



CALL FOR PROPOSALS: FUNDING OF STUDENT RESEARCH GROUPS

You intend to...

- implement a research project of your own,
- develop your own scientific expertise,
- use scientific methods independently

- Up to 10,000 € in funding per research project
- Up to 6 ECTS credits in the free elective area

Apply now for the funding program for student research projects

The University of Hamburg supports students to realize their own research ideas while they are still studying and actively gain qualifications in research-based learning. Here students can make first scientific experiences and competences for the future course of studies are to be conveyed.

Students can work on a scientific project independently in small teams within the scope of the Excellence Strategy. Funds are available for the eleventh round of the funding program, too.

Who is eligible?

Student research groups at the University of Hamburg are eligible for funding. All students enrolled in a bachelor's, master's or Staatsexamen program, who wish to initiate research projects in small groups (minimum 2 persons) may apply. The call is aimed at students who are still within the regular period of study at the time of application. The completion of the project should take place within the course of studies.

What can be funded?

A maximum of € 10,000 of funding is available for 2 semesters (12 months). If you participate in the accompanying program, you can also earn up to 6 ECTS credits in the free elective area.

You can apply only for material expenses (e. g. specialist literature and -software, small devices), travel expenses for research purposes, and conference fees (including digital conferences).

You cannot receive funding for assistantships. Nor is funding available for researches for doctoral theses, or final theses (Bachelor and Master).

What are the selection criteria?

During the assessment, the projects are judged in the following categories:

1. Mandatory:

- **Independence:** The research project is initiated by students and implemented autonomously.
- **Scholarly character:** The project has a clear research profile (questions, aims, methods, integration within the relevant scientific discourse).
- **Support:** You have a letter of support from a professor at the University of Hamburg.
- **Timetable:** The timetable and implementation plan are realistic.
- **Financial plan:** Transparency and conclusiveness with regard to resource needs. You may apply for equipment only.

2. Desirable:

- **Innovation:** The project involves an innovative topic or innovative methods and approaches.
- **Sustainability:** There is a link to one of the global sustainability goals, i.e. a topic of the area sustainability (Sustainable Development Goals) is addressed or the use of resources / materials involved are especially sustainable.
- **Cooperation opportunities:** The project might help to initiate or deepen scientific cooperations or collaborations (national/international).
- **Support:** A professor at the University of Hamburg can mentor or supervise your project.

The selection decision is made by the Executive University Board.

Which deadlines are to be observed?

- **Submission:** Proposals for projects, which are to start in the coming winter semester 2025/26, have to be received electronically by the Hub for Crossdisciplinary Learning (hcl@uni-hamburg.de) by 15th of August 2025 at the latest.
- **Decision:** The funding decision is set to be announced at the beginning of October. The funds will presumably be available from early November 2025.
- **Reporting:** A final report has to be submitted **three months after the end** of the research project.

Which documents are to be submitted?

Funding application should contain, apart from a project description (ca. 1-2 pages) and a detailed timetable and implementation plan, a financial plan, too (please note here that funding is available for equipment only). We will consider only complete proposals submitted by the deadline in the selection process.

- application form (including a project description)
- form for financial plan
- form for timetable
- accompanying letter

If you have further questions on your project planning, the Hub for Crossdisciplinary Learning is at your disposal. Please also note the advisory services and FAQs on the funding of student research groups.

Contact

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