

Promoting young researchers in the field of digitalisation: Request for applications by the Bavarian State Ministry of Science and the Arts and bidt – FAQs and additional details

General

- Q: „Are (employees at) non-public universities eligible for funding?
A: All employees at a university sponsored by the Free State of Bavaria or at a higher education institution mainly refinanced and approved by the Free State of Bavaria, and the institutions themselves, can apply for funding. In principle, the following non-public universities are eligible for funding: Hochschule für katholische Kirchenmusik und Musikpädagogik Regensburg, Hochschule für evangelische Kirchenmusik Bayreuth, Katholische Universität Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, Katholische Stiftungshochschule für angewandte Wissenschaften München, Evangelische Hochschule für angewandte Wissenschaften and Hochschule für Philosophie München.

1. Graduate Center for Doctoral Researchers

- Q: “What is included in the course program?”
A. The range of courses encompasses various topics and methods in digitalisation research, with a focus on interdisciplinary work, methods, and networking. The different formats range from talks and workshops to a summer school.
- Q: “What is meant by “active participation in the course program”?”
A: Doctoral researchers in the Graduate Center are expected to attend the kick-off event and at least one additional event each year. Furthermore, members are expected to become involved in one of the working groups at the Graduate Center. Working groups are set up jointly by doctoral and postdoctoral researchers at the Graduate Center, with a topic (on the digital transformation) of their choice. Goals and methods as well as scope of commitment therefore largely depend on the participants.
- Q: “What does it mean that doctoral students who are funded or paid by the bidt cannot apply for the scholarship? “
A.: Doctoral students, who are employed by the bidt, or employed by a project funded by the bidt, or who receive a fellowship by the bidt are not eligible for the scholarship. Nevertheless, they are encouraged to apply for membership at the Graduate Center. If successful, they can participate in all of the offered activities and events.
- Q: “Is it possible to submit the degree certificates after the application deadline?”
A: No, the application documents must be complete by the deadline.
- Q: “Do I have to submit a formal supervision agreement?”
A: No. An informal statement by your supervisor is sufficient. Ideally, your supervisor is aware of and endorses your application.
- Q: “What is a Declaration of Support?”
A: The declaration of support can be an informal statement by your supervisor simply documenting that you are actually working on your dissertation with him/her at the specified higher education institution. Ideally, your supervisor is aware of and endorses your application.
- Q: “Is it possible to submit my application in English or German?”

A: Yes. Both languages are accepted.

- Q: “My dissertation is a cooperative dissertation at a Bavarian HAW and a university outside of Bavaria. Am I allowed to apply?”

A: Yes, dissertation projects at Bavarian HAWs are supported even if the partner university is not in Bavaria.

- Q: “Is it possible to apply, if I have already started with my dissertation? Or do I have to be at the very beginning?”

A: You can also apply, if your dissertation project is at an advanced stage.

- Q: “Do I have to reside in Bavaria? Or is supervision of my doctoral studies at a Bavarian university sufficient?”

A: The dissertation has to be hosted by a university sponsored by the Free State of Bavaria or at a higher education institution mainly refinanced and approved by the Free State of Bavaria (see above for cooperative dissertation projects at HAWs and universities). Residence and funding is not relevant.

- Q: “Am I allowed to receive other funding or scholarships?”

A: In principle this is possible, though double funding must be avoided, i.e. it is not allowed to receive the scholarship while receiving other funding from the bid. If other funding/scholarships are received, please provide precise information about the funding institution upon application. Changes regarding funding and scholarships during Graduate Center membership must be reported to bid coordination. While this may affect eligibility for the stipend, membership in general (e.g. access to courses and events) remains unaffected.