

Research Assistantships for international doctoral candidates

The Goethe Research Academy for Early Career Researchers (GRADE) awards four research assistantships to international doctoral candidates of Goethe University Frankfurt. The assistantships are sponsored by the STIBET program of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).

The GRADE Research Assistantships are made available to international doctoral candidates in order to include them in research projects conducted by faculty staff of Goethe University. The project needs to be clearly distinguishable from work on the PhD thesis. Successful applicants will receive a contract of work (“Werkvertrag”) of 500 Euro/month for a period of 3 months (comparing to the hourly rate for research assistants — “wissenschaftliche Hilfskräfte” – paid at Goethe University, this amounts to 20-25 hours per month).

International doctoral candidates who have received their university entrance authorization (Abitur, high-school diploma) abroad may apply for the assistantship, provided they have been admitted as doctoral candidates by one of the faculties of Goethe University and do not hold a position at GU. Another contract as research assistant is allowed if it is possible to raise the monthly working hours (max. 80 h overall).

The following application documents should be submitted as one PDF file by **July 4, 2022**:

- completed application form (www.grade.uni-frankfurt.de)
- completed form “Confirmation Contract of Work”
- CV and a copy of the last academic degree (with grades)
- faculty letter of admission as doctoral candidate at Goethe University Frankfurt
- confirmation from the project leader about the applicant’s participation in a research project at Goethe University with short project description
- a letter of recommendation from the candidate’s main supervisor (can be identical with the project leader)

Applications should be submitted by e-mail (one PDF file) to:

Goethe Research Academy for Early Career Researchers

Dr. Axel Kohler

kohler@grade.uni-frankfurt.de

phone: +49 (0)69 798-49406

Deadline for applications is July 4, 2022!

Research Assistantships for international doctoral candidates – Frequently Asked Questions –

Who will decide on my application?

The applications are screened and summarized by members of the central GRADE support unit. Formally, the GRADE Board of Directors makes the final decision based on the supplied summary material and the original applications. The Board of Directors includes faculty members from different fields and also PhD and postdoc representatives.

When will I get feedback about my application?

The deadline for submission is July 4, 2022. We will try to process the applications as quickly as possible. The selection is made by the GRADE Board of Directors (see above), so the whole selection procedure will take at least 6 weeks.

What are the exact criteria for the selection? What should I emphasize in my application?

The selection is primarily based on scientific excellence of the candidates, in accordance with the DAAD regulations. If applications are comparable in terms of their academic track record, social aspects and the financial situation can be considered in addition. Therefore, it is important that you include references to all materials, certificates and activities (publications, conference contributions, other presentations, scholarships, honors and awards) that distinguish you as an excellent young researcher with a very good academic performance.

What if my contract situation changes after the submission of my application?

The research assistantships can be combined with other types of support (with the exception of a university contract). Since there are many regulations governing the combination of types of financial support at the university, it is important for us to know the relevant details of your employment. Therefore, it would be good if you could inform us about any changes concerning your positions, scholarships, and contracts after your application has been submitted. Otherwise, we cannot ensure that the research assistantships can be disbursed to you.

Goethe Research Academy

For Early Career Researchers



What are the prerequisites for an application?

- Admission as doctoral candidate at Goethe University Frankfurt
- University entrance qualification was acquired outside of Germany
- No German citizenship

