



Call for Proposals

Career Bridging Grants

You are a Ph.D. student or a postdoc planning your next career step? You would like to apply for external funding to finance your own position but need to financially bridge the time up to the potential funding start? The Career Bridging Grant closes financial gaps between two career steps for candidates currently working at or aiming to work at TU Darmstadt. It provides short-term financial support for highly qualified candidates, who apply for funding with good prospects of success. The Career Bridging Grant secures financial support during the application process and thus facilitates a smooth transition to the next career step.

Who can apply?

Postdocs as well as advanced doctoral candidates ...			
1.	...whose individual funding runs out before the start of the next funding period.		
2.	(A) ... at TU Darmstadt, who prepare a proposal for individual third-party funding for a postdoctoral position at TU Darmstadt (staying).	(B) ... from external institutions (national and international), who prepare a proposal for individual third-party funding for a postdoctoral position at TU Darmstadt (incoming).	(C) ... at TU Darmstadt , who prepare a proposal for individual third-party funding for a postdoctoral position at another (national or international) institution (outgoing).
Please note: In all three cases, it is assumed that the proposal will be written at a department of TU Darmstadt.			
	Application form A	Application form B	Application form C

We offer

- financial support for the duration of **max. 12 months** during transition phases (Ph.D. to postdoc, postdoc to postdoc and postdoc to junior research group leader). The level of

support granted depends on your research experience and the planned individual external funding:

- **advanced Ph.D student/postdoc to (next) postdoc:** expected grant of 1.800 €
- **postdoc to junior research group leader:** expected grant of 2.100 €
- for researchers coming to Darmstadt
 - a broad range of research and career opportunities at one of Germany's top universities of technology
 - an inspiring and professional environment for your research
 - access to research support programmes at TU Darmstadt (e.g. Ingenium transferable skills programme and career networking programme)

Please hand in

- application form A, B or C (online: www.tu-darmstadt.de/postdocs)
- information about the individual external funding you plan to apply for: funding programme, funding period, institution, where research project will be conducted (1 page)
- summary of planned research project, incl. structural involvement in institution, time schedule of proposal preparation (max. 5 pages)
- CV
- graduation certificates (copies)
- letter of acceptance from research group/professor you are going to stay with during the Career Bridging Grant
- statement about financial situation, incl. proof of non-existing funding options for the proposal period (e.g. expiring employment contract or stipend)
- Ph.D. certificate or proof of Ph.D. submission/ statement from your supervisor that the Ph.D. will be completed within the next 6 months (Please be aware that the Career Bridging Grant can start after the defense of your dissertation at the earliest)
- certificates/ proof of scientific excellence (publications, awards, scholarships)

How we select

The competitive selection process is organized by TU Darmstadt. Applications will be reviewed by an independent scientific committee. The committee meets twice a year.

The most important selection criteria are:

- scientific excellence (publications, awards, scholarships)
- scientific quality of planned research project
- determination of young researcher
- chances of success of external funding acquisition

Next steps

You can hand in your proposal any time. The proposals get evaluated twice a year (cut-off dates in spring and autumn). The next cut-off date will be on November 15th, 2020.

We are looking forward to receiving your proposal.

Please send your proposal **electronically** as **one PDF file** to: bettina.wagner@tu-darmstadt.de.

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