

PROGRAM INFORMATION

BIH VISITING PROFESSORS

1. Preamble

Attracting renowned scientists is of special importance to [Berlin Institute of Health \(BIH\)](#). With their respective background of experience and their new ideas, they can give important impulses to creating the shared research area of Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin (Charité) and Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine (MDC), and they make a considerable contribution to putting translational and systems medicine research, the guiding notion of BIH, into practice. Stiftung Charité is already offering a wide range of funding programs to attract scientists from abroad to BIH. BIH Visiting Professors are visiting scientists from abroad or from Germany recruited for activities at BIH.

2. Funding objectives

BIH Visiting Professors are leading scientists in their field of the life and medical sciences in the public or private sector¹ who come to Berlin for temporary activities at BIH and its partners, Charité and MDC. Their work stays are not designed to conduct a specific scientific project but to advance a recent or to develop a completely new research and development program through cooperation between the BIH host, the BIH Visiting Professor, and possibly further partners, or to help the BIH host by mentoring for a single junior scientist. BIH Visiting Professors stimulate longer-term collaborative projects between the home institution of the BIH Visiting Professors and BIH, and thus strategically extend the BIH collaborative network.

Stiftung Charité supports BIH Visiting Professors with funds from its [Private Excellence Initiative Johanna Quandt](#).

The opportunity to recruit [Einstein BIH Visiting Fellows](#) ought to be considered when seeking to gain leading scientists to work not only temporarily at BIH but to build up a new research group during several years. In contrast, Einstein BIH Visiting Fellows must come from abroad mandatorily.

3. Funding volume

With the BIH Visiting Professors, funding is provided for work stays of leading scientists at BIH with a total duration of three to nine months. The period can be split up in single work stays with great flexibility as long as it is appropriate for the project. It is possible to apply for one guest stay of nine months as well as for several stays that sum up to a total duration of at least three months. A single guest stay should usually not be shorter than one week and the period between the first and the last

¹ oriented on "R4" career level in accordance with the European Commission's definition. Cf. European Commission: Towards a European Framework for Research Careers. Brussels 2011. [Hyperlink](#)

guest stay should usually not exceed two years. Funding totals up to 15,000 Euro per month (or part thereof) of the total duration.

A renewal of the funding cannot be applied for.

The visiting scientists may hold the title "BIH Visiting Professor" for the duration of their work stay and beyond. In addition, if the respective conditions are met, the BIH Visiting Professors are to be integrated in Charité as *Gastprofessoren* in accordance with the state higher education regulations.

4. Application of funds

For a BIH Visiting Professor, her or his own remuneration of up to 10,000 Euro per month (or part thereof) during the period of the stay can be applied for. In addition, material and personnel resources up to a level of 5,000 Euro per month during the period of the stay can be applied for, especially to cover the travel costs of the BIH Visiting Professor (if necessary also for next of kin accompanying her or him). In justified cases, the funding for the remuneration of the BIH Visiting Professor can also be reallocated to fund material resources or personnel resources for scientific staff, provided that the work stays of the BIH Visiting Professor can be guaranteed in other ways.

The host at Charité or MDC guarantees the provision of a suitable workplace including the necessary infrastructure, material, and equipment from her or his own funds.

Stiftung Charité funding is provided as a lump sum totaling up to 15,000 Euro a month respectively to BIH. BIH or its host at Charité or MDC arrange the details of the remuneration procedure with the BIH Visiting Professor and her or his home institution. A further payment of existing remuneration to the BIH Visiting Professor by the home institution and payment of a compensation to the home institution by BIH or leave of absence of the BIH Visiting Professor at the home institution and payment of a remuneration to the BIH Visiting Professor by BIH (e.g. royalty or stipend) would be conceivable. Travel funds must be used in accordance with the rules and regulations of the host institutional. No contractual relations are entered by Stiftung Charité and the BIH Visiting Fellow. All necessary arrangements are to be made directly between BIH and its host at Charité or MDC on the one hand and the BIH Visiting Fellow on the other.

5. Eligibility requirements

Proposals are submitted by the BIH host. BIH hosts can be either scientists of the Charité heading a CharitéCenter, an institute or a clinic, or scientists of the MDC heading a research area or a research team. The proposals are submitted respectively for the nominated BIH Visiting Professor and are correspondingly drawn up with her or him. The nominated BIH Visiting Professor has to be a leading scientist² in the respective field of life and medical sciences. She or he has to be able to demonstrate relevant scientific experiences and achievements, whereby in addition to common achievements in research and teaching performances in knowledge and technology transfer as well as provision of scientific infrastructure are given equal consideration. The nominated BIH Visiting Professor can be employed in Germany or abroad in the public or private sector or as well as she or he can be retired.

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6. Proposal and assessment criteria

The proposal is to demonstrate that the nominated BIH Visiting Professor holds the qualifications required for a senior scientist. Achievements in research, teaching, knowledge and technology transfer, and infrastructure provision are taken into account equally.

Furthermore, the proposal is to explain what scientific project the host and the nominated BIH Visiting Professor seek to pursue during the work stays. Projects are eligible for funding that aim at one of the following aims:

- (a) Consultancy and support activities to advance a recent research and development program,
- (b) Concept and initiation of a new larger cooperative project designed for a period of several years, or
- (c) Mentoring and scientific supervision of a single junior scientist in the host institution with regard to specific projects which are promising for the supervised scientist.

Independently from the aim, it is expected that at the end of the funding of Stiftung Charité a proposal to acquire competitive third-party funding, e.g. from the German Research Foundation (DFG) or the European Research Council, is made and ready for submission. Determined by the aim, this proposal should be submitted by (a) the host institution only, (b) the host institution, the BIH Visiting Professor, and partners collaboratively, or (c) the supervised junior researcher in the host institution.

For this reason, the project description in the application should clarify what added value is generated for the respective host institution of Charité or MDC and the national and international cooperation network of BIH as a whole, and how cooperation between the BIH Visiting Professor, her/his home institution and BIH is to be continued throughout the length of the work stay and beyond it. The project can also explicitly be used to establish new collaborative relations for BIH.

The proposal is drawn up using the [proposal forms](#) provided by Stiftung Charité.

When applying, and in the case of funding being approved, the [Rules of Safeguarding Good Scientific Practice of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft](#) as well as the ethical principles of the European Union's Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (Horizon 2020), including the [European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity](#), are to be observed. In addition, the [Stiftung Charité approval principles](#) apply.

Applications have to be submitted to Stiftung Charité. Stiftung Charité asks BIH Board of Directors for a corresponding statement and, afterwards, organizes a selection procedure. The funding decision is taken by the Academic Advisory Council of the Private Excellence Initiative Johanna Quandt.

7. Deadlines / dates

March 31, 2018	Application deadline
May/June 2018	Announcement of funding decision / approval
July 1, 2018	Earliest possible start of funding

8. Contact

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