
Funding opportunities to support academic mobility of early-career researchers

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Vision without funding is just a hallucination

Dr. Natalia Shulga

believed to be originally from Thomas Edison or Henry Ford (?)

Short-term/ Travelling Fellowships

- ✓ “Foot in the door”: start building cooperation with potential future host/ collaborator
- ✓ Comparatively high success rates
- ✓ No deadlines/ 3-4 deadlines pa
- ✓ 4-8 weeks to get the decision

Short-term/ Travelling Fellowships

Aims, e.g.:

- ✓ “The aim is **TO FACILITATE VALUABLE COLLABORATIONS** with research groups applying **TECHNIQUES THAT ARE UNAVAILABLE IN THE APPLICANT'S LABORATORY.**” (EMBO)
- ✓ “...**TO LEARN CLEARLY-DEFINED METHODS USEFUL FOR YOUR ONGOING RESEARCH** and the work of your research group at home **BY VISITING ANOTHER LABORATORY, OR BY ATTENDING RESEARCH-ORIENTATED COURSES INCLUDING PRACTICAL TRAINING**” (BI Fonds)

Not for, e.g.:

- ✓ “Short-Term Fellowships **ARE NOT AWARDED** for exchanges between two laboratories **WITHIN THE SAME COUNTRY.**” (EMBO)
- ✓ “General **EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL**, excursions or lecture or **CONGRESS-RELATED travel ARE NOT SUPPORTED**” (Thyssen Foundation)

DAAD



Short-term/ Travelling Fellowships

✓ DAAD grants for conferences

- Apply ca 4-5 months in advance

<https://www.daad.de/ausland/studieren/stipendium/de/70-stipendien-finden-und-bewerben/?status=&target=&subjectGrps=&daad=&q=kongressreisen&page=1&detail=57369745>

✓ DAAD short-term research grants for post-docs

- for 3-6 months
- 3 deadlines pa

<https://www.daad.de/ausland/studieren/stipendium/de/70-stipendien-finden-und-bewerben/?status=2&target=44&subjectGrps=&daad=&q=&page=1&detail=57243862>

✓ Fritz Thyssen Stiftung travel subsidies for German postdocs

- No deadline

<http://www.fritz-thyssen-stiftung.de/en/funding/types-of-support/reisebeihilfen/>



Short-term/ Travelling Fellowships

No deadline (3 months in advance)

- ✓ **EMBO short-term fellowships** (1 week – to 3 months)
<https://www.embo.org/funding-awards/fellowships/short-term-fellowships#about>
- ✓ **FEBS short-term fellowships** (2 months, exceptionally up to 3 months)
<https://www.febs.org/our-activities/fellowships/febs-short-term-fellowships/guidelines-for-febs-short-term-fellowships/>
- ✓ **FEBS summer fellowships** for PhD students (between 1 July and 30 October, **apply before 1 April**)
<https://www.febs.org/our-activities/fellowships/febs-summer-fellowships/guidelines-for-summer-fellowships/>
- ✓ **FEBS Collaborative Experimental Scholarships**
 - no deadline (at least 3 months before start); for 2-3-months
 - aimed at PhD students “from certain FEBS countries with HINARI status* ... to visit a well-funded laboratory elsewhere in Europe for the purpose of carrying out experimental procedures that would be impossible in their home country because of a lack of resources” (*Armenia, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Moldova, Morocco, Serbia, Tunisia and Ukraine)<https://www.febs.org/our-activities/fellowships/collaborative-developmental-scholarships/>

Short-term/ Travelling Fellowships



✓ **The Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds Travel Grants**

- up to 3 months, also for courses
- no deadline, at least 6 weeks before start

<https://www.bifonds.de/fellowships-grants/travel-grants.html>

✓ **EACR (European Association for Cancer Research) Travel Fellowships**

- For members
- Between 2 weeks and 3 months
- Apply at least 8 weeks before start

<https://www.eacr.org/travel-fellowships>



✓ **Travelling Fellowships of the Company of Biologists'** four international journals (*Development*, *Journal of Cell Science*, *The Journal of Experimental Biology* and *Disease Models & Mechanisms*)

- for PhD students & post-docs to make collaborative visits to other laboratories; up to £2,500
- 4 deadlines pa

<https://www.biologists.com/travelling-fellowships/>



Short-term/ Travelling Fellowships

✓ FENS travel grants and stipends

- NENS Exchange Grants
- Slots in national courses
- Stipends for the FENS Schools
- Stipends for the Cajal training courses
- Travel grants to attend the Australian Course in Advanced Neuroscience (ACAN) in 2019
- Travel grants for the Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience (SfN)
- Travel grants for the FENS Forum
- Stipends for The Brain Conferences
- Travel grants for the FENS Regional Meetings (FRM)
- Travel grants for the IBRO World Congress
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<https://www.fens.org/News-Activities/Grants-and-Stipends/>

Short-term/ Travelling Fellowships

- ✓ Travel grants for Fellows, Full Members, Affiliate Members, Undergraduate Members
 - to attend and present at a research or teaching conference (Undergraduates are not required to present work)
 - to visit another laboratory for collaborative research or to acquire/teach new techniques
 - to attend a practical workshop or training course that is relevant to physiology
 - to deadline (1-6 month before travel)

<http://www.physoc.org/travel-grants>

Long-term postdoctoral fellowships

- ✓ Prestigious AND very competitive
- ✓ Often with a focus on gaining independence/ career development/ cross-disciplinary
- ✓ Almost always require mobility – changing lab/ country
- ✓ Can include a supporting option to return
- ✓ Can include some long-term support/ alumni program
- ✓ Selection: can involve interviews

Funding for PhD students

DAAD

- DAAD Research Grants – Doctoral Programmes in Germany (for up to 3 years)
- DAAD Research Grants – 1-Year Grants
- Evonik Foundation Scholarships
- Foundation of the Berlin House of Representatives: Grant Programme
- Fritz Thyssen Foundation Stipends
- The Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds PhD fellowships
- EU ITN fellowships





Long-term postdoctoral fellowships

- ✓ **Stipends of the Berlin Senat (Abgeordnetenhaus Berlin)** for researchers from France, the UK, the USA and the countries of the former Soviet Union (**incl. Ukraine**) to come to Berlin
 - for graduates as well as PhD students)
 - for 10 months (starts in October)
 - deadline: 15 December

<https://www.parlament-berlin.de/de/Das-Parlament/Studienstiftung>



Long-term postdoctoral fellowships

- ✓ **Alexander von Humboldt postdoctoral fellowships**, no deadline
 - Different types:
 - for **post-doctoral researchers** (up to 4 years after completing a doctorate): 6 to 24 months in Germany
 - for **experienced researchers** (up to 12 years after completing a doctorate): 6 to 18 months in Germany, divisible into a maximum of 3 visits over 3 years
 - “Potential applicants who have been in Germany for more than 6 months at the time of application are not eligible to apply”
 - **Georg Forster Research Fellowship FOR RESEARCHERS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**: for research stays in Germany, for proposals relevant for the continued development of the country or region of origin
<http://www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/programmes.html>



Long-term postdoctoral fellowships

✓ Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions Individual Fellowships (MSCA-IF)

- Deadline: **11 September 2019**
- the host can be in the academic or non-academic sectors
- eligible to apply up to 1 year already in the host lab
- Different types:
 - **European Fellowships** are open to researchers either coming to Europe from any country in the world or moving within Europe
 - Direct return to and long-term reintegration of researchers in Europe, including in their country of origin, is supported via a separate multi-disciplinary **REINTEGRATION PANEL** of the European Fellowships
 - Support to individuals to resume research in Europe after a career break, e.g. after parental leave or due to recent migration, is ensured via a separate multi-disciplinary **CAREER RESTART PANEL** of the European Fellowships
 - Researchers seeking to work on research and innovation projects in an organisation from the non-academic sector will be supported via a separate multi-disciplinary **SOCIETY AND ENTERPRISE PANEL** of the European Fellowships
 - **The Widening Fellowships**
 - **Global Fellowships** are based on a secondment to a third country and a **MANDATORY 12 MONTH RETURN PERIOD TO A EUROPEAN HOST**





Long-term postdoctoral fellowships



- ✓ **Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions Individual Fellowships (MSCA-IF), continued**
 - Researchers receiving an Individual Fellowship may opt to **INCLUDE A SECONDMENT PHASE IN EUROPE**, notably in the non-academic sector, within the overall duration of their fellowship.
 - Researchers participating in the Individual Fellowships may opt **TO WORK PART-TIME** in order to pursue supplementary activities. These might include **CREATING A COMPANY, OR ENGAGING IN ADVANCED STUDIES** not related to the MSCA grant.

https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/actions/individual-fellowships_en



Long-term postdoctoral fellowships

✓ EMBO post-doc fellowships:

- for up to 2-year research visits to laboratories throughout Europe and the world
- for those with less than 2 years after a PhD AND at least 1 first-author paper
- “candidates who HAVE ALREADY STARTED WORKING IN THE HOST LABORATORY **CAN APPLY** only if they have been working in the host laboratory **FOR LESS THAN SIX MONTHS** at the time the application is complete”
- no deadline, 2 selection round pa

<https://www.embo.org/funding-awards/fellowships/postdoctoral-fellowships.html>



Long-term postdoctoral fellowships

✓ HFSP post-doc fellowships:

- to broaden research skills **BY MOVING INTO NEW AREAS OF STUDY WHILE WORKING IN A NEW COUNTRY**
- for 3 years, “fellows **MAY ... USE THE LAST YEAR OF THEIR FELLOWSHIP TO RETURN TO THEIR HOME COUNTRY OR TO MOVE TO ANOTHER HFSP member country**”
- 2 types:
 - “**Long-Term Fellowships (LTF)** are for applicants with a Ph.D. in a biological discipline, who will broaden their expertise by proposing a **project in the life sciences which is significantly different from their previous Ph.D. or postdoctoral work**
 - **Cross-Disciplinary Fellowships (CDF)** are for applicants with a **Ph.D. from outside the life sciences** (e.g. in physics, chemistry, mathematics, engineering or computer sciences), who have had limited exposure to biology during their previous training”
- < 3 years after PhD AND at least one lead author, full-length research paper
- **Career Development Award (CDA)** funds HFSP fellows who return to their home country or move to an HFSP member country to establish their independent laboratory
- **Deadline: 22 August 2019:**

<https://www.hfsp.org/funding/hfsp-funding/postdoctoral-fellowships>



Long-term postdoctoral fellowships

✓ FEBS long-term fellowships:

- to support long-term visits **FOR THE PURPOSE OF SCIENTIFIC COLLABORATION OR ADVANCED TRAINING**
- for 1 year, may be extended up to 3 years
- < 3 years after a PhD
- **Deadline: 1 October 2019**
- “FEBS Long-Term Fellows are eligible to apply for the **FEBS Distinguished Young Investigator Award** and **FEBS Follow-up Research Fund** ... (to help young scientists who have been recipients of a FEBS Long-Term Fellowship to start work in an independent position in a FEBS country after completion of their Fellowship”

<https://www.febs.org/our-activities/fellowships/long-term-fellowships/>

Some Databases & Useful Resources

- <https://www.daad.de/deutschland/stipendium/datenbank/en/21148-finding-scholarships/>
- <http://scholarship-positions.com/>
- <http://www.scholarshipportal.com>
- <http://www.e-fellows.net/extranet/stipendien-datenbank>
- **EURAXESS** jobs and funding for researchers in Europe: <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs>
- **Berlin doctoral programmes:** <http://www.doctoral-programs.de>
- **Samples of NIH grant applications (USA):** <https://www.niaid.nih.gov/grants-contracts/sample-applications>
- **Art of grantsmanship**, by Jack Kraicer, former Director of Research Grants at HFSP: <https://www.hfsp.org/node/5761>
- **Making the right moves. A practical guide to scientific management for post-docs and new faculty.** Writing a Letter of Recommendation/ Guidance for writing letters of recommendation pertaining to scholarly work. HHMI.
<https://www.hhmi.org/science-education/programs/making-right-moves>
<https://www.hhmi.org/sites/default/files/Educational%20Materials/Lab%20Management/letter.pdf>