



TECHNISCHE
UNIVERSITÄT
DRESDEN



GRADUATE
ACADEMY



GRADUATE
ACADEMY

Financing your PhD

- PhD Day 2018 -

Funding options



I. Employment

- 
- at the university

- 
- at a non-university research organization



Employment at an university

How to find an employment?

- job offers
 - www.tu-dresden.de/ga
 - vacant positions for young researchers at the TU Dresden
- ask supervisor

Employment at an university

- full- or part-time as scientific staff or research assistants (WHKs) on a budget heading at a professorship or in a third-party funded project
- payment according to the collective agreement of public services (TVöD / TV-L)
- approximately every third doctoral candidate works at the university
- very few specific doctoral positions
- often teaching activities, student supervision or involvement in projects unrelated to doctoral thesis



- 
- at the university

- 
- at a non-university research organization

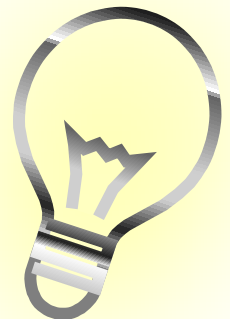
Employment at a non-university research organization

How to find a doctoral position?

- ask supervisor
- job offers of DRESDEN-concept partners, e.g.:
 - Fraunhofer
 - Helmholtz
 - Max Planck
 - Leibniz
 - University Hospital Carl Gustav Carus
 - museums

Employment at a non-university research organization

- only research, no teaching activities
- non-university research organization have no right to award doctorates
- **confirmation of acceptance as doctoral candidate by a faculty of the TU Dresden necessary**



II. Scholarships

- variety of scholarships
- usually funding from the beginning of the doctorate up to 3 years
- related qualification program

Graduate Academy offers:

- ✓ individual advice and information
- ✓ overview on our website regarding funding authorities, funding databases and search engines



Scholarships funding possibilities

TU Dresden / Graduate Academy

Organizations for the promotion of young talents
(Begabtenförderungswerke) and foundations

German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)

TU Dresden / Graduate Academy



- Saxon Scholarship Program
- Scholarship Program for the Promotion of Early-Career Female Scientists of TU Dresden
- PhD Scholarships funded by the European Social Fund
- Back-to-Research Grants
- Short-term Scholarships: Bridging Grants or Grants for the Completion and Wrap-up Phase of the doctorate

What should I pay attention to if I want to apply?



- call for applications and deadlines on the website of the Graduate Academy
- long-term scholarships have only one application deadline per year
- compatibility of the scholarships
- selection criteria:
 - qualification of the applicant (academic performance, publications, prizes/awards)
 - quality of the research project
 - quality of letters of recommendation
 - social criteria (e.g. children, family members in need of care)

Organizations for the promotion of young talents (Begabtenförderungswerke) and foundations

- overview of all organizations for the promotion of young talents (Begabtenförderungswerke) and foundations:
www.tu-dresden.de/graduieretenakademie
- funding available from
 - independent foundations
 - party-affiliated foundations
 - denominational foundations
 - business related foundations
- further foundations, e.g. German Federal Environmental Foundation, Chemical Industry Fund (FCI), Gerda Henkel Foundation

Independent and party-affiliated foundations at a glance

German Academic
Scholarship Foundation

- nondenominational, politically and ideologically independent

Friedrich Ebert Foundation

- closely associated with SPD

Konrad-Adenauer-
Foundation

- closely associated with CDU

Rosa-Luxemburg-Foundation

- closely associated with Die Linke

Hanns-Seidel-Foundation

- closely associated with CSU

Friedrich-Naumann-
Foundation

- closely associated with FDP

Hans-Böckler-Foundation

- German Trade Union Federation

Heinrich-Böll-Foundation

- closely associated with Die Grünen

Further foundations at a glance

German Economy
Foundation

- closely associated with the German economy

Cusanuswerk

- closely associated with the Catholic Church

Evangelisches
Studentenwerk Villigst

- closely associated with the Evangelical Church

Ernst Ludwig Ehrlich
Foundation

- foundation for Jewish students and post-graduates

Avicenna Foundation

- foundation Muslim students and post-graduates

Applications for scholarships at organizations for the promotion of young talents (Begabtenförderungswerke) and foundations

- ✓ outstanding university degree
- ✓ convincing research project
- ✓ social commitment according to the goal of the specific foundation
- ✓ political conviction (party-affiliated foundations)
- ✓ compatibility of selection criteria
- ✓ discipline-specific applications



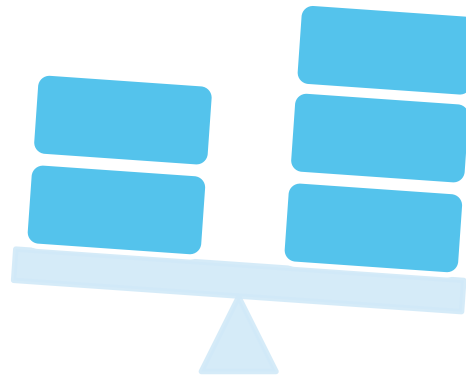
Planning is everything!
Approx. time until beginning of doctorate:
12 months

German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)

- promoting international doctoral candidates
- country-specific deadlines
- application from home country **or** up to 15 months after arrival in Germany
- very good English language skills
- all offers incl. funding authorities besides the DAAD:
DAAD website → Information for Foreigners - Finding Scholarships - Scholarship Database



Employment or scholarship?



Employment



- insurable employment
- often close proximity between scientific work and topic of doctoral thesis
- professional exchange with colleagues
- teaching experience
- better integration into science system → qualification for future academic career



- Act of Academic Fixed-Term Contract (Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz)
- enormous workload besides doctorate
- often longer doctorate period
- lower income due to part-time job/research assistant (WHK)

Scholarship



- flexible time management
- full attention on doctorate possible
- free choice of workplace
- funding period of 3 year (if applicable, extension of 1 year possible)
- sideline activities sometimes permitted



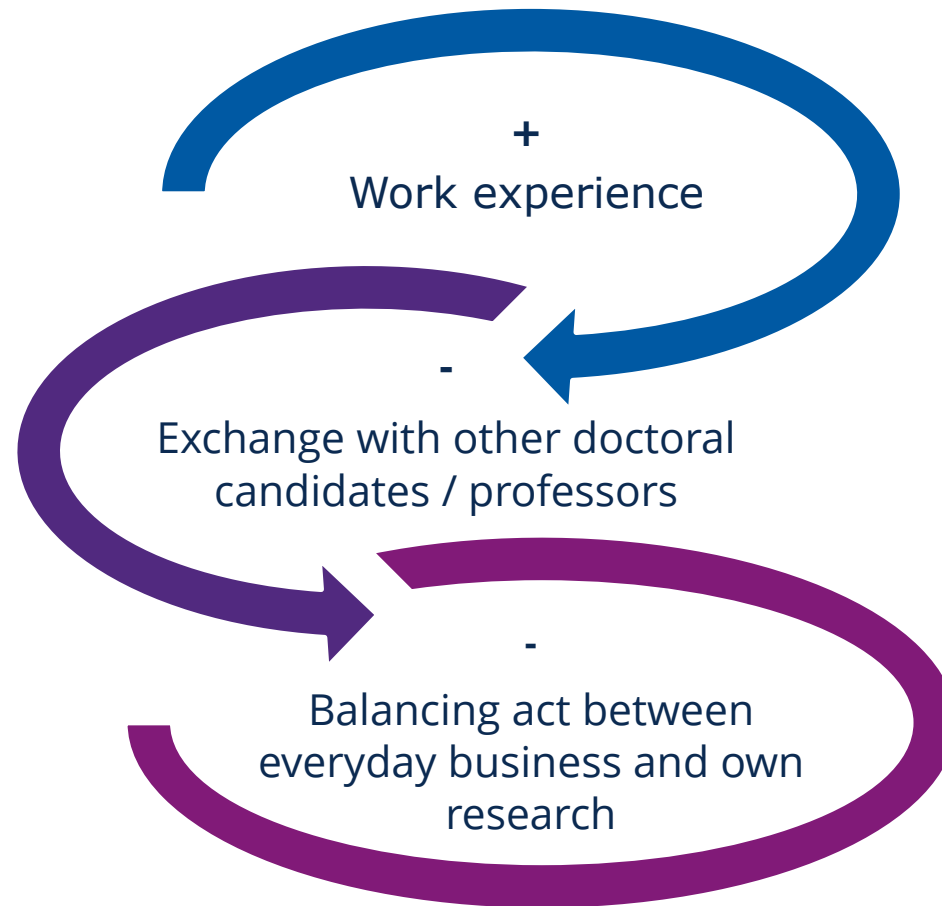
- no insurance cover
- no holiday entitlement
- funding often only available until thesis submission
- networking/exchange with other doctoral candidate sometimes difficult
- less integrated into academic landscape
- monthly scholarship payment may only cover living expenses

III. Industry-sponsored doctoral scholarships

- doctorate in cooperation with a company
- companies finance doctorates due to common economics or scientific interests
- cooperation agreement with TU Dresden
- usually call for papers, unsolicited applications also possible
- contact often organized by supervisor
- very common in the following sectors: automotive, electrical engineering and telecommunications
- scope of work and level of remuneration according to individual agreement

Further Information: Directorate 1 – Administration of External Funding (Unit 1.3) of the TU Dresden

Pro and cons of industry-sponsored doctoral scholarships?



IV. Self-financing

- self-financing of the doctorate:
 - financial support from family
 - occupation outside the realm of science
- little/limited time for research and/or doctoral thesis
- **Self-financing is often the most difficult way!**
 - lack of time resources and doctorate-related proximity as well as professional exchange with other doctoral candidates and professors
 - often delayed completion of doctoral degree



Graduate Academy offers advice and information concerning all phases of the doctorate

- open consultation hours: every Wednesday
- brochure "Doing a Doctorate at TU Dresden"

Specific offers on funding:

- *Service hours on funding*: every Monday upon appointment
- *information events*: funding programs for young researchers (spring and fall)
- *workshops* on application writing (e.g. fall 2018)
- *detailed funding information* on our website

We are happy to be at your service and will advise you in detail!





Thank you for your interest!

Contact:

Bettina Beer & Corina Bejan

Graduate Academy

TU Dresden

Mommsenstraße 7

01069 Dresden

graduiertenakademie@tu-dresden.de

www.tu-dresden.de/ga

Tel.: +49 351 463 42241 | 42242

Fax: +49 351 463 37001