

Terms and Conditions

Every successful applicant in the Ph.D. scholarship program “Uncertainty” must accept the terms and conditions set out in the application guidelines as binding.

Prerequisites

In order to be eligible for a Ph.D. scholarship, the applicant must have obtained a university degree that qualifies them for Ph.D. studies. Proof of this qualification must be submitted together with the application. Students applying for the *Start Up Scholarships* should expect to complete their degree in the same year. The program is aimed exclusively at graduates who, in the course of their studies, have shown above-average academic aptitude and whose research project promises to yield independent and new findings. The ZEIT-Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius reserves the right to admit qualified applicants who have other sources of income to the program without granting them a full scholarship to cover their living costs.

Application

The application can be submitted in English or German using the online application form provided by the ZEIT-Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius before the deadline. It must contain:

- a research proposal outlining the dissertation project (for *Ph.D. Scholarships* applicants: max. 10 pages including references, for *Start Up* candidates: max. 7 pages including references – each 1.5 spacing, 12 point font)
- a research plan with the time schedule (max. 3 pages)
- a copy of the university degree and the curriculum vitae

Please refrain from a front page. Two letters of reference by a professor, lecturer, or research associate need to be submitted through the electronic system provided by the Foundation.

For further questions regarding your application, [please consider the FAQ](#) as well.

Selection Criteria

Scholarships are granted by the Board of Directors of the ZEIT-Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius on the basis of the application submitted by the candidate. The Foundation reserves the right to instate a selection committee or obtain an additional external expert’s opinion on the research project. No applicant may claim automatic entitlement to a scholarship.

Stipend and Methods of Payment

The stipend is € 1,600 per month for *Ph.D. Scholarships* as well as *Dissertation Completion Scholarships*, and € 1,400 for *Start Up Scholarships*. Supplementary payments for married scholarship holders will not be granted by the Foundation. A monthly child allowance can be paid for children up to 18 years of age. This allowance totals € 400/month for the first child and € 100/month for each additional child. The stipend is paid in three-monthly installments, payable in advance, into an account specified by the scholarship holder.

In their first year, the *Ph.D. Scholarship* holders are required to present their project at a doctoral conference held annually, having before submitted in writing a ten-page paper on a specific aspect of their dissertation. The continuation of the scholarship must be approved by the selection committee that is present at the conference.

The *Ph.D. Scholarships* end:

- at the end of the granted period,
- within the granted period at the end of the month in which the scholarship holder submits his or her dissertation at the degree-giving university, or on the day that the scholarship holder abandons his or her dissertation to enter a contract of employment that runs counter to the regulations listed below.

Should the holder of a *Ph.D. Scholarship* be unable to complete the dissertation within the granted period, a final report must be submitted to the Foundation. In any case, the scholarship holder is under obligation to submit a copy of the degree certificate to the Foundation.

Part-time work and other sources of income

A student who, apart from working on their dissertation, undertakes full-time or nearly full-time employment, is excluded from the scholarship program. The student is allowed to accept paid work at a university as a teaching assistant or in a comparable role, or outside the university for up to ten hours per week, subject to consultation with the Foundation. In any case, this income may not exceed € 600 per month. Any income over and above this sum can be deducted from the monthly stipend.

If the applicant is the recipient of another scholarship aside from the one provided by ZEIT-Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius, this information must be included in the application.

The scholarship is not a contract of employment. All forms of mandatory insurance must be paid for by the applicant.

Repayment of the stipend

The scholarship constitutes a stipend that does not have to be repaid. The recipient shall be obligated to repay the stipend in its entirety or in part only if the scholarship was obtained under false pretenses in the form of incomplete or wilfully misleading information.

Travel and expenses

All travel costs – except for travel to events organized by the Foundation for its current scholarship holders – and other expenses must be defrayed from the stipend. In individual cases the Foundation may agree to make available limited additional funds depending on a well-founded application.

Publications

The Foundation may agree to cover part of the printing costs for publications upon individual application. All publications based on the research projects sponsored by the ZEIT-Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius must clearly indicate the source of the funding. Three copies of every such publication should be sent to the Foundation.

The scholarship holder undertakes to inform the Foundation at any time should there be a change in the circumstances or conditions upon which the scholarship and the amount of the stipend were granted.