# Bayer Foundation Scientific Fellowships – Guidelines

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**Please read all sections, including the FAQ, carefully. If your application does not meet the eligibility requirements and conditions, or if it does not comply with the funding or timing restrictions, it will unfortunately be rejected before being considered by the jury.**

**Please pay particular attention to the following:**

- You must be an **enrolled student**. Your country of enrollment, rather than your nationality, determines where you may conduct your internship or research stay.
    - Students enrolled at universities outside of Germany **must** undertake their placement within Germany. Students enrolled at a German university **must** undertake their placement outside of Germany.
- We do not fund full master's degree programs. The fellowship supports **only a specific, clearly defined project abroad** (not an entire degree program).
- The maximum funding is 10.000€ for a period of up to six months.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Application process** | Applications and document uploads must be submitted in English through the application portal. (see General Considerations (3) Application process) |
| **Close of application portal** | Please note that the application portal will close on **January 18, 2027, at 23:59 CET**. No further applications will be accepted after this deadline. (see General Considerations (5) Important dates relating to the application and fellowships) |
| **Self-selected host institute** | Applicants are responsible for identifying and arranging their placement and host institute before applying. Bayer Foundation cannot assist in finding projects or host institutes.<br>(see General Considerations (7) Other) |
| **Additional documents** | - One official letter of support from your self-selected host institute<br>- Two letters of recommendation<br>- A short curriculum vitae (CV)<br>- The certificate of your most recently completed degree program (if applicable), in English or accompanied by an English translation<br>- An official academic transcript for your current study program (except PhD students), in English or accompanied by an English translation<br>- Proof of enrollment in your current study program<br>- A one-minute motivation video<br>- An official acceptance letter or admission confirmation for a future study program (if applicable) (see What Documents Are Needed? and FAQs Q4) |
| **Funding (max. amount)** | Please note that the maximum funding available is **10,000€**. Costs exceeding this amount will not be funded. Therefore, please submit a budget not exceeding 10,000€.<br>Fellowships/Research stay/project must **start on or after August 1, 2027**, and must end by **December 31, 2028**. We're not funding projects that have already begun or cover any costs incurred before August 1, 2027. The only exceptions are visa and flight expenses, which may be incurred before August 1, 2027, if required in preparation for the fellowship. (see FAQs Q1) |
| **Exceptional costs** | Exceptional costs may be requested separately and must be justified. Please explain why the host institute does not cover these costs and why they are essential to the project. A maximum of 2,500€ may be requested for exceptional costs. (see Exceptional costs) |
| **Caregiving responsibilities** | Parents with caregiving responsibilities who bring their child(ren) to the fellowship location are eligible for an additional funding of 500€ per month. This childcare support is paid on top of—and does not count toward—the 10,000€ fellowship maximum (see Caregiving responsibilities) |
| **Additional funding** | Additional funding will not affect your eligibility for a Bayer Foundation fellowship. However, please check the requirements and restrictions of any other funding sources. Bayer Foundation funds may only cover costs not funded by another source. Please disclose any additional funding in your application. (see FAQs Q5) |

# I. General Considerations

## 1) Purpose of the fellowship

Bayer Foundation Fellowships are designed to enhance existing study programs (MSc, PhD, and medicine) by providing additional funding for **international placements or research activities** that complement current or future academic studies.

- Students who are enrolled outside of Germany **must** undertake their placement within Germany.
- Students who are enrolled at a German university **must** undertake their placement outside of Germany.
- Students enrolled in a multinational study program **may not** undertake the fellowship at either of their home institutes.
- Fellowships **may not** be undertaken at commercial organizations (i.e., in industry).

## 2) General eligibility

- Currently enrolled in an MSc, PhD, medical degree program, or equivalent program.
- Students currently enrolled in an MBBS or Pharm D program are eligible to apply and may be funded.
- Bachelor students, postdoctoral researchers, medical doctors, and holders of a completed MBBS or Pharm D are **not eligible.** Students who will **have completed their doctoral studies** (defense of thesis) before the end of the proposed fellowship are also **not eligible**. This means: If you are already holding a PhD or MD you are not eligible to apply.
- Observerships (hospitations) are not eligible for funding and are excluded from support under this fellowship.
- Applicants must have a strong academic record, with very good to excellent performance in a scientific discipline or in medical studies.
- Please refer to the individual fellowship descriptions for additional eligibility criteria. (see Fellowships)

## 3) Application process

- Applications must be made in **English**.
- All documents must be uploaded in **English or accompanied by an English translation**. (see What Documents Are Needed?)
- Applications must be submitted through the online application portal. Applications submitted by email, mail, or any other means will not be considered.
- Incomplete, incorrect, or ineligible applications will not be considered.
- Applicants may **submit only one application per call**. Multiple applications will result in all submissions being rejected.

## 4) Evaluation process and criteria

- An initial review of applications will be conducted by Bayer Foundation to ensure that all applications are complete and meet the eligibility requirements.
- Applications will then be evaluated by an independent jury of scientists.

The primary evaluation criteria include:

- Fundamental quality and relevance of the application (based on our guidelines and questions)
- Motivation and potential of the applicant
- Value of the fellowship to the applicant

Additional criteria:

- Collaborative and/or interdisciplinary proposals are considered highly desirable.

## 5) Important dates relating to the application and fellowships

- Applications may be submitted between **November 10, 2026, and January 18, 2027** (the application portal will close on January 18, 2027, at 23:59 CET).
- Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their fellowship application by **April 1, 2027**.
- Fellowships/Research stay/project must start on or after **August 1, 2027**, and must end by **December 31, 2028**. (see FAQs Q1)
- We do not fund projects that have already begun and do not cover costs incurred before **August 1, 2027**. (see FAQs Q1)

## 6) Funding and fellowship duration

- The maximum funding for a fellowship is **10,000€.**
- Exceptional costs and caregiving costs may be requested separately and must be justified. (see Exceptional costs and Caregiving responsibilities)
- Bayer Foundation Fellowships may be combined with other funding sources or fellowships. (see FAQs Q5)
- Funding may be used for activities lasting **up to six months**.

## 7) Other

**We cannot provide administrative support** for arranging language courses, visas, housing, travel, or other logistical matters. We cannot assist applicants in finding a project or host institute for their international placement. **We do not provide individualized feedback on project ideas, project scope, project titles, or similar application content.** Applicants and their host institutes are responsible for making these arrangements and handling all related practical matters.

## II. Fellowships

Please read the General Considerations before applying to this fellowship.

**For all fellowships, applicants should demonstrate:**

- A scientifically innovative and ambitious mindset
- An understanding of the relevance of their work to relevant industries
- Awareness of the potential societal implications of their research

**We strongly encourage:**

- Interdisciplinary and/or collaborative research projects
- Projects that contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

### Drug Discovery Sciences Fellowships

- For students enrolled in an MSc, PhD, or equivalent degree program in natural sciences, pharmacy, or data science whose research — fundamental or applied — is relevant to the **pharmaceutical and consumer healthcare (over-the-counter, OTC) industries**. (see FAQs Q*2*)

### Agricultural Sciences Fellowships

- For students enrolled in an MSc, PhD, or equivalent degree program in natural sciences, pharmacy, or data science whose research — fundamental or applied — is relevant **to the crop science industry**. (see FAQs Q*2*)

### Medical Sciences Fellowships

- For students in the fields of **human and veterinary medicine, medical engineering, applied medical sciences, and public health**. Applications of **data science in medicine** are also eligible.
- Applicants must be enrolled in human or veterinary medicine or in an MSc or PhD (or equivalent) degree program in medical engineering, applied medical sciences, public health, data science, or another relevant field related to medicine.
- **We encourage:**
  - Projects that address health challenges in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs)
  - Projects relating to the treatment of rare or orphan diseases

### Climate and Health Fellowships

- For students in the fields of **human or veterinary medicine**, or for students enrolled in an MSc, PhD, or equivalent degree program in **natural sciences, pharmacy, public health, or epidemiology**, whose research is relevant to the **impact of climate change on health**.
- **We encourage:**
  - Projects specifically relevant to the health of women and other vulnerable populations
  - Projects relating to the area of Cardio-Renal Health
  - Projects relating to the area of Neglected Tropical Diseases
  - Projects relating to the area of Respiratory Health

## III. What Can the Fellowship Be Used For?

- Compulsory components of degree programs (e.g., master's thesis) undertaken abroad.
- Additional (non-compulsory) research stays abroad as part of master's, doctoral (PhD), or medical degree program.
- Research stays abroad to learn specific scientific skills and techniques relevant for current research programs.
- Internships between a master's degree and a PhD program. (We request evidence of the PhD offer in this case.)
- Research stays or access to specialized facilities for activities that cannot be carried out at the home institute, such as specialist hospitals, cyclotrons, radiological facilities, specialized microscopes, and similar infrastructure.
- Interdisciplinary research stays are permitted and encouraged, for example, a microbiologist studying systems biology or a synthetic chemist studying chemical biology.

## IV. Use of Fellowship Funding

**Fellowship funding <u>can</u> be used for the following:**

- Travel expenses, visa expenses, and living expenses
- Caregiving responsibilities (see Caregiving responsibilities)
- Exceptional costs (see Exceptional costs)

F**ellowship funding <u>cannot</u> be used for the following:**
Lab consumables or equipment; laptops, tablets or similar; conferences, workshops or similar; costs associated with writing papers, books, reviews or similar; guest lectures, visiting professorships or similar; tuition or course fees e.g., fees for studies in a foreign country, accommodation deposits.

### Caregiving responsibilities

Caregiving responsibilities can be supported if the applicant's **child accompanies them during the fellowship**. In this case, applicants may apply for additional childcare support of **500€ per month**. This funding may be used for child-related expenses such as nannies, babysitters, or other daycare services. Child-related travel, transportation, food, accommodation, visa, and similar expenses may be included in the general fellowship budget plan. Costs related to partners or other accompanying adults, including travel or living expenses, are not covered.

The maximum amount available under the caregiving responsibilities support is 3,000€ for a period of up to six months. Applicants may request 500€ per month, up to this maximum amount. This funding is fixed, independent of the number of children, and provided in addition to the regular fellowship funding of 10,000€.

To apply for the caregiving responsibilities funding, applicants must submit **a copy of the child's birth certificate** as proof. The requested funding amount must correspond to the number of months the child will be present during the fellowship.

| Month | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Requested Funding Amount: | 500€ | 1000€ | 1500€ | 2000€ | 2500€ | 3000€ |

### Exceptional costs

Exceptional costs are **additional, non-standard expenses** that are essential for the successful completion of a fellowship and cannot be covered by the regular fellowship funding. All requests for exceptional costs must be **clearly justified** and will be assessed by the Bayer Foundation on a case-by-case basis.

Exceptional costs may include, but are not limited to, additional financial support for fellowships undertaken in low- and middle-income countries where extra resources are necessary, training required to enable field studies, or costs for machine time at specialized research institutes. There is no separate funding available for consumables, laboratory equipment, or similar materials.

The maximum amount that can be requested for exceptional costs is 2,500€. If approved, this amount is granted in addition to the regular fellowship funding of up to 10,000€. The total funding available may therefore be up to 12,500€.

## V. What Information Is Needed?

**In addition to completing the application form, applicants must provide the following information and supporting documents.**

- **A brief abstract-style summary of your project** (max. 750 characters incl. spaces)
- **A detailed project description** highlighting the scientific or industrial relevance of your project, its collaborative nature, and any interdisciplinary aspects (max. 2,000 characters incl. spaces)
- **A description of the potential societal relevance and impact of your project**, including relevance to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, where applicable (max. 1,750 characters incl. spaces)
- **A personal statement**, including your motivation for applying, your personal and professional aspirations, and any additional information relevant to your application (max. 1,750 characters incl. spaces)
- **A proposed budget** for the fellowship period, including a breakdown of all costs in euros (e.g., travel, rent, and other eligible expenses)
- If applicable, **a justification for exceptional costs**, e.g., machine time at specialist institutes, specialist training for field studies. We recommend discussing these costs with your host institute before submitting your application. This should include a justification of the exceptional costs, why they are not covered by the host institute, and why these costs are essential to the program.
- If applying for funding related to caregiving responsibilities, **details of caregiving responsibilities and related costs**
- If applicable, **information on additional funding expected during the fellowship period**. If any of the proposed fellowship costs are covered by another funding source, this must be clearly explained.
- If available, **a list of publications, posters, presentations, scientific talks, prizes, awards, or other academic achievements**

## VI. What Documents Are Needed?

To complete the application, applicants must provide the following **key documents (each submitted as a PDF and in English).**

**Requirements for all support, acceptance, and recommendation letters:** Letters must be issued on **official institutional letterhead** and include the **name, position, and affiliation of the signatory** as well as either a **handwritten or digital signature.**

- A current **curriculum vitae** (**CV)** outlining your academic and career pathway, summarizing your educational background, relevant experience, achievements, and activities, to help assess your current stage of education and professional development.
- **One support letter from your self-selected host institute** confirming its support for your proposed placement. The letter must be issued by your prospective host supervisor or an equivalent authorized representative, confirm the institute's willingness to host you during the fellowship period, and clearly state the planned start date and expected duration of the fellowship.
- **Two letters of recommendation** (see FAQs Q13):
    - One recommendation letter from **a current and/or previous direct** supervisor at your home institute.
    - One additional recommendation letter from a supervisor, professor, academic mentor, or other qualified referee affiliated with either your current or a previous institution.
- **Proof of enrollment in your current study program** confirming your current student status. The document must clearly indicate your name, degree program, and enrollment period, and must confirm that you will be enrolled during the period relevant to the proposed fellowship.
- **Certificate of your most recently completed degree program** (e.g., Bachelor's, Master's, or equivalent). If the certificate is not issued in English, an English certified or self-translated translation must be submitted together with the original document.
- **The most recent official academic transcript for your current study program,** including all courses completed and grades achieved to date (not required for PhD students). If the transcript is not issued in English, an English certified or self-translated translation must be submitted together with the original document.
- A **1-minute motivation video** explaining why you are applying for the Bayer Foundation fellowship, why you selected the proposed host institution, and how the fellowship will contribute to your academic and professional development. Please ensure that you are clearly visible and audible throughout the recording. The use of editing techniques, special effects, filters, or AI-generated content is not permitted. *Maximum file size: 50 MB.*
- If applicable, provide one **acceptance letter for your next study program.** The letter should confirm your admission to the program, support your progression to the next level of education, and indicate the planned or estimated start date.
- If applicable, provide **birth certificate(s)** or other official documentation confirming the existence of any child(ren) accompanying the applicant during the fellowship period.

## VII. Applicants With Disabilities and Chronic Illnesses

We encourage individuals with chronic illnesses or disabilities to apply. Applications will be evaluated by an independent jury, which will take into account not only professional and academic criteria, but also the individual circumstances and personal development of applicants.

## VIII. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

**1. When can I start my fellowship?**

The funding period cannot begin before August 1, 2027. Consequently, fellowship funds can only be disbursed after this date. Funding cannot be used retrospectively. The only exceptions are visa and flight expenses, which may be incurred before August 1, 2027, if required in preparation for the fellowship. Please note that the earliest possible departure date is August 1, 2027.

Funding is available for a maximum period of six months. If your planned activity exceeds six months, please enter only the dates covering the period for which you are requesting funding, not the total duration of the activity.

**2. Which subject areas are supported?**

This depends on the fellowship for which you are applying. In general, eligible subject areas include: all areas of natural sciences and data science with relevance to pharmaceutical, consumer healthcare (over-the-counter [OTC]) and the crop science industry; pharmacy; human and veterinary medicine; applied medical sciences; medical engineering and public health.

Examples include but are not limited to: plant physiology, bio-physics, machine learning, organic chemistry, process engineering, drug formulation technology, data science, digital farming, genetics, chemical engineering, molecular and cell biology, synthetic chemistry, chemical biology, supramolecular chemistry, pharmacology, agricultural engineering, etymology and plant pathology, crop science, biochemistry, bio-informatics, bio-markers, microbiology, mathematics, statistics, physical organic chemistry.

**3. There have been changes to my fellowship since I submitted my application, what should I do?**

Please contact us as soon as possible.

Minor changes (e.g., to the research topic or timing of fellowship) are typically acceptable. However, because selection is based primarily on the submitted proposal, reference letters, and host invitation, major changes will typically not be accepted and funding may be withdrawn.

**Exceptional circumstances will be considered.** Examples include, but are not limited to, a host professor changing institutions, the proposed research topic no longer being viable (explanation and proposed alternative must be provided), or serious illness.

**4. What is meant by next study program?**

This means, in case you are at the end of your master's program, meaning that you are still enrolled as a student, but have already been accepted for your next position as a PhD student.

**5. Can I combine funding from Bayer Foundation with other funding sources?**

Yes, though please check the restrictions on other funding sources. Bayer Foundation funds may only cover costs not funded by another source. For example, if an internship is paid, then it is not permitted to apply for general living costs from the Bayer Foundation. Please include additional funding sources with your application.

**6. Can I apply for a Bayer Foundation fellowship if I receive payment (e.g., stipend/salary) for my proposed internship/research stay?**

Yes, but you may not request funding for general living expenses. In this case, the application may cover additional eligible costs, such as flights or visa expenses. Please include additional funding sources with your application.

**7. My proposed activity is for longer than 6 months, can I still apply for a Bayer Foundation Fellowship?**

Yes, but you are only eligible for funding for six months and your application must reflect this. Please use only the dates for which you are applying for funding in your application, not the full duration of the placement.

**8. I am already abroad (conducting my research project) / have already completed my project. Can I apply for funding for that period?**

Unfortunately, no**.**

**9. What do you consider to be "reasonable" costs?**

As a guideline:

- We expect travel costs to be based on economy travel and booked in advance.
- We expect accommodation costs to reflect those of **a typical student** in the area the placement is taking place i.e., shared apartments, small studios or similar. **Do not use** hotel costs, Airbnb or business travel costings as a guide.
- For daily living costs, these should reflect the **standard of living at your home** institute i.e., primarily eating at home, traveling on public transport, economic use of utilities and phone. **Do not use** business travel costings as a guide.
- We do not provide funding for accommodation deposits.

Approximate monthly living costs for European countries

Living costs are the expenses that arise in the course of leading a normal life, e.g. for accommodation, food.

- Germany, the Netherlands, Italy, Spain, Finland, Norway 2000€ per month
- France, Austria, Belgium, Sweden, Denmark 2200€ per month
- UK, Ireland, Switzerland 2500€ per month

Please note, we understand that this will vary depending on the city/area in which the application takes place, and this is intended only as a guide to help applicants understand the relative costs of different countries.

**10. What are the additional benefits/activities of the Bayer Foundation Fellowship Program?**

All fellowship awardees are invited to join and actively contribute to our Bayer Foundation Science Network. This will include scientific events such as lectures, award celebrations with renowned researchers and networking events.

**11. What kind of documentation is required in terms of the proposed use of funds?**

In the application, we require a proposal for approximate costs. We expect that proposals are reasonable and cover only costs that are essential to the proposed activity. Please be aware that proof of costs must be made available upon requests (e.g., travel bookings, housing contracts and utility bills).

Exceptional costs are likely to require additional documentation.

**12. Can I have two different host institutes?**

No. You may only choose one host institute for your proposed research stay. If your project involves collaboration with another institution, travel between multiple host institutes will not be funded. Any collaboration arrangements must therefore be organized within the framework of a single host institute.

An exception may apply to mandatory field trips that are essential for the successful completion of your fellowship project. In such cases, you may request additional funding under the exceptional costs category (see Exceptional costs), provided that the costs are clearly justified and approved by the Bayer Foundation.

**13. What should my recommendation letter include?**

We do not provide feedback on the content of your recommendation letter. Recommendation letters must be written independently by the referee and not by the applicant. Please ensure that:

- **Your qualifications and suitability for the fellowship are clearly articulated.**
- The letter reflects **your work, capabilities, and potential**.

If you have **not been at your current home institute long enough** for your supervisor to write a meaningful recommendation letter, you may instead submit a recommendation **letter from a supervisor at a previous institute**.

## IX. Examples of Budgets

**WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND REVIEWING YOUR BUDGET WITH YOUR HOST INSTITUTE BEFORE SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION.**

These budget plans are provided as **examples only**. Individual costs and specific expenses will vary depending on the application. Please include all relevant costs for **your application**.

Please provide all **final costs in euros and indicate the exchange rate** used for conversion, as appropriate.

**Please be aware that Bayer Foundation funding may only be used to cover costs that are not funded by another source.** For example, if an internship is paid, then it is not permitted to apply for general living costs from the Bayer Foundation. In this case, the application may cover additional costs, such as flights or visa expenses. **Please include information about any additional funding sources in your application.**

**Example budget plans**

*Items marked with an * vary and should be adjusted according to the country of origin and destination city.*

**Example 1: Lokaja, Nigeria to Münster, Germany (6 month stay)**

| Expense type | Amount for 6 months (€) | Description |
|---|---|---|
| Airfare incl. transport to/from airport:* | 1650 | Return economy flight:<br>Abuja (Nigeria) – Frankfurt (Germany)<br><br>Lokaja – Abuja 25€ Private car<br>Frankfurt – Münster 50€ Train<br>Abuha – Lakoja 25€ Private car<br>Münster - Frankfurt 50€ Train |
| Local transportation costs during fellowship in Germany | 378 | Monthly ticket<br>63€ per month |
| Visa costs* | 115 | Application 75€<br>Travel* Lokaja – Abuja and back 40€ via private car |
| Housing/rent incl. utilities (e.g. electricity, water, internet etc.)*<br><br>(For city-specific prices in Germany have a look on the table here) | 3000 | Student accommodation estimated at 500€ per month shared apartment in Münster |
| Phone | 120 | 20€ per month |
| Food | 1800 | 300€ per month |
| Health Insurance | 750 | 125€ |
| **Total** | **7813** | |

**Example 2: Düsseldorf, Germany to Sao Paulo, Brazil (6 month stay)**

| Expense type | Amount for 6 months (€) | Description |
|---|---|---|
| Airfare incl. transport to/from airport:* | 1120 | Return economy flight:<br>Frankfurt (Germany) – Sao Paolo (Brazil)<br><br>Düsseldorf – Frankfurt Airport via train 50€<br>Sao Paulo Airport – Sao Paolo City via public transport 10€<br>Sao Paulo City – Sao Paolo Airport via public transport 10€<br>Frankfurt Airport -Düsseldorf via train 50€ |
| Local transportation costs during fellowship in Brazil* | 300 | Monthly public transportation pass in São Paulo<br>50€ per month |
| Visa costs* | 210 | Application 170€<br>Travel* Düsseldorf – Frankfurt and back 40€ via train |
| Housing/rent inc. utilities (e.g. electricity, water, internet etc.)* | 3060 | Student accommodation estimated at 500€ per month<br><br>Internet: 10€ per month |
| Phone | 60 | 10€ per month |
| Food | 1200 | 200€ per month |
| Health Insurance | 360 | 60€ per month |
| **Total** | **6310** | |

**Example 3: Düsseldorf, Germany to Boston, USA (4 month stay)**

| Expense type | Amount for 4 months (€) | Description |
|---|---|---|
| Airfare incl. transport to/from airport:* | 712 | Return economy flight:<br>Frankfurt (Germany) – Boston (USA)<br><br>Düsseldorf – Frankfurt 50€ Train<br>Boston Airport – Cambridge via public transportation 12€<br>Frankfurt – Düsseldorf 50€ Train |
| Local transportation costs during fellowship in Boston* | 360 | Monthly public transportation pass in Boston<br>90€ per month |
| Visa costs* | 540 | Application 176€<br>SEVIS fee 324€<br>Travel* Düsseldorf – Frankfurt and back 40€ via train |
| Housing/rent inc. utilities (e.g. electricity, water, internet etc.)* | 6120 | Student studio apartment 1400€ per month incl. internet<br>Utilities (e.g. electricity, water etc.): 130€ per month |
| Phone | 80 | 20€ per month |
| Food | 1600 | 400€ per month |
| Health Insurance | 240 | 60€ per month |
| **Total** | **9652** | |

## X. Additional Guidelines for International Students Coming to Germany

*Please note that any suggestions or guidance can be subject to change regarding accuracy, completeness or suitability for your specific fellowship. Please seek for appropriate accounting, legal or other professional advice to address specific facts and circumstances.*

Please check any policy documents, contracts, financial regulatory protections etc. in relation to any banking or insurance organizations you use and that they are meeting your individual needs.

**Budget Planning**

We strongly recommend getting support from your host institute and supervisor in reviewing your budget. Please specifically request up to date information on accommodation costs including deposit/caution and availability.

Costs in Germany have increased significantly since the pandemic, and specific cities have seen particularly high increases in accommodation costs.

If in doubt about your financial planning, ***we strongly recommend undertaking a slightly shorter fellowship*** e.g. 5 months instead of 6 to make sure your fellowship is financially viable.

**Money Transfers**

Please note, that you will receive your fellowship **funding in Euros** to avoid ancillary costs. The converted amount is always based on the current exchange rate of the day of the transfer. We will share some suggestions regarding the bank accounts, international money transfers and alternative solutions with you after the funding approval.

**Health Insurance**

**You will need health insurance.** Please consider the International Healthcare Company though please check if it fulfils your needs. We believe it is good value and comprehensive for short stays in Germany.