

Fact sheet: Exposé Scholarship [As of November 2025]

The Graduate Academy supports graduates in their process of planning a doctorate with funding to elaborate a detailed research concept for a PhD project. With a short-term scholarship of 1,250 Euros per month (for a maximum duration of six months), doctoral students are given the opportunity to carry out first research and to work out a dissertation proposal. The aim of this short-term scholarship is to secure further funding for the doctoral thesis.

Object of funding

- Elaboration of a detailed research concept for a dissertation project with the aim to secure further funding for the doctoral thesis.

Resources and payment

- Up to 6 months
- 1,250 Euros per month
- Funding is retroactively possible to April 1 (application deadline March 31) or to October 1 (application deadline September 30), respectively.

Eligibility to apply

- Graduates or students in their final stage who are planning a doctorate at Leibniz University Hannover.
- Additional employment is possible on a monthly basis within the marginal earnings threshold (*Geringfügigkeitsgrenze*). Parental allowance (*Elterngeld*) is not considered as income.

Selection criteria include

- Academic qualification for earning a doctorate
- Innovation potential of the research idea
- Practicability of the PhD project
- Clear goal and milestones to obtain further funding
- Personal circumstances (e.g. social hardships) can be taken into account.

Selection procedure

- Application deadlines: March 31 | September 30
- Scholarship holders are selected based on a scientific evaluation within six to eight weeks.
- The Exposé-Scholarship must start in the semester following the application deadline.

Application documents

- Completed application form
- Copy of (preliminary) higher education diploma or latest transcript of records
- CV and academic career
- (preliminary) notification of admission as doctoral student (issued by the faculty)
- (preliminary) confirmation of matriculation at Leibniz University
N.B.: should this not be issued so far, a binding letter of intent to seek admission and enrolment as soon as possible is to be included)
- description of the PhD project (three pages at the most)
- detailed work schedule and timetable for the duration of the financing period (one page at the most)
- Preliminary work schedule and timetable for the overall PhD project (one page at the most)
- letter of recommendation of the (future) main supervisor (to be submitted separately/directly by supervisor)
- letter of recommendation of a further university professor/teacher (to be submitted separately/directly by professor)

Applications that do not fulfil these criteria or that have not been submitted in time cannot be taken into consideration.

Submission of documents

(Please do not use staples and/or transparent folders for documents!)

- In writing:
Graduiertenakademie
Leibniz Universität Hannover
Dr. Meike Huntebrinker
Keyword: Exposé-Stipendium
Welfengarten 1
30167 Hannover
- Additionally, electronically as one single PDF document to:
graduiertenakademie@zuv.uni-hannover.de

Declaration of data protection

According to the European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), we would like to inform you that we are storing and processing the data, you disclose in your application in order to conduct the application procedures.

Object of data protection regulations are your personal data, i.e. all information considering your personal circumstances you are disclosing in your application for a funding line of the Graduate Academy. You can find detailed information on our data protection regulations here:

<https://www.graduiertenakademie.uni-hannover.de/de/foerderung/unsere-foerdermassnahmen/>

Data processing and storage demands **your consent**. By sending of the application documents via post or e-mail, you agree with the collection, storage and the usage of your personal data for the purpose of carrying out the selection process.

You may revoke your consent at any time without stating reasons. Please inform the Graduate Academy in writing about revoking your consent using the email address: graduiertenakademie@zuv.uni-hannover.de

Obligation

- The use of an Exposé-Scholarship obliges to comply with the "Guidelines to Secure Good Scientific Practice" in the version currently in force:
<https://www.uni-hannover.de/en/universitaet/profil/leitbild-und-leitlinien/gute-wissenschaftliche-praxis>.
- Within six weeks after the funding has expired, the applicant is required to present a report (five pages at the most). The report should address the results achieved during the funding period and outline the next steps on the way to a doctorate.

Contact for questions on applications

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