

## Bavarian Gender Equality Funding Programme

### Scholarships for the Promotion of Equal Opportunities for Women in Research and Teaching

#### Information about the doctoral thesis completion grant

#### 1. Funding objective

Since the 2008 budget year, the Free State of Bavaria has been providing all Bavarian universities with funding for the promotion of equal opportunities for women in research and teaching. The programme is intended to increase the number of women in research and teaching. Doctoral scholarships can be awarded for the final phase of a doctorate in the case of above-average performance. The funded doctorate should serve as the basis for further qualification measures with the aim of attaining a professorship. This call for proposals is subject to budget approval.

#### 2. Scholarship

**Stipend (amount):** €1,200 per month.

**Childcare allowance:** €300 per month for one child, plus a further €100 per month for each additional child under the age of 18.

**Application deadline:** 7 April 2025

**Funding period:** A maximum of six months, but only until completion of the doctorate (last assessment); in justified cases, it is possible to apply for a one-time extension by up to six months.

**Prerequisites:** Admission to doctoral study at the University of Passau; duration of doctoral study should not normally exceed four years.

#### Application documents

- Please download the application form from the [website of the University Women's Representative](#)
- Chronological curriculum vitae
- Copies of your degree certificates and transcripts as well as your secondary school leaving certificate and report card(s)
- A report on the current stage of the project with a detailed work plan (including content and timetable) for the funding period applied for (in the case of extension applications, also state the reasons why the extension is necessary) (12 pages maximum)
- A report from the supervisor on the current stage of the project (in the case of extension applications, stating the reasons for the need for an extension); this report must meet the [formal report requirements \[the file linked to is in German\]](#)
- List of your previous publications and lectures
- If applicable, copies of your children's birth certificates

#### Please note:

- All documents must be submitted in German or English language.
- Referees must send their reports directly to Executive Support Unit for Diversity and Gender Equality by post or e-mail ([gleichstellung@uni-passau.de](mailto:gleichstellung@uni-passau.de)).

#### 3. Guidelines

##### 3.1 Selection process

The funding decision rests with the awards committee for the scholarships for the Promotion of Equal Opportunities for Women in Research and Teaching, which is chaired by the University Women's Representative. Funding/grant recipients are selected in a two-step process including a vote from the relevant faculty.

### **3.2 Employment; paid teaching activity**

Secondary employment is generally excluded. The scholarships are intended to cover living expenses and enable the scholarship holder to devote herself fully to her academic career.

Exceptions to this principle must be authorised by the University Women's Representative; if necessary, the stipend will be reduced. As an exception to this rule, recipients of a doctoral thesis completion grant may work in a salaried capacity up for to 40.00 hours per month.

You must not be in receipt any other scholarships or parental benefit (*Elterngeld*) during the time you receive funding from the Bavarian Gender Equality Funding Programme (although non-financial support is exempt). Double funding is excluded.

### **3.3 Social security**

Scholarships from the Bavarian Gender Equality Funding Programme do not constitute an employment or service relationship. The scholarship payment is not linked to any consideration in the form of work or services rendered. The payments are thus not a salary and therefore not subject to social security. Accordingly, the scholarship does not include any social security contributions, including health insurance. Scholarship holders who are required to take out voluntary health insurance for the duration of their scholarship can apply for a health insurance allowance of up to 200 euros per month.

The scholarship payments are tax-free if the requirements of § 3 No. 44 EstG are met.

### **3.4 Research visits abroad**

Within the scope of the scholarship, temporary research visits abroad are possible. The scholarship can continue to be paid during field research abroad, provided your supervisor confirms that your foreign travel is in aid of the academic qualification for which the scholarship is received.

### **3.5 Applicants with foreign nationality/citizenship**

Applicants who hold a foreign citizenship must show that their current main place of residence is Germany and that they are aiming to start an academic career (especially a professorship) in Germany. International applicants who receive financial support from their home country are not eligible for funding under this programme.

### **3.6 Final report**

Proof of thesis submission and notification of the preliminary viva voce exam date is sufficient. You must ensure that you submit a copy of your doctoral certificate at the earliest opportunity (even if you are not asked again to do so).

If you are unable to submit your thesis as planned at the end of the funding period, you must explain the reasons for this in a final report, stating how you intend to proceed with the project. You must submit this final report no later than two months after the end of funding, even if you are not reminded to do so; furthermore, you must also present an evaluation from your supervisor of your work, as laid out in your final report.

### **3.7 Maternity leave**

As scholarship funding does not constitute an employment or service relationship, the maternity protection and parental leave provisions under employment law do not apply. Upon application, the following support for pregnancy during the scholarship period will be considered on a case-by-case basis, depending on the budget situation:

1. Continued payment of the scholarship during the maternity protection period that would otherwise apply in an employment relationship ("analogous maternity leave"), provided this falls within the regular scholarship period.

2. Extension of the scholarship term by the analogous maternity leave period(s) that fall within the regular scholarship term.

Applications for continued payment and extension must be submitted in writing to the Executive Support Unit for Diversity and Gender Equality no later than three months before the start of the analogous maternity leave.

It is only possible to apply for a scholarship during parental leave if the parental leave ends by the start of the scholarship at the latest.

If an interruption similar to parental leave is desired during the scholarship, a pause of the scholarship for a maximum of six months will be considered upon application. No scholarship instalments are paid while the scholarship is paused. A resumption is possible subject to the availability of budget funds after the interruption. If there are insufficient funds to resume the scholarship, there is no entitlement to compensation.

### **3.8 Interruption of the scholarship; illness**

The scholarship is said to be interrupted if the purpose of the scholarship cannot be pursued for a specified period of time. A scholarship can be interrupted for a maximum period of six months. Corresponding applications must be submitted to the Executive Support Unit for Diversity and Gender Equality at least four weeks before the start of the planned interruption, if possible.

Illnesses lasting up to six weeks have no effect on scholarship payments. In the event of illness lasting more than six weeks, the Executive Support Unit for Diversity and Gender Equality must be notified immediately. A medical certificate is required.

If necessary, the scholarship must be interrupted for the duration of the illness if it is not possible to continue working towards the funding objective. The resumption of the remaining term or an extension of the scholarship for the period of this interruption due to illness cannot be guaranteed and is subject to budgetary constraints. Decisions on this are made on a case-by-case basis.

#### **Contact for further information:**

**Dr Claudia Krell, phone: +49 851 509 1023, e-mail: [gleichstellung@uni-passau.de](mailto:gleichstellung@uni-passau.de)**

Last revised on 10 February 2025