

Support of Equal Opportunity

of Early Career Researchers at the Faculty of Science



The Faculty of Science at the University of Potsdam provides funding to support equal opportunity among early career researchers. Doctoral candidates (as well as postdocs with qualification goal habilitation) can submit applications for **graduation funding for a funding period of three to six months**, when their contract or scholarship has been interrupted or expired prematurely due to the birth of a child, child care responsibilities or exceptional physical/mental load, and cannot be extended by other means.

Funding is provided through a **scholarship agreement** with a monthly amount of 1,500 Euro. There is no entitlement to further benefits. University of Potsdam **does not cover social security contributions**.

A short application containing the following points is expected from persons interested in the graduation funding:

1. **Name and address** of applicant
2. **Period of support** (from dd.mm.yyyy until dd.mm.yyyy) applied for (start of funding is flexible, with **earliest** starting date March 2026)
3. **CV** covering the following points:
 - a) Copy certificate of **Master's degree** with final mark
 - b) **Awards** (fellowships, prizes, etc.)
 - c) **Topic of PhD thesis** or habilitation thesis, starting date and provisional end date
 - d) Name and address of **PhD supervisor** or group leader
4. **Publications** by applicant
5. **Background** to the project and previous work (max. one page)
6. **Justification for the need of support** from the commission (max. one page)
7. Main objectives for support, work program, **short time plan** for the proposed work (max. one page)
8. Additional information to **accompanying circumstances**
9. Proof that the previous **work contract** or scholarship is expiring, and when
10. **Letter of reference** from the supervisor or group leader regarding the application and future potential, and explanation of why follow-up financing is difficult (in a **separate email**).

Please send the complete application documents by **February 1st, 2026** to Stefanie Mikulla (stefanie.mikulla@uni-potsdam.de), Dean's Office of the Faculty of Science. All documents can be submitted in German or English.

The head of the working group must provide explicit written support for the project. Letters of reference should be send to the email address above. Please understand that only persons primarily employed by the University of Potsdam are eligible as supervisors.

Please note:

The call for applications for support of equal opportunity is subject to **budgetary restrictions**.

The Commission of Equal Opportunity can only consider **convincing, complete and punctually submitted documents** (a PDF file with the application documents and a file with the supervisor's confirmation).