

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

### HUMBOLDT RESEARCH FELLOWS AT BIH

#### 1. Funding objective

The Humboldt Research Fellowships at BIH are aimed at recruiting scientists working abroad in the life sciences for guest stays at the Berlin Institute of Health (BIH), and its partners, the Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin and the Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine (MDC). The Humboldt Research Fellowships address either young (doctorate completed within the last four years)<sup>1</sup> or already established early career scientists (doctorate completed within the last four to twelve years)<sup>2</sup>. Funding is to enable the Humboldt Research Fellows to conduct a long-term research project of their own choice at BIH.

The overarching funding objective is to strengthen BIH and the area of research it shares with Charité and MDC in certain research areas by specially providing qualified early career scientists and to support the internationalization of the life sciences and medical research in Berlin.

Stiftung Charité supports the Humboldt Research Fellowships with funds from its [Private Excellence Initiative Johanna Quandt](#). The program is conducted in cooperation with the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

In addition, Stiftung Charité has the program line "[Einstein BIH Visiting Fellows](#)" to recruit top-level scientists for the BIH. Moreover, with the "[BIH Visiting Professors](#)" Stiftung Charité provides funding for temporary guest stays (3 to 9 months) of top-level scientists without subsidies for the working group itself. BIH Visiting Professors can come from abroad but in contrast to Einstein BIH Visiting Fellows and Humboldt Research Fellows from Germany as well.

#### 2. Funding volume

##### Humboldt Research Fellowships at BIH for Experienced Researchers

A Humboldt Research Fellowship at BIH for experienced researchers provides 3,150 euro per month for the duration of the guest stay. The Fellowship also includes additional services for the Fellows and their families. All in all, a guest stay lasting 6 to 18 months can be supported. The guest stay can be broken down into three stays lasting at least three months each within a total of three years.

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<sup>1</sup> oriented on "R2 – Recognised Researcher" career level in accordance with the European Commission's definition. Cf. European Commission: Towards a European Framework for Research Careers. Brussels 2011. [Hyperlink](#)

<sup>2</sup> oriented on "R3 – Established Researcher" career level in accordance with the European Commission's definition. Cf. European Commission: Towards a European Framework for Research Careers. Brussels 2011. [Hyperlink](#)

## Humboldt Research Fellowships at BIH for Postdoctoral Researchers

A Humboldt Research Fellowship at BIH for postdoctoral researchers provides 2,650 euro for the duration of the guest stay. The Fellowship also includes additional services for the Fellows and their families. All in all, a continuous stay totaling 6 to 24 months can be funded.

The scientists enjoying support are Fellows of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, and as such, they are members of the world-wide Humboldt Network.

### **3. Application of funds**

Funding consists of

- a grant totaling 3,150 euro per month for experienced researchers or totaling 2,650 per month for postdoctoral researchers and
- additional benefits (travel allowances, language studies, supplements for accompanying next of kin, a supplement for accompanying children for single parents, additional extension of the research grant if childcare is necessary, allowances for research costs, Europe supplement, extensive alumni support).

BIH or its host at Charité or MDC provides research workspace and agrees to supervise the Fellow.

### **4. Eligibility for application**

#### Humboldt Research Fellowships at BIH for Experienced Researchers

Humboldt Research Fellowships for experienced researchers can be applied for by exceptionally qualified individuals with a distinct academic profile who completed their doctorate not more than twelve years ago.<sup>3</sup>

#### Humboldt Research Fellowships at BIH for Postdoctoral Researchers

Humboldt Research Fellowships for postdoctoral researchers can be applied for by exceptionally qualified individuals who are at the beginning of their academic career and completed their doctorate not more than four years ago.<sup>4</sup>

Applications can generally be submitted by scientists working abroad or having been in Germany for less than six months at the time of submitting the application and having previously worked abroad. Scientists of German citizenship are eligible for application if they have predominantly lived and worked abroad for at least the last five years.

Eligible for hosting the applying scientist in Berlin are all BIH members which means that the host must be either a full-time professor at Charité or a leading scientist at MDC. A stay with a further host outside BIH is possible provided that the research stay as a whole focuses on BIH and its partner organizations.

BIH or the host at Charité or MDC assists the scientists in submitting their application.

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<sup>3</sup> oriented on "R3 – Established Researcher" career level in accordance with the European Commission's definition. Cf. European Commission: Towards a European Framework for Research Careers. Brussels 2011. [Hyperlink](#)

<sup>4</sup> oriented on "R2 – Recognised Researcher" career level in accordance with the European Commission's definition. Cf. European Commission: Towards a European Framework for Research Careers. Brussels 2011. [Hyperlink](#)

## 5. Application and assessment criteria

The application consists of

- (a) information about the Fellowship candidate (application form, CV, description of research project, key publications, complete list of publications, doctoral certificate, language proficiency certificate),
- (b) expert reviews and
- (c) a review by BIH and its host at Charité or MDC, including a binding confirmation of a research workplace and supervision.

Proposals are to be made using the application forms provided by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation for the running of the stay.

[To applying for a Humboldt Research Fellowship for Experienced Researchers](#)

[To applying for a Humboldt Research Fellowship for Postdoctoral Researchers](#)

**Please note:** In order to be able to benefit from Humboldt Research Fellowship sponsoring at BIH via Stiftung Charité, it is essential that you agree to the formulated declaration in the general application form of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (see Item 23 "Declaration of consent to funding through collaborative partnerships" in the application form).

## 6. Selection procedure

The application is **not** submitted to Stiftung Charité, but to the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. It is the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation that runs the selection procedure and takes the funding decision.

The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation always awards its Humboldt Research Fellowships independently of the subject and the institution the candidate represents. However, the promotion of Humboldt Research Fellowships at BIH by Stiftung Charité considerably improves the prospects for the funding of proposals from BIH, Charité and MDC, provided that they are in principle assessed as worthy of funding in the review. Stiftung Charité has no influence on the review or the funding decision.

## 7. Deadlines / dates

Applications can be submitted to the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation at any time. Usually, the review process may take four to seven months. You can find more information on the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation pages.

[To the Humboldt Research Fellowship for Experienced Researchers](#)

[To the Humboldt Research Fellowship for Postdoctoral Researchers](#)

## **8. Contact**

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