The German Research Landscape

Research in Germany

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AN INITIATIVE OF THE

Federal Ministry
of Education
and Research

DAAD

Research in
Germany
Land of Ideas

Facts and figures 2017

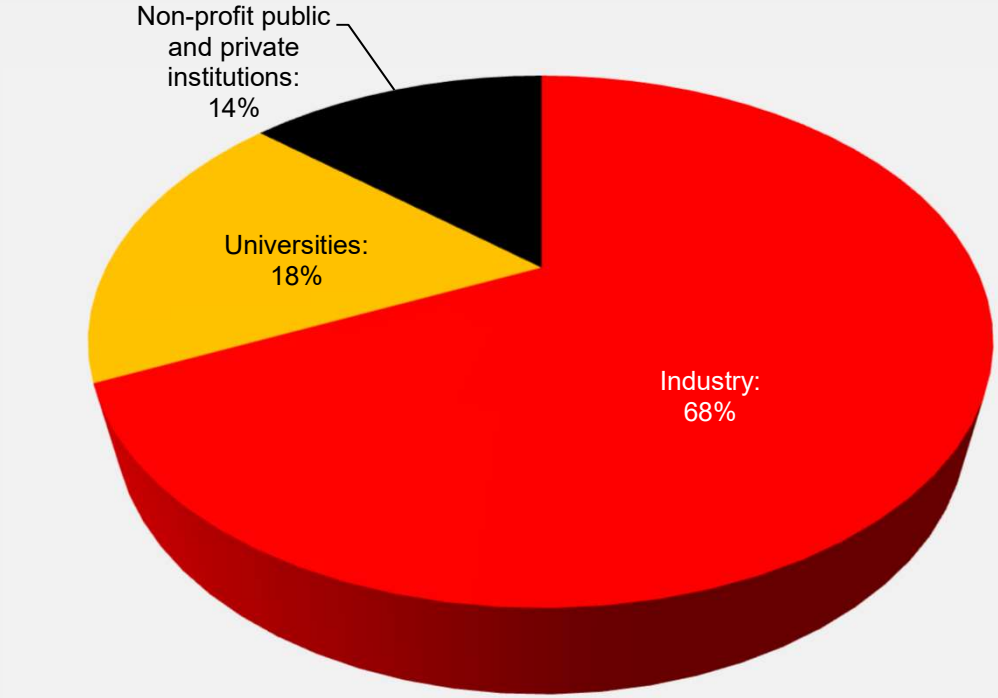
More than 1,000 publicly funded research institutions

Research expenditures: 100 bn euros = 3.04% GDP

686,000 people in the R&D sector (2016: 658.000)

Bilateral, European and multilateral cooperation with more than 155 countries

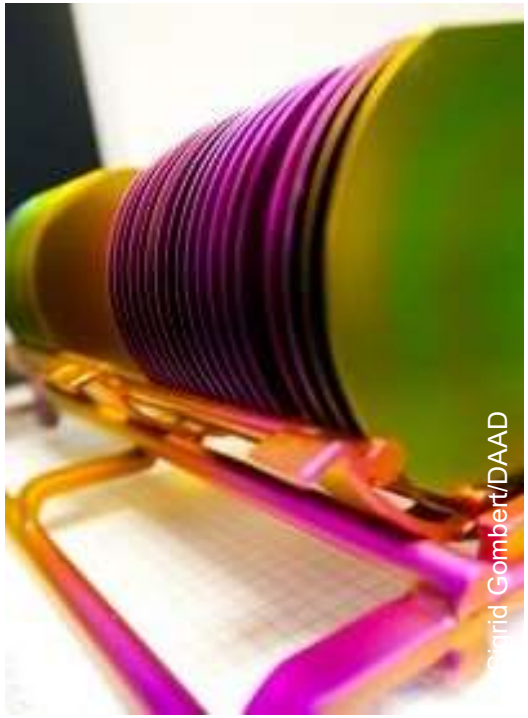
Research expenditures by sector



Research expenditures by sector in 2016 (%)
Source: Federal Statistical Office

Pillars of the German research sector

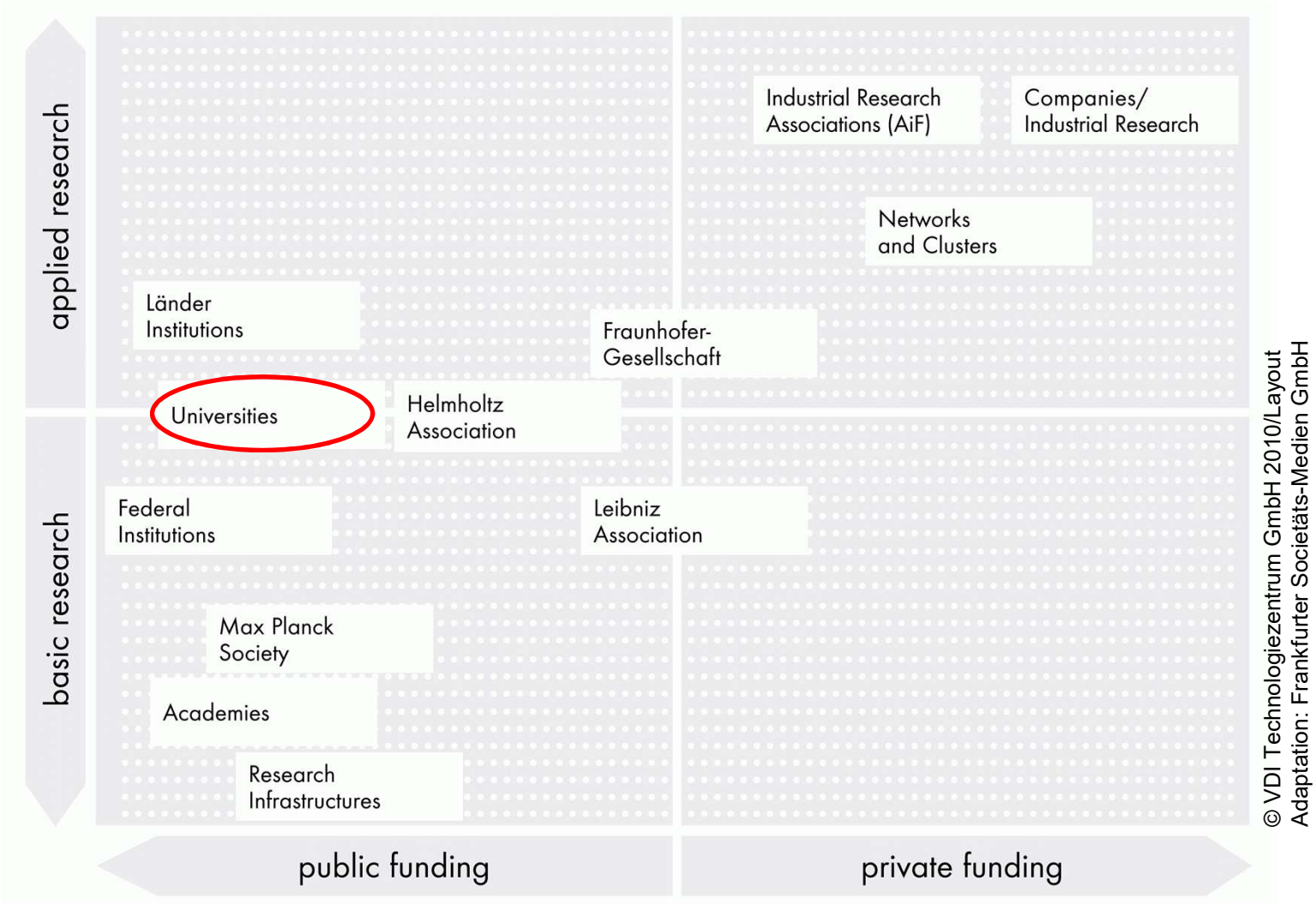
Universities (HEIs)



Non-university research institutes

Industrial research

Participants



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Adaptation: Frankfurter Societäts-Medien GmbH

The Big Four

Institution	Institutes	Budget	Researchers
Max Planck Society	84 institutes	2.3 bn euros	14,036
Helmholtz Association	18 research centres	4.5 bn euros	39,193 (staff in total)
Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft	72 institutes	2.3 bn euros	25,327 (staff in total)
Leibniz Association	91 institutes	1.93 bn euros	9,872

Non-university research (II)

- Federal research institutions / departmental research (46)
- “Länder” research institutions (49)
- Academies of Sciences and Humanities

BAM Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung

Bundesamt für Strahlenschutz

BZgA

ROBERT KOCH INSTITUT

ZSW

acatech GERMAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Leopoldina Nationale Akademie der Wissenschaften

UNION DER DEUTSCHEN AKADEMIEN DER WISSENSCHAFTEN

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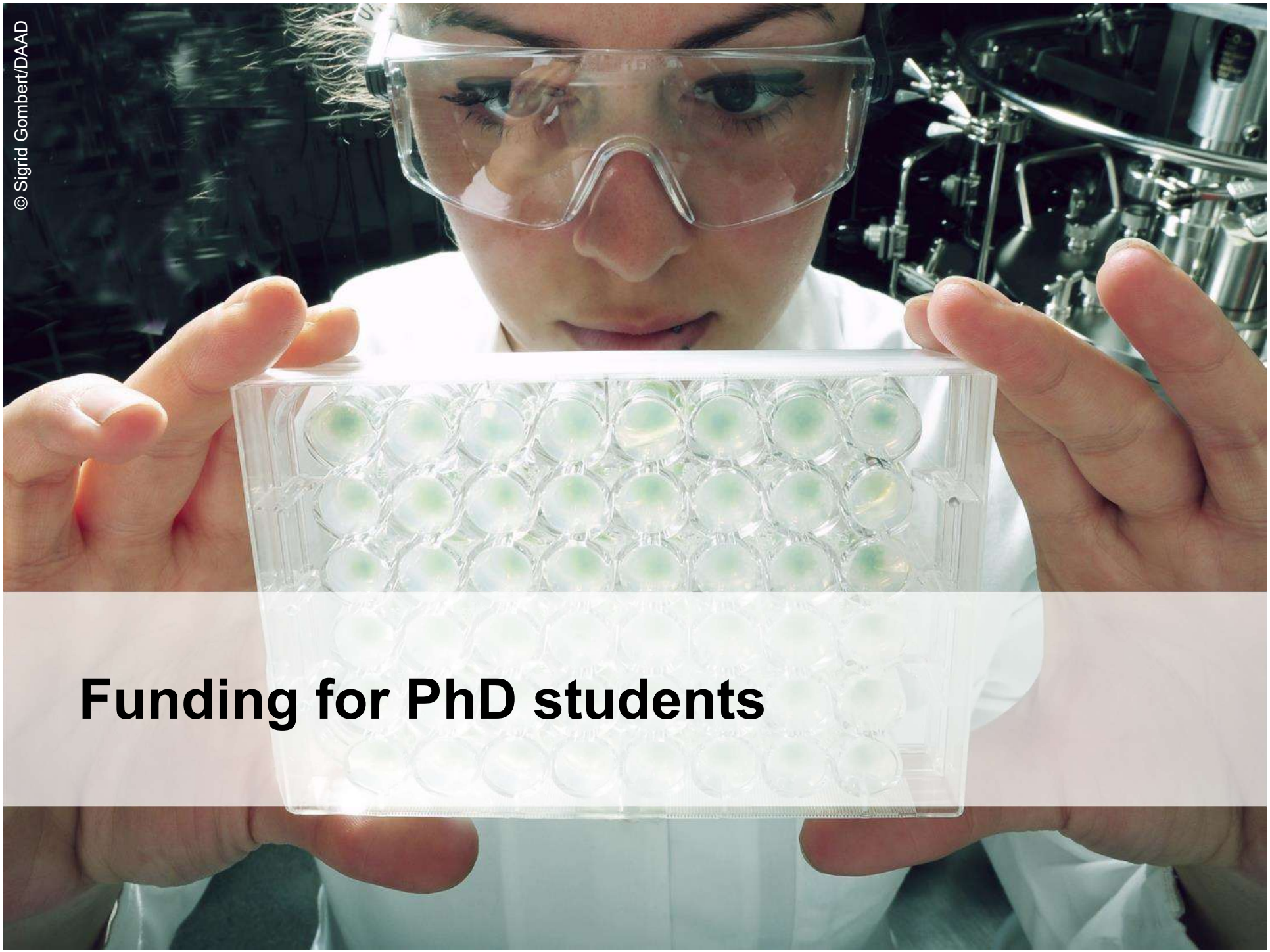

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Funding for PhD students

Paths to a PhD

Individual vs. structured PhD

Individual PhD

- Individual research under supervision of supervisor
- Optional courses or other forms of teaching / learning
- Mostly informal admission and marginal formalisation

Structured PhD

- Guidance by a team of supervisors / supervising committee
- Mandatory, fixed supporting curriculum (interdisciplinary)
- Defined application process
- Offered by research training groups / graduate schools

Individual vs. structured PhD model

	TRADITIONAL APPROACH	STRUCTURED PROGRAMME
Selecting a research project	I would like to choose my own doctoral subject. I would like to study for my doctorate with a specific researcher.	I prefer thematic integration in a doctoral or research programme.
Organisation	I enjoy working independently and taking responsibility for my work. I would like to plan how I use my time myself. I would like to primarily concentrate on my research topic. I will attend selected subject seminars, if necessary.	I would like to regularly exchange ideas with colleagues. I would prefer to be integrated in a specific project or have a fixed curriculum. I would like my doctoral study to have a definite timeframe. I would like to receive support with articles, lectures or participation in conferences. I would like to deepen my subject knowledge and key skills in seminars.
Supervision	I would prefer in-depth discussions with one supervisor. I want to find a supervisor according to my own criteria.	I would like to have several contact partners. I would like to receive support with official formalities such as registration and a work permit.

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Financing your PhD

- No tuition fees
- Living costs: approx. 800 € ($ 860) per month
- Can be self- or parent-financed (external funding)
- Financed by the German supervisor or host institution
- Individual funding: research associate contracts (part-time)
- Apply for a scholarship

Funding for PhD students

Different programmes for different purposes

Duration	Research stay (up to 2 years)	Complete doctorate
Type of funding	Grant / scholarship	Work contract
Type of doctorate	Individual doctoral project	Structured doctoral programme

Funding for PhD students

FUNDING PROGRAMME	DURATION		TYPE OF FUNDING		TYPE OF DOCTORATE	
	Research stay (up to 2 years)	Complete doctorate	Grant/ scholarship	Work contract*	Individual doctoral project	Structured doctoral programme
DLR-DAAD Research Fellowships		■	■		■	
Green Talents (BMBF)	■		■			
Helmholtz Res. Schools & Grad. Schools		■	■	■		■
Indiv. Doctoral Projects at Fraunhofer Institutes		■		■	■	
Indiv. Doctoral Projects at Leibniz Institutes		■		■	■	
Indiv. Doctoral Projects at Max Planck Institutes		■		■	■	
International Max Planck Research Schools		■		■		■
Internat. Visiting Researchers at Max Planck Inst.	■		■			
Leibniz Graduate Schools and ScienceCampi		■	■	■		■
Max Planck Schools		■	■			■
MSC Innovative Training Networks	■	■		■		■
PhD Fellowships (Boehringer)		■	■		■	
Re-invitation Programme (DAAD)	■		■			
Res. Grants – Bi-nationally Superv. Doct. Degrees (DAAD)	■		■		■	
Res. Grants – Doctoral Programmes (DAAD)		■	■		■	■
Res. Grants – One-Year and Short-Term (DAAD)	■		■		■	■
Research Training Groups (DFG)		■	■	■		■
Support Early Career Res. in Collab. Res. Centres (DFG)		■	■	■	■	■

*provided by a university / non-university research institute

Funding for postdocs

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Funding for postdocs

Different programmes for different purposes

Duration	Short-term (up to 1 year)	Long-term (more than 1 year)	
Type of funding	Fellowship / Grant	Work contract	Funding*
Position	Postdoctoral researcher	Junior research group leader	Junior professorship

*generally includes own salary and expenses for staff and consumables

Funding for postdocs

FUNDING PROGRAMME	DURATION		TYPE OF FUNDING			CAREER LEVEL		
	Short-term (up to 1 year)	Long-term (more than 1 year)	Fellowship/ grant	Work contract*	Funding**	Postdoctoral researcher	Junior research group leader	Junior professor
Bilateral Exchange of Academics (DAAD)	■		■			■		
DLR-DAAD Research Fellowships	■	■	■			■		
Emmy Noether Programme (DFG)		■		■	■		■	
ERC Consolidator Grants		■			■		■	
ERC Starting Grants		■		■	■		■	
ERC Synergy Grants		■			■	■		
Fraunhofer Attract		■		■	■		■	
Freigeist Fellowships (Volkswagen)		■		■	■		■	
Georg Forster Research Fellowship (Humboldt)	■	■	■			■		
Grants to Support the Initiation of Internat. Collab. (DFG)	■		■			■		
Green Talents (BMBF)	■		■					
Helmholtz Young Investigator Groups		■		■	■		■	
Humboldt Research Fellowship	■	■	■			■		
Internat. Visiting Researchers at Max Planck Inst.	■	■	■			■		
Leibniz Junior Research Groups		■			■		■	
Lise Meitner Excellence (Max Planck)		■		■	■		■	
Max Planck Grants for Advanced Postdoct. Training		■		■		■		
Max Planck Research Group Leader		■		■	■		■	
MSC European Fellowship		■	■			■		
PRIME (DAAD)		■		■		■		
Re-invitation Programme (DAAD)	■		■			■		
Research Grants (DFG)		■		■	■	■		
Research Grants – One-Year and Short-Term (DAAD)	■		■			■		
Research Stays for Univ. Academics & Scientists (DAAD)	■		■			■		
Research Training Groups (DFG)		■	■	■		■	■	
Sofja Kovalevskaja Award (Humboldt)		■			■		■	
Support Early Career Res. in Collab. Res. Centres (DFG)		■	■	■		■	■	■

* Provided by a university / non-university research institution
**generally includes the researcher's own salary and expenses for staff and consumables

Funding for postdocs

Working as a postdoctoral researcher

- DAAD & DFG research grants
- DLR-DAAD research fellowships
- Humboldt research fellowships
- Max Planck grants
- European programme: MSC European Fellowships
- …

Funding for postdocs

Heading a junior research group

- Emmy Noether Programme
- Fraunhofer Attract
- Head of a Max Planck Research Group
- Helmholtz Young Investigators Groups
- Sofja Kovalevskaja Award
- European programmes: ERC Starting Grants
- …

Funding for postdocs

Junior professorship

- Support for early career researchers within DFG-funded
  - Collaborative Research Centres
  - Clusters of Excellence

Websites and databases

- http://www.research-in-germany.org
- http://www.funding-guide.de
- http://www.euraxess.de
- http://www.gerit.org
- http://www.higher-education-compass.de

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Australia-Germany Research Network

AGRN

Australia-Germany
Research Network

Platform for bilateral cooperation in research, science and innovation

info.berlin@dfat.gov.au

https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13531832/

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Need more information?

Consultation

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Woollahra NSW 2025

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www.daad-australia.de

https://www.daad-australia.de/en/about-us/research-ambassadors/

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Thank you!

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