

APPLICATION PROCESS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How long is the funding period?

The standard funding period is three years. Hence, the working schedule should be for three years. In the event of unforeseen delays, the scholarship can be extended for another year upon request.

I am member of the Fast-Track-Program for PhD-students. Can I apply for a doctoral scholarship?

Yes, with the same application requirements.

Which type of doctorate do I tick in the form on the curriculum vitae?

If you are planning a regular doctorate exclusively at the University of Erfurt, please tick "doctorate without cooperation". "Doctorate in cooperation" refers exclusively to institutions outside the University of Erfurt, e.g. with universities of applied sciences or non-university institutions.

Who can write my reference letter?

Any university teacher of a subject related to your doctoral research may write your reference letter. The referee should use the [form](#) available on the website and should send it personally to graduertenfoerderung@uni-erfurt.de.

Your chosen referee can be affiliated with the University of Erfurt or any other institution of higher education.

Who can sign the form confirming that I have contacted a certified Graduate Centre or the Max-Weber-Kolleg?

The contact form can be signed by the speaker or by a member who is entitled to sign. [Here](#) you will find further information about the Graduate Centres. Doctoral candidates of the Max Weber Centre for Advanced Cultural and Social Studies should contact apl. Prof. Dr. Bettina Hollstein (bettina.hollstein@uni-erfurt.de).

Do I have to submit the contact form even if I am already a member of a certified Graduate Centre or the Max-Weber-Kolleg

No. If you are already a member, please submit the [admitting form](#) for the EPPP.

I have already received funding for my doctoral research. Can I still apply for a fellowship?

Yes. If the funding committee approves your scholarship, it may take your previously received funding into consideration and reduce your funding duration.

I already applied for a doctoral fellowship during a previous round of applications. Can I reapply after an unsuccessful application?

Yes, you can apply for a doctoral scholarship again after an unsuccessful application.

Will you confirm that my application has been received?

We will send you a confirmation e-mail shortly after receiving your application. You will also be notified whether the reference letter from your chosen referee has been received and whether your application documents are complete.

Can I submit individual application documents after the main application?

You cannot submit any part of the application belatedly. If we do not receive all required documents (see items 1 to 9 the application documents listed in the announcement) by the application deadline, we will be unable to consider your application.

My preferred referee cannot submit my reference letter by the deadline. Will you be able to consider my application?

Please inform your referee that the reference letter must be submitted on time. If necessary, an extension for the submission of reference letter may be granted in individual cases. If we do not receive your reference letter by the submission deadline, we will notify you by e-mail so that you can inform your referee about the extended deadline.

When will I find out whether my application has been approved?

We expect to notify all applicants about the result of their application by the end of February 2027.

When does the scholarship commence?

The scholarship commences between April and July 2027, depending on your own preference. The scholarship must be started at the first of a month.

Please bear in mind that you must present the following documents at the beginning of your funding period:

- confirmation of your admission as a doctoral student
- certificate of matriculation
- Proof of health insurance (for more information, please refer to the [information sheet "Proof of health insurance for scholarships"](#)).

Can I continue to receive the scholarship if I decide to transfer to another institution, i.e., if I permanently matriculate as a doctoral student at another university?

No. Our doctoral scholarships are only available to students who have a primary supervisor at the University of Erfurt and are matriculated as a doctoral candidate at one of the University's faculties or the Max Weber Centre for Advanced Cultural and Social Studies. Recipients must provide evidence of their matriculation as a doctoral student at the University of Erfurt at the beginning of their funding period.

What are the advantages of matriculating as a doctoral student?

You will receive university membership upon enrolment. This gives you [extended access to the university library](#) and allows you to use the services offered by the Studierendenwerk Thüringen. You will be eligible for discounts at the student dining halls and canteens as well as counselling and insurance services. Matriculated full-time doctoral students can also obtain a semester ticket for free travel on the public-transport network of central Thuringia (VMT).

For more information, consult the [website of the Studierendenwerk Thüringen](#).