



Freiraum für Forschung – Room for Research

Room for Research is an interdisciplinary scholarship for advanced female postdocs. The aim of the programme is to support female early career researchers by offering them individual relief options for completing a habilitation thesis, writing a 'major' article in renowned journals, planning their next career steps or applying for an (international) collaborative project. In this way, the programme supports women in their academic career development and planning.

The **Rectorate** supports *Room for Research* with € 10.000 each for, e.g.

- Awarding teaching assignments
- Reduction in teaching
- Increasing existing positions in the faculty
- Auxiliary staff hours to support postdocs
- Relief for e.g., committee work, exam invigilators, corrections
- etc.

Nature and aim of the programme

- Support for advanced female postdocs through a scholarship
- Support for up to five *Room for Research* grants of € 10.000 per semester
- A maximum of one grant per person is possible

Requirements for application

- The researcher must be demonstrably on a promising path to completing her habilitation (or equivalent)
- Female postdocs with permanent or fixed-term contracts at the University of Münster are eligible to apply

Documents to be submitted (maximum 10 pages)

- Curriculum vitae
- List of publications with an overview of teaching, research and third-party funding
- Brief research concept and prospective planning (in tabular form) for fulfilling the habilitation requirements (or equivalent) in comparison with the subject-specific minimum requirements in accordance with the habilitation regulations
- Letter of recommendation / statement of support for the application from the responsible supervisor(s)
- Description of the scope and nature of the relief
- Declaration of commitment by the department and responsible institute to implement the relief for the researcher with detailed personnel/task planning
- Proof of a budget-financed scientific employment relationship at the University of Münster that will continue for the duration of the funding

Applications can be submitted twice a year:

- by 1 April (earliest possible start of the sabbatical in the following October) and
- by **1 October** (earliest possible start of the sabbatical in the following April).

Only applications with complete documentation (see above) will be considered!

The Office for Equality will review the applications also from an intersectional perspective. The decision on funding is made by the Rectorate Commission for Research Affairs (RKF).

After two years, the funding programme will be evaluated and the criteria will be adjusted accordingly.

Further information on the *Room for Research*-programme can be found here: https://www.uni-muenster.de/Gleichstellung/Freiraumfuerforschung.html

If you have any questions about the programme, please contact

Kaja Köhnle (parental leave replacement) Advisor for Gender Equality

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Please send your application in electronic form as a PDF to the

Central Equal Opportunities Officer at the University of Münster

Dr Bente Lucht Georgskommende 26 48143 Münster

Email: gleichstellungsbeauftragte@uni-muenster.de

Status: July 2025