RheinlandPfalz
MINISTERIUM FÜR WISSENSCHAFT UND GESUNDHEIT

UNIVERSITÄT TRIER

Short-term Funding for the Initial Stage of a Doctorate

Trier University offers funding for the initial phase of doctoral studies. The funding is financed through the **Rhineland-Palatinate Research Initiative**. The primary aim of this funding is to offer financial support to graduates with honours of Master's, Diplom, Magister, and Staatsexamen degree programmes in **preparing a doctoral project at Trier University** (preparation of a research proposal/an exposé for submission to research-funding institutions and/or foundations).

Application Deadlines:
15 March (funding starting between 1 May and 1 July)
15 September (funding starting between 1 November and 1 January)

Application Requirements:

- Successful completion of a Master's, Diplom, Magister or Staatsexamen degree programme
- Far above-average academic and examination achievements
- Carrying out the doctorate at Trier University
- No more than 12 months have passed since the completion of your degree at the time of application (exceptions to this rule are time off for family leave incl. caring for relatives, stays abroad, traineeships/internships, and employment activities).

Not Eligible for Funding:

- Individuals who already receive full-time or part-time funding from another German or international institution
- Individuals who are actively employed at Trier University
- Individuals who have not yet been accepted by their department as doctoral candidates
- Individuals who are pursuing studies or an internship abroad during the funding period

Funding Amount and Duration:

Subject to the financing, the funding is offered in form of an **employment contract** as a student assistant with a Master's degree for **15 working hours per week** for the duration of **six months**. Ten working hours per week will be financed for the entire duration of the contract through the Rhineland-Palatinate Research Initiative. The remaining five working hours per week will be financed from the university's budget (e.g. the supervisor's Chair).

In case funding is granted, it falls to the supervising Chair to conclude the employment contract for a research assistant with a master's degree. Further information will be provided in the grant confirmation notice.

Application Documents:

1. Fully completed and signed application form
2. Curriculum Vitae in table form
3. Short project proposal/exposé (max. 9000 characters incl. spaces, Segoe UI 11pt, single spacing)
   Please note: It must be written in German or English
4. Timetable of the work plan for the duration of the short-term funding period (in monthly steps)
5. Copy of university degree certificate
6. Certificate from the dean's office (Dekanat) as proof of acceptance as a doctoral candidate
7. Current certificate of matriculation/enrollment (if already available)

- Recommendation from your supervisor
  Please note: Your supervisor should use the form „Gutachten für eine Anschubförderung zum Einstieg in die Promotion" and submit it directly to the Research Support Office (Team Forschungsservice).

Please send the application (signed application form with the required documents in one PDF document) per e-mail to the Research Support Office (Team Forschungsservice), Marion Conter, conter@uni-trier.de

Selection Process:

Only complete applications received by the deadline will be considered for the funding.
The selection is based on the submitted documents. The selection is made by a committee consisting of representatives of the university administration, the Research Support Office (Team Forschungsservice) and the Graduate Centre (GUT). When necessary, the selection committee will seek additional subject-related advice from amongst the university's educators.

The selection criteria are the academic and examination achievements, the relevance of the research topic in the subject area, the quality of the proposed dissertation project, the preliminary work already carried out, and the feasibility of the work plan for the duration of the short-term funding period.

The result of the selection will be communicated in writing.

There is no legal entitlement to funding.

Contact Research Support Office (Team Forschungsservice):

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