

PostDoc Funding 2024+

LEAFLET

The University of Erfurt (UE) finances postdoctoral positions from budget funds to support academic careers and promote the university's ability to obtain third-party funding, as well as to strengthen the support structures for young academics.

General aim

This format is intended to combine the promotion of excellent postdoctoral researchers with the acquisition of third-party funding for cooperative research projects at UE. The postdocs should submit applications for third-party funding for research projects together with at least two other supervising full members (in accordance with the EPPP framework regulations) of one or more Graduate Centres or the Max-Weber-Kolleg, from which the postdocs will subsequently receive further funding if they are approved. The postdocs take on the coordination tasks for their Graduate Centre during the funding period by the UE.

- The cooperation of researchers from different career stages should increase the eligibility of applications for funding, because the "own preparatory work" required for the application and the theoretical and methodological competences for the implementation of the research project can be broadened and diversified.
- At the same time, the format is intended to increase the postdocs' opportunities for the further development of their academic careers, as they gain experience in applying for third-party funding and, if necessary, experience in the realisation of cooperatively conducted third-party funded projects, thus substantially qualifying themselves. With the task of coordinating the Graduate Centre, the postdocs gain experience that prepares them for leadership roles in their academic career.
- In addition, the prospect of this career path in the postdoctoral phase should also make it more attractive for doctoral students to join one of UE's Graduate Centres with their dissertation projects in order to be considered for postdoc funding at a later stage.
- Accordingly, this format offers the Graduate Centres the option of personnel development for excellent doctoral candidates.

Scope of funding

One position TV-L E 13 (100%) for the postdoctoral researcher.

- Duration: The position is initially limited to up to three years, depending on the legal and personal requirements..
- The application for third-party funding must provide for further employment for the postdoctoral researcher for at least 2 years.
- Within the framework of the conditions of the third-party funding provider, it is expected that any third-party funding acquired for the postdoctoral researcher will be located at the UE.
- In case of funding, full members of a Graduate Centre can apply for research-related material and travel funds as well as further material funds within the framework of project support in the Research and Graduate Services (e.g. for student assistants).

Entitled to apply

To apply for funding in the "Postdoc Funding 2024+" format, at least two supervising full members of one or more Graduate Centres and one postdoctoral researcher are required.

- The involvement of supervising full members of Graduate Centres ensures the willingness and experience for academic cooperation within the UE. At the same time, the existing collaborations within the Graduate Centres and their networking within the CMW Graduate Conference should be used to focus research funding at UE more strongly on the development of collaborative projects.
- The focus on postdoctoral researchers is necessary because doctoral students are already funded in positions at the faculties; however, there are hardly any positions available for postdocs to gain further qualifications. A separate funding format is therefore needed for this phase of an academic career.
- Funding is open to postdocs who are already at UE and to external applicants.

Application

As the main applicant, the researcher in the postdoctoral phase should send the application with the following informative documents exclusively [online](#) via the application management system of the University of Erfurt by **September 30, 2024**.

As documents relevant for the application, the application for funding at the University of Erfurt and attachments must be uploaded in one PDF file in the application management system.

The application is submitted by the researcher in the postdoctoral phase, with the participation of at least two supervising full members of one or more Graduate Centres of the University of Erfurt/the Max-Weber-Kolleg.

Please use the [application form](#) for this; the application contains

1. a one- to max. two-page outline of the project for which third-party funding is to be jointly acquired; this should indicate the individual share or content-related contribution of the at least three applicants;
2. information on the institution to which third-party funding is to be applied for (if applicable, a specific call for proposals);
3. information on the possible start date of the position;
4. [appendix 1](#) with details of the applicants (one version per applicant):
 - max. five publications relevant to the project,
 - list of max. five applications for third-party funding from the last six years,
5. if applicable, connections to other ongoing projects

Further documents: CV of the researcher in the postdoc phase and letter of support from the Graduate Centre / Max-Weber-Kolleg

Evaluation criteria for eligible applications / Evaluation A - B - C

- Complete and formally admissible application
- Personal qualifications of the postdoctoral researcher based on publications and third-party funding experience (not only as an applicant, but also as a contributor) as well as awards and prizes in relation to academic age (A = excellent, B = very good, C = sufficient or worse).
- Suitability of expertise for all three (A), two (B), one or none (C) of the applicants
- Publications relevant to the project as preliminary work by all three (A), two (B), one or none (C) of the applicants
- 5 (A), 2 to 4 (B), 1 or none (C) project-relevant third-party funding applications from all three applicants from the last six years. These can also be applications for third-party funding that have not been approved.
- Application targeted for funding with project lump sum (A = 20% or more; B = less than 20%), funding without project lump sum (C)
- Funding with a term of 3 or more years (A), funding with a term of at least 2 years (B), funding with a term of less than 2 years (C)

Selection procedure

- The Vice President for Research and Academic Careers (VPF), together with the Committee for Research and Graduate Services, draws up a proposal as to which applications are recommended to the Executive Board for funding.
- To this end, the Research and Graduate Services submits after a formal review a proposal to the VPF and the committee on the applications worthy of funding in accordance with the above criteria. Following a discussion, the committee decides which applications are worthy of funding. If necessary, the committee may invite pre-selected applicants to a personal presentation in accordance with the evaluation criteria.

- The Presidium decides on the awarding of funding based on the committee's recommendation and taking into account the relevance of the applications for the strategic development of the UE.
- If more than two applications from a Graduate Centre are proposed as eligible for funding, the Presidium decides which two should be considered.

Contact

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