

How to finance your PhD

Pia Ortwein
Graduate Centre - Bielefeld University

Doctorate studies and career advice

- Information
- Support for Decision making
- Identification of competences and career steps

Doctoral.advice@uni-bielefeld.de

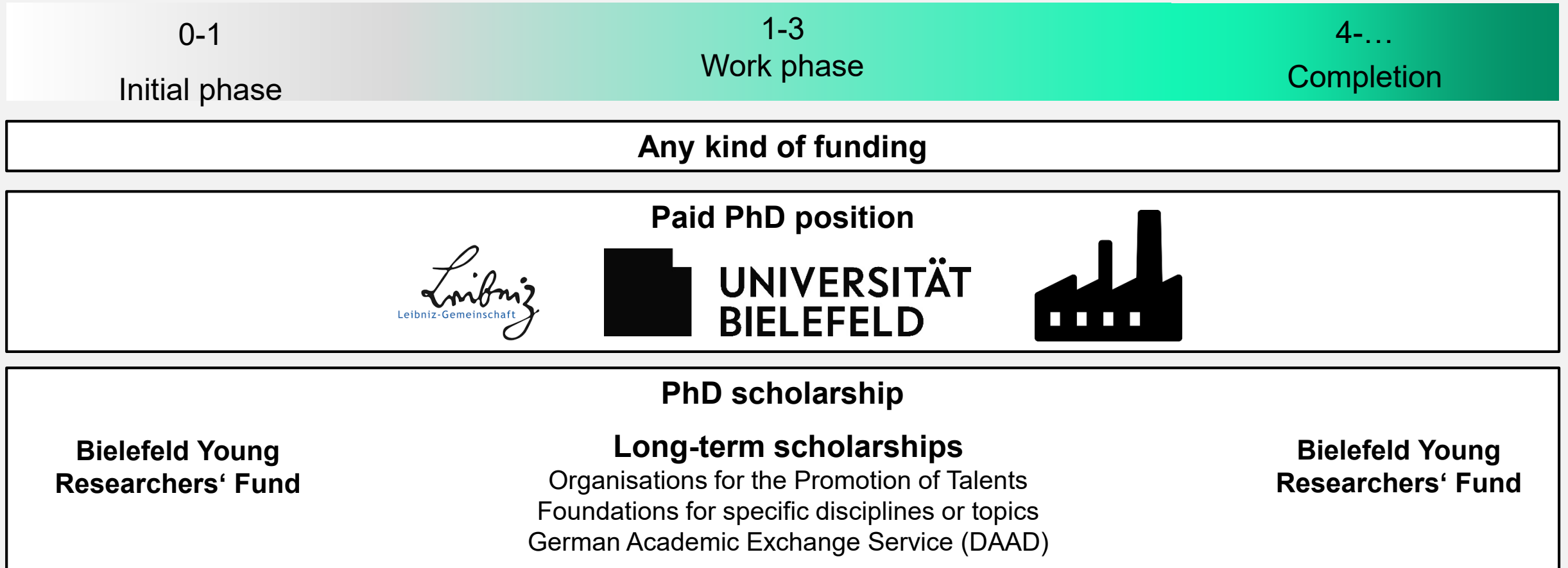
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Overview: How to finance your PhD in Germany



Paid PhD position

General conditions

- usually fixed-term contract
- usually part-time (50-75%)
- salary according to collective wage agreement, pay scale level TVL-13
- Social insurances are covered (health care, unemployment benefits, pension)

Law on fixed-term contracts in research (WissZeitVG = Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz)

6 years before PhD + 6 years after PhD

Paid PhD position *at a university*

Research assistant (wissenschaftliche*r Mitarbeiter*in)

working on a project or at the faculty with a professor and his/her working group, often teaching duties. Employment in a research project or at a professor's chair. In addition to tasks related to your own doctorate: cooperation with the Working Group, teaching duties. It is important to distinguish between budget-financed and third-party financed positions. Conditions vary on the financial background (third Party funded or not)

- + good insights
- possibly time-consuming

Member of a research training group (Graduiertenkolleg)

qualification and exchange programme (workshops, colloquia, retreats), regular reports on progress

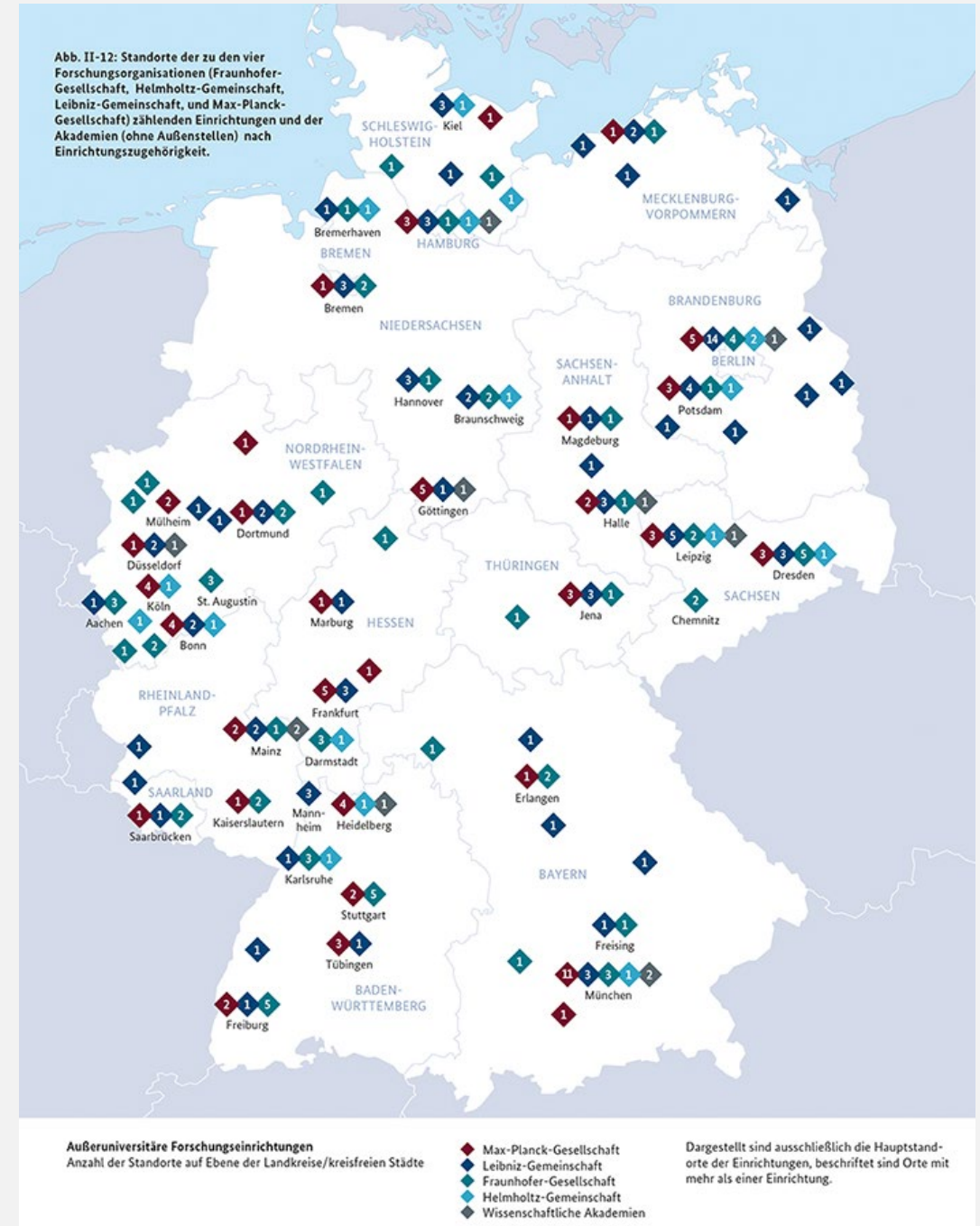
- + network, career development
- time-pressure

Paid PhD position *at a non-university institute*

Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft
 Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft
 Leibniz-Gemeinschaft
 Max-Planck-Gesellschaft

cooperative PhD = collaboration with university

- + high reputation, integration into networks
- very competitive, little knowledge of university structures



Paid PhD position *in the industry*

Industry-related and application-oriented research with prospect of further employment, research as part of job description, topic is pre-defined by company

cooperative PhD = collaboration with university

- + Job experiences, entry into research and development departments of companies
- little knowledge of university, little integration into scientific networks

PhD Scholarship

General conditions



Social insurances are not covered!

PhD scholarship providers

Organisations for the Promotion of Talents (Begabtenförderungswerke)

Outstanding academic achievements + longlasting social commitment



Foundations for specific disciplines or topics

Outstanding academic achievements + matching discipline or topic



German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)

Germans who want to study or do research abroad and international students or researchers who want to come to Germany



Organisations for the Promotion of Talents

I am interested in joining a network that is...

policy-oriented

**FRIEDRICH
EBERT
STIFTUNG**

**HEINRICH
BÖLL
STIFTUNG**

**Hanns
Seidel
Stiftung**

**Konrad
Adenauer
Stiftung**

**ROSA
LUXEMBURG
STIFTUNG**

Friedrich Naumann
STIFTUNG **FÜR DIE FREIHEIT**

union-oriented

**Hans Böckler
Stiftung**
Wissenschaft Forschung Stipendien

ideologically neutral

Studienstiftung
des deutschen Volkes

trade-oriented

sdw
Stiftung der Deutschen Wirtschaft
des deutschen Volkes
Wir stiften Chancen!

religion-oriented

AVICENNA
STUDIENWERK

ELES Ernst Ludwig Ehrlich
Studienwerk

Cusanuswerk
Bischöfliche Studienförderung

**Evangelisches
Studienwerk Villigst**

**Bundesministerium
für Bildung
und Forschung**

Mehr als ein Stipendium
Die Angebote der Begabtenförderungswerke
für Studierende und Promovierende

**More information
available in the flyer and
the website of the Federal
Ministry for Education
and Research (BMBF)
→ www.bmbf.de**

Foundations for specific topics or disciplines

Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt (DBU)

- funds 60 scholarships/year, research from all disciplines that focuses on environment and nature conservation
- Requirements: above average degree, coherent and interesting CV
- Duration: 36 months, 1.500€ monthly payment, 210€ research lump sum
- Deadlines: 15.01. und 15.06.



GERDA HENKEL STIFTUNG

- funds research in the Historical Sciences
- Requirements: above average degree, applicant must not be older than 28 years at the time of their graduation
- Duration: 24 months, 1.600€ monthly payment, plus family allowance, material and travel costs if necessary
- Deadline: anytime

Application process für PhD scholarships



Deadline: anytime

Online form

- Personal information
- Professional and family background
- Doctoral project
- Extracurricular activities and social engagement
- Motivation

Detailed application

- Letter of motivation
- CV (tabular form & detailed)
- Exposé (10-15 pages)
- Expert report
- Statement about your current economic situation
- Certificates

Personal interviews

- Interview with a liaison professor of the foundation from your own discipline
- Interview with a member of the selection committee

Searching for open calls and opportunities

- Ask your colleagues and your supervisor!
- Find out more about the German research landscape here: www.gerit.org
- Search job and scholarship databases online
 - www.academics.de
 - www.euraxess.ec.europa.eu/
 - [DAAD scholarship database](#)
 - www.elfi.info

Bielefeld Young Researchers' Fund

Funding lines for doctoral students:

- Career Bridge Master-Doctorate: establish the idea for a doctorate, secure long-term funding, 1.000€/month for 6 months
- Doctorate Completion Scholarship: finish your PhD, 1.250 €/month for 6 months

Funding lines for postdocs:

- Research Subsidies/Promotion of Mobility: max. 5.000€
- Entry into third-party funded research: max. 15.000€
- Career Bridge Doctorate – Postdoc: apply for third-party funding, 2.000€/month for 12 months

www.uni-bielefeld.de/nachwuchsfonds

Support at Bielefeld University

- If you plan a research stay abroad: **International Office**
- If you need support for your writing process: **Schreiblabor** (Writing Centre)
- If you are a doctoral student with disabilities and need funding and/or advice: **Schwerbehindertenvertretung**

Evaluation:

