Data on Grant Holders and Research Projects

The data necessary for processing your proposal will be stored and processed electronically by the DFG.

By submitting a proposal you agree that, if the proposal is approved, your work address and contact details (name, institution and location, phone, fax, e-mail and website) as well as information about the content of the project (e.g. topic, summary, keywords, subject area, DFG programme, funding period, international connections) will be published in the GEPRIS information system

gepris.dfg.de/en

and may be published in other, non-commercial publications and databases created in cooperation with the DFG.
You may withdraw your consent to full/partial publication at any time, without affecting the lawfulness of any processing carried out prior to your withdrawal. If you would like to withdraw your consent, please notify the responsible DFG programme contact, preferably in electronic form.