



Alexander von Humboldt
Stiftung/Foundation

Programme Information

German Chancellor Fellowships for prospective leaders

The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (AvH) awards up to ten German Chancellor Fellowships annually to young, prospective leaders from the USA, the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China with funds made available by the German Federal Foreign Office. The fellows must have shown outstanding potential for future leadership in their previous careers. The program is established under the patronage of the Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany and addresses applicants from all professions and fields of study giving preference to the humanities, law, social and economic sciences.

The aim of the programme is to give young leaders from the countries mentioned above the opportunity to spend an extended period of time in Germany at an early stage in their careers. After returning to their careers in their home countries, they have the potential to become – because of their intensive experiences in Germany – intermediaries between their home countries and Germany as they assume important positions in the fields of economy, science, politics and society.

Applicants design individual research-related projects tailored to their professional development and goals. Before submitting an application, they must establish contact with a prospective host (mentor), who agrees to supervise them during the stay in Germany.

Fellowship specifications:

The fellowship stipend ranges from EUR 2,150 to EUR 2,750 per month (in exceptional cases up to EUR 3,650 per month). This includes a mobility lump sum and a contribution towards health and liability insurance.

For fellows with little or no German language skills the stay in Germany begins with a mandatory four-month intensive language course from May through August. The fellowship is awarded for twelve months and commences in September with a four-week introductory seminar in Bonn and Berlin, followed by the individual project work starting in October.

During the spring, the fellows take part in a two-week study tour through Germany. Other events within the framework of the Fellowship include participation in the Humboldt Foundation's annual meeting, a reception by the Federal President, and the concluding seminar in Berlin with a reception at the Federal Chancellery.

Fellowship extensions of up to three months are possible.

Additional benefits:

- an **allowance for research costs** to the host institution amounting to 500 EUR per month;
- **language fellowship** for a one to four-months intensive language course in Germany before the fellowship commences (language skills can also be improved at the Humboldt Foundation's expense after the fellowship has been awarded in the fellow's home country).
- **lump sum** for the fellow's return **travel expenses** if the costs are not borne by a third party;
- **family allowances** for visits by family members lasting at least three months (up to 326 EUR per month for the marital partner and up to 214 EUR per month for each child);
- **extensive alumni sponsorship** once a successful research stay has come to an end, especially for maintaining contact with collaborative partners in Germany during the alumni's entire professional career.

Application requirements:

1. **Citizenship** of the USA, the Russian Federation or the People's Republic of China;
2. **Bachelor or comparable academic degree**, completed less than twelve years prior to the start date of the fellowship (September 1st of the year following the application);
3. **A statement and a confirmation of support by the host/mentor** in Germany, confirming that he or she is prepared to provide the fellow with support during his or her stay in Germany; details of the planned project must be discussed with the prospective host/mentor prior to application;
4. **Expert references** (no more than three) from individuals qualified to comment on the applicant's professional, personal, and academic eligibility.

Potential applicants who have spent more than six months outside their home country at the time of or shortly before application should check with the Humboldt Foundation (info@avh.de) whether formal requirements have been met before submitting an application.

Academics who have already been sponsored by the Humboldt Foundation are not eligible to apply for the German Chancellor Fellowship Programme but should turn to the Foundation's Alumni Programme for support for further research stays. Academics who have already received a German Chancellor Fellowship are not eligible to apply for other Research Fellowships from the Humboldt Foundation.

Application procedure:

Complete applications must reach the following address by the application deadline:

**Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung
Selection Department
Jean-Paul-Str. 12, 53713 Bonn, Germany.**

Applications must reach the Foundation by application deadline at the latest. This submission date is not an absolute deadline; however, in the event of a late or incomplete submission it may not be possible to process and assess the application in the time available.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that he or she has submitted all the necessary documents. The confidential letter of recommendation by the host/mentor may be sent directly to the Humboldt Foundation by the host/mentor. Upon receipt of your application documents, the Humboldt Foundation will forward a brief acknowledgement. Please note that **only complete and duly submitted applications can be processed in a timely way**. As a rule, we will not notify you of any missing documents. Late submissions or incomplete applications may be excluded from the selection procedure.

Please be sure to use only valid application documents, which can be downloaded at the programme's website or obtained from the Foundation directly. The guidelines for completing the application that are attached to the application form indicate which documents are required for an application.

Upon review of the applications, an independent Selection Committee will select candidates for an interview with the Selection Committee. These interviews will take place at a Selection Committee meeting in the applicant's home country. Candidates will be notified about the Selection Committee's decision within days after the meeting. Further information on the selection procedure can be found in the FAQ on the Humboldt Foundation's website.

Additional information, as well as the **application documents**, are available on the Humboldt Foundation's website (<http://www.humboldt-foundation.de/buka>).

Potential applicants for the German Chancellor Fellowship Programme for prospective leaders from the USA may also contact the office of the American Friends of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

American Friends of the
Alexander von Humboldt Foundation
1012 14th Street NW, Suite 1015
Washington, DC 20005

Tel: (202) 783-1907
Fax: (202) 783-1908
email: info@americanfriends-of-avh.org
URL: www.americanfriends-of-avh.org

Please do not send any applications or recommendation letters to the office of the American Friends of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.