

Overview of funding programmes providing grants for travel and conferences

Research Management Division | Funding Support and Contracts Team |
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1	Introduction.....	3
2	Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds.....	4
3	DAAD.....	4
3.1	Congress travel programme	4
3.2	Lecture travel programme	4
4	Deutscher Akademikerinnenbund e.V. (DAB)	5
5	German Research Foundation (DFG).....	5
5.1	International conferences	5
5.2	Annual meetings.....	5
6	Franco-German University (DFH).....	6
7	Fonds der Chemischen Industrie	6
8	German Chemical Society	6
9	Max Weber Foundation – German Humanities Institutes Abroad (DGIA).....	6
10	Stiftung für Kanadastudien	7
11	Stiftung Zeitlehren.....	7
12	Fritz Thyssen Stiftung	7
12.1	Travel grants.....	7
12.2	Conferences.....	8
13	Villa Vigoni – German-Italian Centre for the European Dialogue	8
14	Volkswagen Foundation.....	8

1 Introduction

Organizing and holding academic events such as meetings, conferences and summer schools not only offer an opportunity for academic exchange, they also provide a forum for positioning research topics in a targeted manner. If you are looking for ways to fund a meeting or conference or your travel to a meeting or conference, you will find a number of initial pointers in this guide.

It contains a small selection of funding organizations and foundations to which you can apply for grants towards meetings, conferences or summer schools as well as travel grants. The funding programmes listed are mainly for general funding.

If you do not see any funding programmes that would be suitable for you, please contact us. You can also search for specific topic focus areas on the website of the [Stifterverband](#).

We hope you enjoy reading this guide and wish you all the best with your application for external funding.

Nina Christmann and Denise Kunkel

Research Management Division | Funding Support Team

2 Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds

The Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds (BIF) awards travel grants of up to three months to doctoral and post-doctoral researchers from all over the world who are conducting experimental projects in basic biomedical research.

Description	Promoting biomedical research by helping junior researchers from all over the world to learn new methods through practical courses and laboratory visits
Applicants	Doctoral and post-doctoral researchers

[Further information](#)

3 German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)

Through its congress travel programme, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) promotes the active participation of academics in international academic congresses and conferences (in person and online).

3.1 Congress travel programme

Description	Programme promotes the active participation of academics in international academic congresses and conferences (in person and online)
Applicants	Post-doctoral researchers, doctoral researchers

[Further information](#)

3.2 Lecture travel programme

Description	Funding for German academics travelling abroad to attend lectures that are not part of congresses or conferences
Applicants	Doctoral and post-doctoral researchers

[Further information](#)

4 Deutscher Akademikerinnenbund e.V. (DAB)

The DAB supports female academics in all disciplines and recognizes their achievements. It promotes academically educated women and helps to make them visible, enabling them to also serve as role models for the next generation.

Description	Travel grants for conferences and meetings
Applicants	Female post-doctoral researchers, female doctoral researchers

[**Further information**](#)

5 German Research Foundation (DFG)

The DFG supports the international organization of research events in Germany and annual meetings of German scholarly societies.

5.1 International conferences

Description	Organization of academic events of an international nature in Germany
Applicants	Post-doctoral researchers

[**Further information**](#)

5.2 Annual meetings

Description	Presentations by speakers from abroad who are acknowledged experts in the field at annual conferences held by German scholarly societies or subject groups of supra-regional importance.
Applicants	Authorized representative of the scholarly society

[**Further information**](#)

6 Franco-German University (DFH)

With the aim of networking researchers and developing Franco-German research dialogue, the Franco-German University (Deutsch-Französische Hochschule – DFH / Université Franco-Allemande – UFA) promotes Franco-German events for junior researchers (doctoral and post-doctoral researchers), e.g., research workshops and summer schools.

Description	Funding to promote the exchange of ideas and research dialogue on an interdisciplinary, Franco-German and European level
Applicants	Researchers with a habilitation

[Further information](#)

7 Fonds der Chemischen Industrie

Funding is provided for chemistry-related conferences or symposia for junior researchers with nationwide and international relevance in Germany.

Description	Chemistry-related conference or symposium for junior researchers
Applicants	Researchers with a habilitation in chemistry or related fields

[Further information](#)

8 German Chemical Society

The **German Chemical Society** provides a limited number of general conference travel grants – i.e. not bound to a specific conference – for active participation in national or international analytical conferences (i.e. with a poster or lecture/presentation on an analytical chemistry topic) to support junior researchers (students during their Bachelor's or Master's thesis, doctoral researchers and post-doctoral researchers without a permanent position).

9 Max Weber Foundation – German Humanities Institutes Abroad (DGIA)

The Gerald D. Feldman Travel Grant of the Max Weber Foundation (MWS) supports internationally oriented junior researchers in the humanities and social sciences. The visits are to be used for research, particularly in libraries and archives.

Description	Performance of research projects in at least 2 and up to 3 host countries of the institutes of the DGIA
Applicants	Junior researchers with a higher education degree

Further information

10 Stiftung für Kanadastudien

The objective of the Stiftung für Kanada-Studien is to support Canadian studies in German-speaking countries by supporting junior researchers and the transatlantic transfer of information. The Foundation sees itself as a facilitator between business and science as well as between politics and research.

Description	Grants for travel and accommodation costs for research stays in Canada
Applicants	Doctoral and post-doctoral researchers

Further information

11 Stiftung Zeitlehren

The **Stiftung Zeitlehren** supports young academics whose projects relate to investigation and remembrance and/or are driven by a commitment to responsibly shaping contemporary society and the future of democracy. Doctoral researchers can apply for grants for travel and research costs for their research projects.

12 Fritz Thyssen Foundation

In addition to supporting research projects, the Fritz Thyssen Foundation also provides funding for smaller academic conferences and travel grants.

12.1 Travel grants

Description	Grants to cover travel expenses directly related to a research project in the area of the humanities, social sciences or biomedicine
Applicants	Post-doctoral researchers employed at a university

Further information

12.2 Conferences

Description	Funding for smaller academic conferences for interdisciplinary international exchange and networking of researchers in the narrower specialist field
Applicants	Post-doctoral researchers employed at a university

[Further information](#)

13 Villa Vigoni – German-Italian Centre for the European Dialogue

Villa Vigoni is a binational association supported by the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of Italy. Together with the German Research Foundation (DFG) and the Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme (FMSH), Villa Vigoni offers the opportunity to participate in bi- and trilateral programmes for scientific cooperation in the humanities and social sciences. Funding is provided in particular for trilateral conferences and doctoral/post-doctoral colloquia.

14 Volkswagen Foundation

Within the framework of 'Researching research', the **Volkswagen Foundation** offers funding for workshops and summer schools that aim to reflect, combine and experiment with the various methodological approaches or theoretical challenges in academic research. It is possible to apply for funding for a series of events consisting of up to three events that build on each other thematically.