

Visiting Fellow Programme

In March 2021, the University Oldenburg and the Rijksuniversiteit Groningen adopted the Roadmap for Cooperation 2020–2030, defining the focus areas and objectives for the next ten years of collaboration.

To further strengthen this long-standing partnership, a range of innovative funding opportunities is now available. These programmes, supported by the Lower Saxony Ministry of Science and Culture and the Volkswagen Foundation *under A Programme for Excellence (Potentiale Strategisches Entfalten)*, aim to foster new joint initiatives, promote networking between the universities, and provide new thematic impetus. Designed for different target groups, the funding instruments offer multiple ways to take our collaboration to the next level.

The Visiting Fellow Programme is aimed at all researchers who have completed their PhD and would like to spend two to four months conducting research at the other university.

The aim of this funding measure is to create a framework for the preparation of a joint research project or research proposal.

The stay should serve to prepare a joint research project and/or a joint research proposal (e.g. DFG research funding, PRIME, ESI funding, funding for junior research groups by the Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space (BMFTR), Marie Curie, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, Interreg North Sea, Interreg Germany-Netherlands).

This mobility programme is made possible by the 'A Programme for Excellence' initiative, which is funded by the Lower Saxony Ministry of Science and Culture and the VolkswagenStiftung.

Who can participate?

The programme is open to all researchers from all faculties. Researchers at PhD level and above may be invited to the University of Oldenburg by colleagues at the University of Oldenburg.

Duration and funding

Stays of two to four months are eligible for funding. Funding can be applied for to cover travel and accommodation costs up to a maximum of € 6,000, as well as material costs up to a maximum of € 500 per mobility period. Travel and accommodation costs will be reimbursed in accordance with the Lower Saxony Travel Expenses Regulation (NRKVO).



university of
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Application

Funding applications must be submitted by 28 February 2026. Please note that the application and invitations need to be submitted by the colleagues in Oldenburg.

In a selection meeting after the end of the application period, the selection committee, consisting of the chairwoman Prof. Dr. Katharina Al-Shamery (Vice-President for Academic Careers, Equal Opportunities and International Affairs) and other members, will decide on the funding applications received. Applicants will be informed of the decision as soon as possible.

Evaluation criteria

- Potential of the planned cooperation beyond the duration of the measure
- Feasibility of the planned project with visible results
- Added value for cooperation between the two universities.