UNICORE Scholarship of the DAAD-Stiftung

Special announcement for selected participants of the networking tours in
Artificial Intelligence within the program Postdoc-NeT-AI of the DAAD

The DAAD-Stiftung (www.daad-stiftung.de/en/) pursues similar goals to those of the DAAD e.V., with the difference that the scholarships awarded are funded by private individuals or institutions to support students and academics. The DAAD-Stiftung and its trustee, the DAAD e.V., work closely together in the implementation of these grants. The UNICORE Scholarship is funded by the UNICORE Forum e.V., an association founded in 1999 by developers, leading HPC Centers and supporting hardware manufacturers to support the dissemination of UNICORE as well as the further development of the software.

In 2020, the association considered its work completed and decided to dissolve. With the remaining assets, the association supports doctoral students from countries on the DAC list (OECD) with a focus on supercomputing, high-performance computing, artificial intelligence, machine learning, big data and data analytics with research stays in Germany. In addition to supporting the academic project, the main goal of the funding is the exchange of experience and networking with international colleagues in the field.

The initiative Postdoc-NeT-AI of the DAAD e.V. offers international PhD students and postdocs the opportunity to get to know German research institutions and scientists that are relevant to them and to establish initial contacts.

Experience to date shows, that this subject-specific matching is very well suited to raise interest in collaborations and longer research stays in Germany.

With the UNICORE scholarship, the DAAD-Stiftung offers a link by providing short-term bridging funding for follow-up research stays in Germany as a direct entry opportunity into long-term collaborations with an adequate salary from the host institution.

Application requirements

Doctoral and postdoctoral students from countries on the DAC list (OECD) are eligible to apply. Their research focus must be on the fields of supercomputing, high performance computing, artificial intelligence, machine learning, big data, and data analytics from any application area. At the time of application, you shall principally not be living away from your home country for more than four years.

Female researchers and researchers from disadvantaged backgrounds are explicitly encouraged to apply.

Application

Applicants must describe a concrete research project in which they demonstrate the potential added value for long-term cooperation with the host institution as well as the sustainability of the research project.

Within the description of the research project, concrete plans for the establishment of a subsequent longer-term cooperation with the host institution in relation to the topic and funding options for the future continuation of the cooperation must be presented at the time of application.

Furthermore, this letter of commitment confirms plans for the subsequent joint further development of the cooperation, as well as an explanation of the measures taken to secure funding.

For other documents to be submitted, please refer to the depictions in the application portal.

Applications to the DAAD-Stiftung are submitted via the DAAD e.V. portal:

https://portal.daad.de/sap/bc/bsp/sap/z_set_cookie/setcookie.htm?fund_ar=stv&id=57742999

Deadline

January 3, 2025

This date is binding and means it is possible to submit an application till January 3, 2025 at 24.00 hrs. (CET or CEST) If possible, please do not send your application on the final date in case technical problems occur.

Selection process

Up to four UNICORE scholarships will be awarded per year.

The selection is based on the previous evaluations of the DAAD Postdoc-NeT-AI program and the evaluation of an independent expert.

Funding

Short research fellowships are awarded. The duration of the stay should generally be *three months*. In exceptional cases, grants can also be applied for a duration of two or four months with a reliable justification.

- The stay must be confirmed by a letter of invitation from the host institution.
- 1,300 Euro monthly scholarship installment (following the parameters of the reference program of the DAAD).
- Health, accident, and personal liability insurance.
- Travel flat: 1,500 Euro for distances from home country to host country for flights of up to 10 hours; 1,750 Euro for distances of flights 10 hours +

Funding cannot begin before April 2025. In exceptional cases an earlier start might be possible but cannot be guaranteed due to processes at the DAAD-Stiftung/DAAD, the availability of suitable reviewers and visa matters.

A double-funding/-payment is not possible. If you will receive a salary from your host institution, intend to apply for additional funding from a third party or experience other financial support during the funding period of the UNICORE Scholarship, you must consider this before applying or later on obtaining prior approval from the DAAD-Stiftung. Any amount above 520 Euros per month *must* be declared and will be deducted from your scholarship.

The scholarship may be postponed if the applicant gives profound reasons. The postponement is possible once within a time frame of six months.

The scholarship cannot be extended.

Contact
Naomi Knüttgen
Strategy | Research and Studies
Postdoc-NeT-AI
DAAD – German Academic Exchange Service
ainet@daad.de

Contact DAAD-Stiftung
Stefanie Lohmann
lohmann@daad-stiftung.de