

Directorate 5 - Research / Unit 5.4 - Early Career Researchers/Graduate Academy



The GA funding program aims at supporting the exchange and lively collaboration of early career researchers based on the cooperation of international working groups.

The program Lab2Lab is supported by financial means within the Excellence Strategy from the Federal Government and the Federal State of Saxony.

# Eligibility

Eligible are:

Professors of the TU Dresden together with a professor from the working group abroad

**Note: The membership at the Graduate Academy is mandatory for all project participants** (involved early career researchers as well as the applying professor) from the TU Dresden. Should you not already be a member of the Graduate Academy, please hand in your complete membership application including all necessary documents two weeks prior to the respective deadline at the Graduate Academy.

Further information on GA membership is available at: www.tu-dresden.de/ga

#### In order to apply the following requirements must be met:

- The project application has to be a joint request.
- A cooperation between the working groups has to exists already
  (demonstrated by, e.g. first contact initiation, joint publications, cooperation agreements)
- At least one early career researcher from each working group must be involved in the project. Level and type of participation may vary depending on the individual needs.

# Type of Funding

The grant supports the cooperation between researchers (doctoral candidates and/or postdocs) of two (at least one TU Dresden and one international) or more working groups.

The project applications can be composed either of the mandatory module only or of the mandatory module combined with further flexible modules.

The mandatory module for all project applications is:

 a short-term research stay of a doctoral candidate or postdoc of the TU Dresden in the working group abroad (outgoing; minimum two weeks up to maximum three months)

Further **flexible modules** can be added to the project application:

- short-term research stays of further doctoral candidates and/or postdocs of the participating working groups (incoming and outgoing; minimum two weeks up to maximum three months)
- short-term research stays of professors and TUD Young Investigators of TU Dresden and Professor of the working group abroad (incoming and outgoing; up to maximum three months)
- joint meetings of the partner groups, organized by the involved early career researches, at TU Dresden or abroad (maximum five days)

Type of meetings: workshops of the working groups, strategy meetings for detailed planning, coordination meetings for planning joint publications and/or applications for third-party funding

### **Duration & Extent of funding**

Funding will be granted under the condition that TU Dresden will receive the required financial means from the Federal Government and the Federal State of Saxony.

In accordance with the current factual and legal basis according to §16 Abs.1 SächsRKG ("Sächsischem Reisekostengesetz" = Saxon regulations for travel and subsistence expenses) the travels within the funding are settled as a training trip ("Fortbildungsreise") in the official interests of TUD (third party). This means that, in principle, there is no entitlement to payment of lumpsum daily allowance. The reimbursement of catering costs (if still available in the funding amount) is made on the basis of receipts (e.g. from purchases in supermarkets, restaurant visits, etc.), up to a maximum of the flat-rate daily allowance. The receipts must be submitted with the travel expenses claim. In general, travel and accommodation expenses will be reimbursed on the basis of original receipts.

Extent of funding: maximum EUR 10,000.000 per project

Period of funding: until September 30th, 2026 at the latest

*Note:* The approved funds are to be spent within the respective calendar years for which they were applied. Upon completion of the funding, a final report must be submitted to the Graduate Academy.

# **Application & Deadline**

Complete applications can be submitted **at any time** electronically as **one PDF-file** via e-mail to **graduiertenakademie@tu-dresden.de** with the subject **"Lab2Lab"**.

*Note:* The funding decision will take place about **eight up to twelve weeks after the submission** of the application to the Graduate Academy.

# **Application documents**

### Checklist for a complete application:

- Application form\*
- if applicable **Annex\*** Additional working group abroad
- Per project member a CV (TUD & working group abroad) including
  - the scientific background/career
  - brief description of the research focus/main focus of the doctorate
  - selected publications
- **Description of the project** (max. 5 pages) including
  - Description of the participation of at least one early career researcher from each participating working group (the way of participation can vary from person to person)
  - Outline of the planned results and perspectives for future cooperation
  - Work plan and time schedules for the funding period applied for
- Detailed **overview of measures and costs\*** per calendar year for all applied modules (to be submitted as PDF document!)
- Written confirmation letter on the project cooperation submitted by the international partner(s)

\* Document as download available online on the GA Program website.

## **Selection Procedure**

The selection process takes place by the Executive Committee of the Graduate Academy of TU Dresden on the basis of the application handed in.

### The content-related selection criteria are:

— Quality of the previous cooperation(s) of the applicants.

Qualification of the early career researchers (academic performance, publications, prizes, awards, social criteria).

- Convincing concept of
  - how the early career researchers are involved and supervised in the project to benefit the best from the expertise of both sides,
  - the planned concrete results (e.g. joint applications/publications) and
  - perspectives (development of a long-lasting exchange, involvement of other groups)

A fundamental legal right to claim funding within this program does not exist.

### Contact

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#### Get your questions answered!

Arrange an individual consultation appointment regarding our GA funding programs at **graduiertenakademie@tu-dresden.de**.

We look forward to receiving your inquiry!