Completion scholarships for international doctoral candidates

The Goethe Research Academy for Early Career Researchers (GRADE) awards two completion scholarships to international doctoral candidates of Goethe University Frankfurt. The scholarships are sponsored by the STIBET program of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).

The GRADE Completion Scholarships aim at supporting international doctoral candidates in the final stages of their doctoral thesis (completion should be in 2019 or early 2020). Successful applicants will receive 1000 Euro/month for the duration of 3 months.

The call for applications is open to all international doctoral candidates of Goethe University Frankfurt. The following application documents should be submitted by April 30, 2019:

- Cover letter, CV and a copy of the last academic degree (with grades)
- Faculty letter of admission as PhD candidate at Goethe University Frankfurt
- Completed application form (www.grade.uni-frankfurt.de)
- The dissertation project should be introduced in a short essay of two DIN A4 pages maximum, including a time schedule. Applicants should be able to demonstrate the feasibility of a completion of their thesis in 2019 or early 2020.
- A letter of recommendation by the main supervisor that comments on the progress of the dissertation project and confirms the suggested timeline ensuring the expected submission of the thesis by the end of 2019 or in early 2020.

Applications can be submitted by e-mail (one PDF file) to:

Goethe Research Academy for Early Career Researchers
Dr. Axel Kohler – Completion Scholarships
Goethe University
Campus Bockenheim | Juridicum
Senckenberganlage 31, 9th floor
D-60325 Frankfurt am Main
phone: +49 (0)69 798-49406
e-mail: kohler@grade.uni-frankfurt.de

Please note that the deadline for all applications is April 30, 2019!
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– Frequently Asked Questions –

Who will decide on my application?
The applications are screened and summarized by members of the central GRADE support unit. Formally, the GRADE Board of Directors makes the final decision based on the supplied summary material and the original applications. The Board of Directors includes faculty members from different fields and also PhD and postdoc representatives.

When will I get feedback about my application?
The deadline for submission is April 30, 2019 (Tuesday). We will try to process the applications as quickly as possible. The selection is made by the GRADE Board of Directors (see above). Therefore, it might take 4-5 weeks until a final decision is reached.

What are the exact criteria for the selection? What should I emphasize in my application?
The selection is primarily based on the scientific excellence of the candidates, in accordance with the DAAD regulations. If applications are comparable in terms of their academic track record, social aspects and the financial situation can be considered in addition. Therefore, it is important that you include references to all materials, certificates and activities (publications, conference contributions, other presentations, scholarships, honors and awards, grades) that distinguish you as an excellent young researcher with a very good academic performance.

Why do I have to specify my current contract situation and details about other scholarships?
To a certain extent, completion scholarships can co-exist with other types of funding. But depending on the amount of your current income, the completion scholarship or the other positions/scholarships have to be adjusted. We are required to check for and take into consideration any double financing.

What if my contract situation changes after the submission of my application?
The completion scholarships can be combined with other types of support. Since we need to find a specific solution for each single case, it is important that you inform us about any changes concerning your positions, scholarships, and contracts after your application has been submitted. Otherwise, we cannot ensure that the completion scholarship can be disbursed.