

# Programme Information

## **EINSTEIN JUNIOR SCHOLARS AND EINSTEIN GUEST RESEARCHERS TO FOSTER ACADEMIC FREEDOM**



### **I. OBJECTIVE**

The Einstein Foundation is committed to fostering academic freedom and international collaboration. Two special programmes (EINSTEIN JUNIOR SCHOLARS and EINSTEIN GUEST RESEARCHERS) are offered on a temporary basis in order to reach this objective and to enable international researchers and scientists who are experiencing constraints in their work to come to Berlin for two years to pursue their research without undue restrictions or threats. First and foremost the programmes are intended to support scientists and researchers from regions of conflict. Furthermore, they are directed at researchers and scientists from regions that experience subtle or direct restrictions of research, and who look for opportunities to return, migrate or cooperate with countries offering a work environment free of constraints. At the same time these programmes strengthen Berlin's image as a tolerant and open city that offers researchers the environment to work on their research questions unhampered. The programmes are future-oriented; the Foundation expects the candidates to be integrated into a productive environment in Berlin and to be given the chance to develop their potential and to advance their scientific qualification. Given good reasons and in exceptional cases "Einstein Guest Researchers" can also be supported as "Einstein Guest Professors".

### **II. ELIGIBILITY**

The following institutions are eligible to apply: Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt- Universität zu Berlin, Technische Universität Berlin, Universität der Künste Berlin and Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin.

### **III. FUNDING**

The Einstein Foundation seeks to foster academic freedom and international collaboration through two new and temporary funding schemes as mentioned above: EINSTEIN JUNIOR SCHOLARS and EINSTEIN GUEST RESEARCHERS. Both programmes combine and are based upon existing and well-proven funding schemes of the Einstein Foundation, with the exception that the funding period is limited to maximally two years and the eligible institutions can hand in applications independently of any deadlines.

International scientists or researchers who are at an earlier stage of their careers (doctorate gained no longer than four to five years ago at the time of application) and whose productive stay in a safe third country does not exceed four years (times of fleeing not included) can be funded as EINSTEIN JUNIOR SCHOLARS.

Scientists or researchers further advanced in their career path (doctorate gained at least more than four to five years ago at the time of application) whose academic freedom is impaired and whose productive stay in a safe third country does not exceed four years (times of fleeing not included) can apply for EINSTEIN GUEST RESEARCHERS.

Both programmes also allow to seek subsequent funding in cases where the candidate already receives support through the Philipp-Schwartz-Initiative of the Alexander von Humboldt-Foundation as long as the grantees do not exceed the four-year limit.

Funding for the scientist/researcher can be requested in the form of a scholarship – depending on the academic career level and regulation of the university, however, maximally to the amount of 2,100 € per month without financing of additional costs – or in the form of a position paid, in general, according to TV-L E 13. In addition, other project-related funds can be applied for (up to 30,000 € for the entire funding period). In the case of five or more individual grantees who form or work in a thematically homogenous research group the additional 30,000 € per grantee can be pooled to fund a coordinating position to facilitate the integration of and network among the grant holders.

#### **IV. FUNDING PERIOD**

The maximum funding period is 24 months. Renewal proposals are not possible.

#### **V. APPLICATION PROCESS**

The eligible institutions can apply for Einstein Guest Researchers and Einstein Junior Scholars with the publication of this programme information. Aside from justifying the choice for the proposed candidate the applications should illustrate the potential candidate's contribution to the strategic development of Berlin as a research location. As a core element each application must further include a realistic assessment of the candidate's scientific achievements (e.g. a list of internationally visible publications based on own research in English language, experience in international collaboration), of his chance of integration (e.g. based on the fit of his/her expertise, his/her command of the English or other relevant language) and his/her career outlook.

Please note that you will need a commitment of support (academic supervision, resources such as office and/or lab space, IT, administrative support etc.) from a mentor at one of the eligible host institutions. After securing support from a host / mentor, you may contact the university's respective research funding support teams (see contact details on the right-handed side of this page).

Please note that applications must be submitted in **English**.

#### **VI. USE OF FUNDS**

The approved funds may only be drawn through the university or Charité in accordance with the regulations on third-party funding.

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