



## Postdoc Starter Kit

For postdocs, the decision to pursue a scientific career means taking an intensive look at their own goals and the competencies required to achieve them at an early stage, in order to be able to advance their own development as well as possible. During the postdoc phase, it is important to gain visibility in the scientific community with an independent scientific profile, to establish contacts wisely and, in addition to specialist expertise, to acquire important competencies, for example in teaching, in the acquisition of third-party funding, in project management and in the leadership of employees.

The aim of the Postdoc Starter Kit program is to support outstanding early career researchers (postdocs) at an early stage in their research career in developing and sharpening their scientific profile and to qualify them for further scientific career paths.

### Type of Funding

In order to develop an independent scientific profile, postdocs are supported with a variety of measures. Eligible measures and activities are, for example:

- Developing collaborations and participating in conferences
- Consumables and publication costs
- Invitation of international guest speakers
- Organization of scientific events
- Personnel funds for student assistants (SHK)
- Participation in demand-oriented professional and multi-disciplinary training

**Note:** In the case of a positive funding decision, the settlement of the approved, eligible measures is carried out in accordance with the usage guidelines of the TU Dresden (e.g. travel expense regulations, procurement as well as representation and hospitality guidelines). Awardees will receive information and accounting support from the Graduate Academy.

## Eligibility

### Eligible are:

- Postdocs of the TU Dresden with a full membership at the Graduate Academy according to the current rules and regulations of the Graduate Academy with
- **at least 6 months of contract duration** in the requested funding period.

**Note:** Membership in the Graduate Academy is a mandatory eligibility criterion. 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](http://www.tu-dresden.de/ga)

## 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.

The **maximum funding period is 18 months**. Extensions are not possible. The approved funds must be spent within the respective calendar years for which they were requested.

**The extent of funding per project application is up to maximum EUR 10,000.00.**

**Start of funding:** between January 1<sup>st</sup> - March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025

**End of funding:** June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at the latest

**Note:** Funding can be granted until June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at the latest. In the event of a later start of funding (after January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025), the maximum possible funding period of 18 months cannot be fully exhausted. The duration of the funding will be reduced accordingly to the number of available funding months to the maximum end of funding on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Planned measures after June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026 are not eligible for funding!

## Application & Deadline

The application has to be submitted electronically within the deadline and **as one PDF-file** (exception: Letter of support) via e-mail to [graduertenakademie@tu-dresden.de](mailto:graduertenakademie@tu-dresden.de) with the subject "Postdoc Starter Kit".

**Application deadline\*:** 30<sup>th</sup> September

\* If the end of a period falls on a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday, the period ends at the end of the next working day.

**Note:** Missing, incomplete or incorrect documents cannot be submitted/resubmitted after the application deadline. Incomplete applications cannot be taken into consideration. Please note: The required Letter of support from your superior has to reach the Graduate Academy in due time, too.

Approximately one week after the application deadline, you will receive an acknowledgement of receipt. Notification of funding is generally made after about ten to twelve weeks of the respective application deadline. Please refrain from telephone inquiries in this time.

## Application documents

### Checklist for a complete application:

- Confirmation of participation in a coaching session for professional assessment** at the Graduate Academy\*
- A signed and scanned copy of the **online application form\*\***  
[Please note: Intermediate digital storage of data is not possible]
- Tabular resume** (CV) incl. a list of publications, previous teaching activities and the description of the scientific career (max. 5 pages)
- Copy of the doctoral certificate**
- Outline of the academic development plan** (max. 7 pages) for the requested funding period including:
  - the consideration and analysis of the academic development up to date and
  - the description of the planned measures and activities for the development and sharpening of the own academic profile.
- Cost calculation** per requested funding year (overview)
- Letter of support from your superior**
- If applicable, **evidence or information in support of individual life circumstances**

\* This is a coaching to determine the professional situation, which is specifically related to the application. Previous coaching or consulting at the Graduate Academy cannot be claimed in this context. For further information, please refer to the FAQs on the GA program website.

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

**Note:** The application documents can be submitted in German or English. Additional information on the application documents can be found in the FAQs on the GA program website.

In order to prepare yourself optimally for the application, we recommend that you take advantage of an early coaching. You can find the schedule of coaching sessions for professional assessment at the [GA program website](#).

Please make an appointment via e-mail at [graduierakademie@tu-dresden.de](mailto:graduierakademie@tu-dresden.de) with the subject "PSK - Professional assessment coaching".

## 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. These are performance-based grants awarded through a competitive selection process.

The **selection criteria** are:

- The qualification of the postdoctoral researcher to be funded (e.g. academic achievements, publications, prizes/awards), taking into account individual life circumstances (e.g. chronic illness, care of dependents in need of care, parental and care periods).
- The existence of a convincing concept for the development of one's own scientific profile, taking into account previous academic development.
- Complete application documents and submission within the deadline including the participation in a coaching session for professional assessment at the Graduate Academy prior to submission of the application.

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

## Contact

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Website: [www.tu-dresden.de/ga](http://www.tu-dresden.de/ga)

### ***Get your questions answered!***

*Arrange an individual consultation appointment regarding our GA funding programs at [graduertenakademie@tu-dresden.de](mailto:graduertenakademie@tu-dresden.de).*

*We look forward to receiving your inquiry!*