

Doing a PhD in Germany: Programs, grants, perspectives

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Graduate schools

- ▶ German universities do not organize PhD programs, like, e.g. the US universities.
- ▶ A university can apply for a PhD program ("Graduiertenkolleg") at the German Research Foundation (<https://www.dfg.de/>).
- ▶ Such programs
 - ▶ last for 9 years
 - ▶ are organized in 3 cohorts of students, each cohort for 3 years
 - ▶ have a general topic
 - ▶ all dissertations relate to this topic

Graduate schools

Recently established linguistic graduate schools:

- ▶ **"Form-meaning mismatches"**
 - ▶ where: University of Göttingen
 - ▶ start: 2021
 - ▶ website: `https://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/635554.html`
 - ▶ new positions available: 2024 (but check the website regularly!)
- ▶ **"Dynamics and stability of linguistic representations"**
 - ▶ where: University of Marburg
 - ▶ start: 2022
 - ▶ website: `https://www.uni-marburg.de/de/fb09/grk-2700`
 - ▶ new positions available: check `https://www.uni-marburg.de/de/fb09/grk-2700/bewerben/bewerben`

Graduate schools

- ▶ "Dimensions of constructional space"
 - ▶ where: University of Erlangen
 - ▶ start: 2022
 - ▶ website: `https://www.linguistics.phil.fau.eu/fau-linguistics/research-training-group-dimensions-of-constructional-space`
 - ▶ new positions available: check the website

Research assistant at a chair

- ▶ You may also apply for a specific position as a research assistant at a professor's chair.
- ▶ Such positions are either for doctoral students or for postdocs.
- ▶ They are for 3 years and can be extended for another 2 years.
- ▶ The position involves teaching (usually in German) and a little administrative work.
- ▶ The positions are usually advertised on Linguist List:
<https://linguistlist.org/>
- ▶ Check this page regularly (best daily!) since it contains valuable information, also beyond job offers!
- ▶ Do not hesitate to contact a professor if you have a deep interest to work with her or him.
- ▶ But: Do not write mass emails to every professor you find in the internet!

Research assistant in a research project

- ▶ Apart from becoming a research assistant at a professor's chair, you can also become a research assistant in a research project.
- ▶ Again, Linguist List is the place where such positions are advertised.
- ▶ A position in a research project involves mostly research that is connected to the project.
- ▶ Positions in research projects are usually for 3 years and cannot be extended.

Grants

- ▶ If you want to come on your own, you need a lot of money because life in Germany is very expensive.
- ▶ The German embassy requires a block account with 10.000 Euros (about 95.000 GHC) when you apply for a visa, in addition to your flight ticket.
- ▶ You do not need to show this money if you have a grant.
- ▶ There are several possibilities for grants.

Grants

- ▶ DAAD (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst, German Academic Exchange Service)
 - ▶ <https://www.daad.de>
 - ▶ application always possible
 - ▶ duration: maximally 4 years
 - ▶ Check the website for other, more specific offers!
- ▶ KAAD (Katholischer Akademischer Austauschdienst, Catholic Academic Exchange Service)
 - ▶ <https://www.kaad.de>
 - ▶ specific program for "global south"
 - ▶ application via the catholic community of your university
 - ▶ duration: 3 years

Grants

- ▶ Friedrich Ebert Stiftung
 - ▶ foundation of the SPD (Social Democratic Party Germany, comparable to NDC)
 - ▶ <https://www.fes.de>
 - ▶ duration: 2 years, extendable to 3 years
 - ▶ German required
 - ▶ Ghana office: <https://ghana.fes.de>
- ▶ Konrad Adenauer Stiftung
 - ▶ foundation of the CDU (Christian Democratic Party Germany)
 - ▶ <https://www.kas.de/de/>
 - ▶ Ghana office: <https://www.kas.de/en/web/ghana>
 - ▶ duration: not indicated on the website

Thank you for your attention

Good luck!

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me:

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