UNIVERSITÄT BIELEFELD

ZiF

CALL FOR PROPOSALS
VISITING GROUPS AT ZIF

Deadline for Application: tba

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 scholarly applicants from all disciplines post-PhD, based at a university/research institute in Germany or abroad. Applicants may propose a research project to be conducted with a curated group of (preferably) international colleagues.

In support of the work of groups *on-site* in Bielefeld, ZiF allocates financial resources and provides infrastructure as well as organisational assistance. If an application is successful, ZiF then hosts these groups on its campus, offering ideal working conditions.

Visiting Groups can, for example, explore new research topics and partnerships, finalise interdisciplinary publications or conduct small research projects during their stay at ZiF. ZiF cannot support projects that require essential fieldwork, nor can it provide laboratory facilities.

WHAT ZIF OFFERS

- **Duration:** one stay at ZiF; lasting a minimum of one to a maximum of three months
- **Funding Amount:** up to EUR 50,000 to cover the costs for travel and accommodation, workshops and/or conferences on-site; please note: personnel expenses (buy-outs) cannot be covered, but an allowance of EUR 50 per day will be paid as a compensation for any additional costs
- **Timing:** Projects can commence approximately **12 months after the deadline**. Dates for a stay at ZiF will be finalized once a grant was made, depending on availability.

Group Requirements

- **Size:** The minimum number of participants required for a group is three.
- **Composition:** Different disciplines must be involved; international participation is strongly encouraged. Decisions to not include international fellows must be well justified.
- We expect convenors and the majority of a group to be present at ZiF for their collaboration phase. Additional remote participants may be involved.
- The necessity for interdisciplinary collaboration must originate from the research at hand and must be explained in the proposal. The mere involvement of different disciplines does not suffice to meet this criterion.
- The stage of preparation of the proposed project should clearly show its feasibility within the timeframe suggested.
- A gender balance appropriate to the disciplines involved is expected.
- Participation by researchers from Bielefeld University is welcome; however, it is not a mandatory requirement for application.

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Important Selection Criteria

- Interdisciplinarity
- Academic quality
- Originality on an international level

Selection Process and Timing

Proposals will be selected competitively. Complete submissions will be reviewed externally.
Decisions will be made approximately 6 months after the deadline.

CHECKLIST FOR APPLICATIONS

Applications must be submitted by a team of **two to four** persons who also act as convenors of the group they propose. All convenors must have completed a doctorate and must be affiliated with a research institute/university. One of them acts as the main contact person. Moreover, applications must be submitted in English.

Complete submissions must take the following aspects and structure into account:

Cover Sheet

- Title of the project
- Name, affiliation, discipline and address of all applicants;
  clear indication of a main contact
- Intended timeframe (Reminder: 12 months past the deadline, at the earliest)

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1. **Summary of the project** (up to 1,500 char., incl. spaces, approx. 1/2 a page)

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2. **Project description** (max. 25,000 char., incl. spaces, approx. 10 pages, please insert page numbers)
   - 2.1 Research topic and questions
   - 2.2 Current state of research (including preliminary research)
   - 2.3 Methods
   - 2.4 Justification for the interdisciplinary collaboration
   - 2.5 Objectives and anticipated outcome
   - 2.6 Timing of the project and work plan (overview, e.g. as a table)
   - 2.7 If applicable: information on workshops and/or conferences to be held during the project

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3. **List of potential participants**
   - Name, title and affiliation
   - Discipline
   - Status of invitation/participation

4. **List of referenced literature**

5. **Short CVs of all applicants**
   - max. 3 pages per person incl. publications (indicate recent publications relevant to the project)
   - Please note: CVs of participants are not part of the application.

6. **Preliminary budget**
   - The calculation can be based on the following costs:
     - Accommodation costs (You can calculate an average of EUR 750 per month for renting an apartment at ZiF. If you plan to invite guests for shorter stays, please include EUR 100 per night for accommodation.)
     - Allowance of EUR 50 per day for fellows staying for the duration of the visiting group (and not merely a workshop that is fully catered)
     - Travel costs (Economy flights, 2nd class train)
     - Costs for academic events (travel and accommodation costs for additional participants, catering costs (EUR 40 per day/person))
   - Please note: ZiF cannot reimburse accommodation and travel costs for anyone employed at Bielefeld University.
   - In case a grant is made, the budget will be checked and amended by ZiF.
   - In the case of support from third parties, information on this must also be provided.

ANSWERS TO BUDGET-SPECIFIC AND GENERAL QUESTIONS CAN ALSO BE FOUND IN OUR **FAQ**.

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

Dr. Daniela Noll-Opitz
Dr. Nadine Sutmöller

Email: zif-proposalsupport@uni-bielefeld.de

Please address your application to:

Executive Director
Prof. Dr. Eleonora Rohland

Upload your application IN ONE PDF FILE (including CVs) here.