

Post-doctoral program Just'us (Junior Science and Teaching Units)

As of: July 1st, 2013-07-05

I. Funding instrument

The post-doctoral program Just'us (Junior Science and Teaching Units) bestows scholarships on outstanding junior researchers at Justus Liebig University Giessen. It is supposed to support qualified junior researchers during the early development of their academic self-reliance as well as help them prepare their own research projects and possibly build up their own work groups. Tasks to raise third-party funding are an integral part of the Just'us program.

The funding in principle is available to internal and external post-docs who intend to develop a comprehensive research program while largely free from other duties during a grant period lasting a maximum of two years.

• Funding line 1 – target group “external applicants”

The goal of external applicants is to become eligible for a professorship through Just'us, especially with the help of further third-party grants; for example these applications through Just'us could be to start up a junior research group (e.g. Helmholtz junior research group leadership, Emmy Noether Program of the DFG, ERC Starting Grants, etc.) or for a DFG-funded project. It is to be expected that within 12 months after the start of funding, an application to start up a junior research group would be submitted, which would be presented to the Vice President for Research and Funding of Junior Researchers prior to submission. One must specify to which funding institution an application is planned to be submitted. When applying for a Just'us scholarship, the last oral examination conducted during doctoral studies should not have been more than two years prior (documented parental or caregiver leave will be appropriately considered). Applications will only be accepted along with a recommendation from a JLU professor, who along with the recommendation will submit a declaration of infrastructural safeguard for the applicant. An application will be expected that focuses on the profile and focal subjects of Justus Liebig University.

• Funding line 2 – target group “internal applicants”

One of the goals of internal JLU applicants is to become eligible for an *external* (junior) professorship. Directly hiring the funding recipient for a position at Justus Liebig University Giessen is not the goal when funding internal JLU applicants.

An application including a comprehensive research program is expected. When applying, the last oral examination conducted during doctoral studies should not have been more than six months prior (documented parental or caregiver leave will be appropriately considered). The doctorate must have been granted by Justus Liebig University Giessen.

The projects can be conducted by the post-doc at an institution of his or her choice at Justus Liebig University Giessen. The accepting institution must confirm its support of the project in writing and show how it will prepare a workplace for the applicant. As much self-sufficiency as possible should also be guaranteed them. The scholarship winners cannot be compelled to do work unrelated to the goals of their scholarship. Independent of this, the scholarship winners must teach two semester hours per week. Partial scholarships (at least 50%) can be granted in order to give the scholarship winners the possibility of taking care of their children or other family members for age or sickness-related reasons alongside of their academic activities. Even scholarships already granted can for these reasons be changed to a partial one. In both cases, the duration of the scholarship will be appropriately lengthened.

The basic payment of the scholarship is to cover the living expenses of the recipient and may not serve to augment scholarships from other funding organizations or income from another job.

II. Scope of the funding

Basic scholarship funding amount

The basic scholarship amount, designed to cover the living expenses of the recipient, is 1,900 EUR plus possible supplements for children. One can also be granted via application a health insurance supplement of up to 300 EUR.

Grant for material costs

In addition to the basic amount, funding for materials, travel, as well as interns will be made available; in justified cases, applications for scientific instruments can also be funded. Normally no job positions for co-workers can be funded.

III. Duration of funding

The scholarship will normally be granted for a period of up to two years.

IV. Requirements for the application

Scholarships are primarily granted for the outstanding academic performance of the applicant. The doctorate should have been graded at least '*magna cum laude*.'

V. Form and time of the application

Post-docs of Justus Liebig University Giessen can submit an application for a scholarship at any time. Written applications must be submitted in duplicate, and an electronic version of the paperwork in PDF format must be sent to forschung@uni-giessen.de via e-mail. The application should not be more than ten pages. A detailed description of the research plans does not have to be submitted, but rather a work plan that outlines the development and conduct of the planned projects' work phases. Additionally, information about the significance of the planned research for further academic development foreseen for the applicant is requested. The corresponding plans for this should also be explained (as much as possible at the time of application).

VI. Assessment and decision

The assessment of applications is conducted by external reviewers. In their submission, applicants suggest up to three people to be independent, external reviewers. The executive committee decides whether to grant the funding or not.

VII. Obligations

If applications are made for similar funding to one or more third-party funding programs, the applicant must mention this. When accepting the research scholarship, they confirm that they will focus their complete work efforts on the granted project.