



Bridge Scholarships for Palestinians in Germany

OBJECTIVE

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The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) administers the scholarship programme “Bridge Scholarships for Palestinians in Germany” with funds from the Federal Foreign Office. As part of the programme, qualified Palestinians, who are in Germany and not able to return to their home country due to the current situation, will receive the possibility to begin or continue their career.

The aim of the programme is to support students and researchers from the Palestinian Territories – especially from the Gaza Strip – with bridging scholarships after completing their studies or research in Germany. These grants are intended to enable them to build up academic or professional prospects for a future in safety. In the long term, the aim is to integrate them into the education and labour market in Germany, if it is not possible for them to return home.

WHO CAN APPLY?

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Graduates from the Palestinian Territories from all academic disciplines are eligible to apply,

- who have obtained a Bachelor's, Master's or doctoral degree in Germany within the last six months or will have obtained their degree before the start of the scholarship and require transitional funding for their job search or
- who have completed a research project as part of a postdoctoral position or as a university lecturer in Germany within the last six months or will have completed their project before the start of the scholarship and require transitional funding for their job search or
- who have completed an internship at a company in Germany within the last six months as part of their studies or will have completed their internship before the start of the scholarship and require transitional funding for their job search,
- who can provide an ID issued by the Palestinian Authority or an East Jerusalem ID, and do not have any other citizenship,
- who, as a rule, are already in Germany with a valid residence permit at the time of the application deadline,
- who, as a rule, have not been staying in Germany for longer than four years at the time of the application deadline.

WHAT CAN BE FUNDED?

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The bridging period after completing a Bachelor's or Master's degree programme, an internship as part of a degree programme, a doctorate or a research project in Germany, which must not have been completed more than six months prior to the application deadline or must be completed by the start of

the scholarship, with the aim of finding suitable employment in the academic resp. public or private sector in Germany. Internships in companies or research projects in Germany are also eligible for funding as part of the scholarship.

DURATION OF THE FUNDING

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Minimum 3 months and maximum 6 months.

The funding period is determined by the DAAD depending on the time required in accordance with the application documents submitted. Funding can start on 01 October 2024 at the earliest and must be completed by 31 March 2025 at the latest.

As a rule, the scholarship cannot be extended.

VALUE

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Scholarship benefits currently include:

- depending on the academic level, monthly payments of
 - 934 euros for Bachelor's or Master's graduates
 - 1,300 euros for doctoral graduates (incl. postdoctoral researchers*)
 - 2,150 euros for (assistant) professors
- payments towards health, accident and personal liability insurance cover

* Status as postdoctoral researcher up to four years after obtaining the doctoral degree.

Under certain circumstances, scholarship holders may receive the following additional benefits:

- monthly rent subsidy
- monthly allowance for family members
- in the case of a disability or chronic illness: subsidy for additional costs which result from the disability or chronic illness and are not covered by other funding providers: [Further information](#)

To allow you to improve your language skills during the scholarship:

- allowance for a personally chosen German language course

Please note that, while on a DAAD scholarship, you must neither accept another DAAD scholarship, Erasmus+ scholarship or other scholarships from other German sources, nor apply for support from the German national education assistance system (BAföG). In addition, you may not work full-time during the DAAD scholarship. Income from part-time employment or an internship will be counted towards the DAAD scholarship, if you earn more than 538 euros (gross) per month.

SELECTION

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The selection of candidates will be carried out by a selection committee appointed by the section ST33 – Middle East, North Africa of the DAAD.

SELECTION CRITERIA

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1) Academic qualification (documented by higher education certificates, if applicable, school leaving certificate, curriculum vitae, letter of recommendation and if available, a list of recent publications, proof of language proficiency etc.)

2) Quality of the pursuit (documented by, if applicable, a research proposal, an internship contract, part-time work contract or proof of job search)

3) Personal motivation for the scholarship (documented by a letter of motivation describing the current personal risk situation as well as outlining the future prospects in Germany made possible by a scholarship)

In addition, in order to ensure equal opportunities, the selection committee may take into account special life circumstances, about which the candidate can provide information in the application form. For more information on the selection procedure, go to [Important Scholarship Information / Section E](#).

WHAT REQUIREMENTS MUST BE MET?

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Applicable to all applicants:

- You should be of legal age (usually at least 18 years old) at the time of application.
- Your last degree or doctorate, your last internship as part of your studies or your last research project at a state or state-recognised university or a non-university research institution in Germany should, as a rule, not have been completed more than six months before the application deadline or must be completed before the start of the scholarship at the latest.
- You must provide an ID issued by the Palestinian Authority or an East Jerusalem ID and confirm that you do not have any other citizenship.
- As a rule, you must already be in Germany with a valid residence permit at the time of the application deadline.
- You cannot apply, if you have, as a rule, been in Germany for more than four years by the application deadline.

APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

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Documents to be uploaded to the DAAD portal by all applicants:

- Online application form
- Full curriculum vitae in tabular form (max. 3 pages)
- Letter of motivation (1-3 pages). Explain your personal motives for seeking suitable employment in the academic resp. public or private sector in Germany. Please also address your current personal risk situation, your current and/or planned employment and the long-term prospects

made possible by a scholarship. Please also read our [Important Scholarship Information / Section B](#).

- Valid identification document (issued by the Palestinian Authority or East Jerusalem ID). * Please upload under "Miscellaneous" in the DAAD Application Portal.
- Valid residence permit for Germany. Please upload under "Miscellaneous" in the DAAD Application Portal.
- [Form](#) that no other citizenship exists. Please upload under "Miscellaneous" in the DAAD Application Portal.
- One recent, supporting letter of recommendation from a university teacher which provides information about your qualifications including career prospects. Please regard the instructions given on the tab "Submitting an application".
- All university certificates on all annual examinations with individual grade(s), including an explanation of the grading system, or in the case of Bachelor's students: school leaving certificate with all individual grades (to be uploaded in the portal under "University entrance qualification")
- Last university degree certificate indicating final grade(s). The degree certificate or a signed preliminary confirmation of your university about the successful completion must be submitted by the start of the scholarship, if the degree programme or doctorate has not yet been completed at the time of application.
- **If available:** Other documents which support your application (example: proof of German or English language proficiency, proof of internships and voluntary commitment etc.)
- **If available:** List of publications (max. 3 pages)

Depending on the planned pursuit, the required application documents must be uploaded for at least one of the four points:

- **In the case of a research project during the scholarship:** Description of the research project (max. 5 pages), time schedule and itinerary, written confirmation from the academic host in Germany
- **In the case of an internship during the scholarship:** Written confirmation from the host company in Germany and internship contract including the amount of remuneration. The internship contract must be submitted by the start of the scholarship, if it is not yet available at the time of application.
- **In the case of job search:** Proof of your current job search and an overview of potential employers to whom you intend to apply as part of the scholarship, as well as other documents you consider relevant
- **In the case of part-time employment during the scholarship:** Employment contract including scope of employment and amount of remuneration. The employment contract must be submitted by the start of the scholarship, if it is not yet available at the time of application.

* If the identification document has expired, a written explanation must be provided as part of the application stating why a valid document cannot be presented.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

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31 July 2024

Selection planned for September 2024.
Earliest start of scholarship, as a rule, 01 October 2024.

APPLICATION LOCATION

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Online via the DAAD portal of the [Scholarship Database](#)

PLEASE NOTE

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- Certificates, proof of credits, certifications and translations may be scanned in non-certified form and uploaded to the DAAD portal. All candidates have to upload German or English translations of documents submitted in the national language. The DAAD reserves the right to request certified copies of the documents, if necessary.
- The application is done online via the DAAD portal. Please note that access to the application portal is only displayed as long as the current application deadline is running. After the application deadline, the portal is not available for this programme.
- Your application is only valid if you submit all the required documents to the DAAD portal on time. The DAAD portal closes at 24.00 hrs. (CET or CEST) on the last application day. Incomplete applications cannot be considered. You are responsible for ensuring that your applications are complete.
- The application documents remain with the DAAD. Your personal data is saved by the DAAD in accordance with the Federal Data Protection Act and with the EU Data Protection Regulation insofar as this data is needed to process the application.

INFORMATION AND ADVISORY CENTRES

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