

CALL FOR PROPOSALS VISITING GROUPS AT ZIF

Deadline for Application: 28 November 2024

The **Center for Interdisciplinary Research (ZiF)** is Bielefeld University's Institute for Advanced Study. It offers opportunities—with respect to time, space, and funding—for outstanding interdisciplinary research. ZiF is open to scholarly applicants from all disciplines post-PhD, based in Germany and abroad. Applicants may propose a research project to be conducted with a curated group of (preferably) international colleagues.

In support of the work of groups *on-site* in Bielefeld, ZiF allocates financial resources and provides infrastructure as well as organisational support. If a collaborative application is successful, ZiF then hosts these groups on its campus, offering ideal working conditions.

Visiting Groups can, for example, explore new research topics and partnerships, finalise interdisciplinary publications or conduct small research projects during their stay at ZiF.

WHAT ZIF OFFERS

- **Duration:** one stay at ZiF; lasting a minimum of one to a maximum of three months
- **Funding Amount:** up to EUR 50,000 to cover the costs for travel and accommodation, workshops and/or conferences on-site; personnel expenses (buy-outs) cannot be covered, but an allowance of EUR 1.000 per month will be paid as a compensation for any additional costs
- **Timing:** Projects can commence in the fall of 2025.

Group Requirements

- **Size:** the minimum participant size for each group is three persons
- **Composition:** different disciplines must be involved; international participation is encouraged
- We expect convenors and the majority of a group to be present at ZiF for their collaboration phase. Additional virtual participants may be involved.
- The necessity for interdisciplinary collaboration must stem from the research at hand and must be explained in the proposal. The mere involvement of different disciplines does not suffice to meet this criterion.
- The stage of preparation of the proposed project should clearly show its feasibility within the timeframe suggested.
- A gender balance appropriate to the disciplines involved is expected.

Important Selection Criteria

- Interdisciplinarity
- Academic quality
- Originality on an international level

Proposals will be selected competitively. Complete submissions will be reviewed externally.
Decisions will be made in the spring of 2025.

Applications must be submitted by a team of **two to four** persons who also act as convenors of the group they propose. All convenors must have completed a doctorate, one of whom acts as the main contact person (and clearly labelled). The team of applicants has to represent different disciplines.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Please consider the following criteria for an application to be formally adequate:

1. Cover Sheet

- Title of the project
- Name, affiliation, discipline and address of all applicants; clear indication of a main contact
- Intended timeframe

2. Summary of the project (up to 1,500 char., incl. spaces, approx. 1/2 a page).

3. Project description (max. 25,000 char., incl. spaces, approx. 10 pages)

- Research topic and questions
- Current state of research
- Methods
- Objectives and anticipated output
- Justification for the interdisciplinary collaboration
- Timing of the project and work plan (overview, e.g. as a table)
- If applicable: information on workshops and/or conferences to be held during the project
- Not part of the character count:
 - List of participants stating their discipline, affiliation & specific expertise for the project
 - Status of invitation/participation of the potential fellows
 - Reference list

4. Preliminary budget (in case a grant is made, the budget will be checked by ZiF)

5. Short CV of all applicants, including latest publications relevant to the project (up to 3 pages per applicant, incl. publications). CV of participants are not part of the application.

ANSWERS TO BUDGET-SPECIFIC AND GENERAL QUESTIONS CAN ALSO BE FOUND IN OUR [FAQ](#).

Please contact us with any questions;
we are happy to assist!

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**Send your application
IN ONE PDF FILE to:**

Executive Director
Prof. Dr. Jens Stoye
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