

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH IN GROUPS

Upcoming deadlines for application: 8 December 2022; 25 April 2023

The Center for Interdisciplinary Research (ZiF) is Bielefeld University's Institute for Advanced Study. It offers opportunities—with respect to time, space, and funding—for outstanding interdisciplinary research. ZiF is open to scholars from all disciplines post-PhD, based in Germany and abroad. They can propose a research project to be conducted with a curated group of (preferably) international colleagues. If their collaborative application is successful, ZiF will host the group on its campus, offering ideal working conditions.

We offer the following formats:

- **Visiting Groups**
Duration: 1 to 3 months stay at ZiF
Funding Amount: up to EUR 50,000 to cover the costs for travel and accommodation as well as workshops and conferences; personnel expenses (buy-outs) cannot be covered.
Visiting Groups can, for example, explore new research topics and partnerships, finalise interdisciplinary publications or conduct small research projects during their stay at ZiF.
- **Resident Groups**
Duration: 4 to 6 months stay at ZiF
Funding Amount: up to EUR 400,000 to cover the costs for travel and accommodation as well as workshops, conferences, and personnel expenses (e.g. in the form of buy-outs).
Resident Groups may conduct more extensive research projects, which require intensive collaboration over an extended period, during a joint stay at ZiF.
- **Long-Term Groups**
Duration: several visits to ZiF over a period of up to three years; these recurring visits may add up to a total of ten months
Funding Amount: up to EUR 200,000 to cover the costs for travel and accommodation as well as workshops and conferences; personnel expenses (buy-outs) cannot be covered.
Long-Term Groups offer great organisational freedom and flexibility to meet the needs of long-term projects; the set-up of the group work is based on the needs of the individual project idea.

If you cannot locate your project idea within these formats, please feel free to contact us!

Important selection criteria for all formats are:

- interdisciplinarity,
- academic quality, and
- originality on an international level.

The necessity for interdisciplinary collaboration must stem from the research at hand; the mere involvement of different disciplines does not suffice.

The **size of a group** depends on the requirements of the project; the minimum for each group is three people. International participation is explicitly encouraged. We expect groups to be present at ZiF for their collaboration phases. Additional virtual participants may be involved.

Applications must be submitted by a **team of two to four people** who also act as convenors of the group they propose. All convenors must have a completed doctorate. One of them acts as the main contact person (to be clearly labelled). The team of applicants should already reflect the interdisciplinary character of the group.

Proposals will be selected **competitively**. Complete submissions will initially be **reviewed externally**. Upon positive assessment, applicants for Resident and Long-Term Groups will be invited to an interview by the ZiF's Academic Advisory Board; the final decision will be made by the Board of Directors. Decisions on Visiting Groups will be made upon receipt of reviews.

Timing: There will be two deadlines for applications per year; current deadlines are the **8 December 2022 and the 25 April 2023**.

For the deadline on 8 December 2022

Resident & Long-Term Groups

- Interview by the Academic Advisory Board in April/May 2023
- Decisions in June 2023
- Project start as of spring 2024

Visiting Groups

- Decisions upon receipt of reviews
- Flexible start

For the deadline on 25 April 2023

Resident & Long-Term Groups

- Interview by the Academic Advisory Board in October/November 2023
- Decisions in December 2023
- Project start as of fall 2024

Visiting Groups

- Decisions upon receipt of reviews

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applications can be submitted in English or German and must contain the following:

1. Cover Sheet

- Title of the project
- Name, affiliation, and address of all applicants; clear indication of a main contact
- Intended timeframe

2. Summary of the project

in English; for applications submitted in German, we additionally require a German summary (up to 1,500 char., incl. spaces).

3. Project description

(max. 25,000 char., incl. spaces)

- Research topic and questions
- Objectives and anticipated output
- Current state of research
- Methods
- Composition of the group (list of potential participants and their discipline, affiliation, and their specific expertise for the project, status of invitation / participation)
- Timing of the project and work plan (overview, e.g. as a table)
- If applicable: information on workshops and/or conferences to be held during the project
- Reference list (not part of the character count)

4. Short CV of all applicants

including latest publications relevant to the project (up to 3 pages per applicant, incl. publications). CV of participants are not part of the application.

5. Preliminary budget

(for orientation purposes; in case a grant is made, this budget will be checked and possibly adjusted by ZiF); if the project receives third-party-funding, please indicate so in the budget.

Please contact us with any questions;
we are happy to help!

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Send your application in one PDF file to:

Executive Director

Prof. Dr. Véronique Zanetti
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