How to find initial financing for the PhD period

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Overview

► Karlsruhe House of Young Scientists (KHYS)
► Financing options
► Working contract vs. scholarship
► Scholarship programs
► Scholarship databases

For information on all of the programs go to:
www.khys.kit.edu
About KHYS

- Founded in 2007 in the context of the “Initiative for Excellence”
- Central service unit

**Main target groups**
- Doctoral researchers
- Junior postdocs (two years after finishing their PhD)
- Those interested in doing a PhD at KIT

**Objectives**
- Support and advice of young KIT scientists
- Internationalization and interdisciplinary networking
- Quality assurance of the PhD conditions at KIT
- Identifying future trends in support of young scientists
Financing options

► Working contract with KIT: research associate, PhD position, research assistant → KIT Job Portal (German)

► Scholarship → KHYS list of scholarship programs (German)

► Working contract with an external research institution or industrial company

Please note

► Often doctoral researchers receive funding from different sources during the PhD period

► They have to take care of transitional or continued financing well in advance

The KHYS Doctoral Researcher Survey 2013 showed the following KIT figures:

► Financing by means of at least a part-time job at KIT: 83%

► Scholarship: 8%
## Financing – Working contract vs. scholarship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Working contract</th>
<th>Scholarship</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>▶ Social security payments covered (health insurance, retirement pensions, unemployment insurance)</td>
<td>▶ Social security payments not covered (health insurance mandatory; at least €150/month)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▶ Unemployment benefits (ALG I) when working contract expires</td>
<td>▶ No unemployment benefits after scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▶ Lots of tasks = less time for dissertation; more involvement in university structures</td>
<td>▶ Often fewer tasks = more time for dissertation; less involvement in university structures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▶ Make sure that you have enough time for your dissertation</td>
<td>▶ Useful to enroll at KIT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Scholarship programs

Specific programs at KIT

► Landesgraduiertenförderung (Graduate Funding from the State of Baden-Württemberg)
  ► **Scope:** €1,100/month for a maximum of 2 years
  ► **Deadline:** October 2014; financing starts January 2015
  ► Application process handled by KHYS

► Scholarships by KIT PhD programs (e.g. GRACE, KSETA, MICMoR)
  ► **Scope:** €1,365/month for up to 2 years
  ► For the application process contact the respective program

Scholarship programs for doctoral researchers from abroad

► DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service)
► Scholarships from national foundations from the graduate’s country of origin (e.g. China Scholarship Council, CONICYT in Chile)
Example No. 1: Deutsche Telekom Stiftung

**Target group:** doctoral researchers from the fields of mathematics, physics, chemistry, informatics and engineering

**Scope:** €1,800/month for a maximum of 3 years; material costs allowance of €3,000/year

**Deadline:** presumably early July 2014 (annual call for applications)

**Conditions:**
- Career goal: management position in industry
- It’s not possible to apply directly to the foundation; applications have to be handed in at KHYS
Example No. 2: Carl Zeiss Stiftung

**Target group:** doctoral researchers from the fields of natural sciences and engineering

**Scope:** €1,500/month for a maximum of 3 years;

**Deadline:** presumably early December 2014 (annual call for applications)

**Conditions:**
- Thematic focus of call for applications varies each year
- It’s not possible to apply directly to the foundation; applications have to be handed in at KHYS
13 “Begabtenförderungswerke”

- Avicenna-Studienwerk
- Cusanuswerk
- Ernst-Ludwig-Ehrlich-Studienwerk
- Evangelisches Studienwerk
- Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
- Friedrich Naumann Stiftung für die Freiheit
- Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung
- Hans-Böckler-Stiftung
- Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung
- Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
- Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung
- Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes
- Stiftung der Deutschen Wirtschaft

For an overview go to:  [www.stipendiumplus.de](http://www.stipendiumplus.de)

- **Preconditions:** above-average achievements, social commitment, personality
- **Scope:** €1,050/month for 2 years (extension possible); comprehensive supporting program
Other scholarship programs

- Evonik Foundation
- Dr. Jost Henkel Stiftung
- German-American Fulbright Commission
- Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt
- Fonds der Chemischen Industrie
- Reiner Lemoine Stiftung
- Etc.
Scholarship databases

- DAAD scholarship database
- Stipendienlotse (Federal Ministry of Education and Research; German)
- EURAXESS Germany
- Scholarship portal of the EU
- Scholarship database of e.fellows.net (German)
- mystipendium.de (German, free of charge registration necessary)
- Scholarship database for programs for women of the KarriereWegeMentoring project (German)
KHYS – We’re happy to help!

Karlsruhe House of Young Scientists (KHYS)

www.khys.kit.edu

Please get in touch with us.