

Programme Information

Capes-Humboldt Research Fellowships for post-doctoral researchers

With Capes-Humboldt Research Fellowships for **postdoctoral researchers**, the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and Capes (Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior) enable highly-qualified scientists from Brazil, at the beginning of their academic careers who have obtained their **doctoral degrees less than four years ago**¹ to spend extended periods of research (6-24 months) in Germany. Scientists and scholars from all disciplines may apply.

Research projects are carried out in cooperation with academic hosts at research institutions in Germany. Candidates choose their own research projects and their host in Germany and prepare their own research plan. Details of the research project and the time schedule must be agreed upon with the prospective host in advance. The duration of the research fellowship is 6-24 months. Short-term visits for study and training purposes or for attending conferences are not eligible for sponsorship.

Candidates are selected solely on the basis of their academic record. There are no quotas for disciplines.

A candidate's academic eligibility is assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

- academic record and academic performance to date (mobility, strength of purpose, breadth of specialisation, academic productivity)
- quality of key publications identified by the applicant (originality, innovativeness, applicant's contribution in cases of multiple authorship)
- quality of research plan (originality, scientific methods, focus, feasibility at host institute, potential for applicant's academic development, prospects of success within the sponsorship period)
- the applicant's future potential (academic potential, further academic development, career prospects)

Applications are assessed by independent peer reviewers appointed by Capes and the Humboldt Foundation. The final decision is taken by a committee composed of academics from all disciplines in the framework of the funding available.

Fellowship specifications

The fellowship is worth 2,600 EUR per month. Capes will pay 2,100 EUR of the monthly fellowship rate for postdoctoral researchers, as well as a subsidy towards the cost of medical insurance, an initial lump sum and a subsidy towards mobility from and to Brazil. The Humboldt Foundation will pay the remaining difference to the fellowship amount of 2,600 EUR including a mobility lump sum amounting to 100 EUR per month.

¹ Researchers who completed their doctorates less than twelve years ago may apply for "Capes-Humboldt Research Fellowships experienced researchers".

Additional benefits:

- An **allowance for research costs** to be paid to the hosts in Germany amounting to 800 EUR per month (for research projects in the natural sciences and engineering) and 500 EUR (for research projects in the humanities and social sciences);
- **language fellowship** for an intensive language course for the fellow and his/her marital partner lasting two to four months at selected language institutes in Germany **immediately prior to** the actual period of research;
- **family allowances** for visits by family members lasting at least three months (up to 326 EUR for the marital partner and up to 234 EUR per month for each child);
- **child allowance** for accompanying children (under the age of 18) of **single parent research fellows** on stays of at least three months (400 EUR per month for the first child and 100 EUR per month for every additional child);
- **additional up to 12 month extension** of the fellowship for research fellows accompanied by children under the age of 12;
- **Europe allowance** for a research stay at a research institute in another European country; for a designated period in the course of the fellowship if necessary to ensure the success of the research project;
- **extensive alumni sponsorship** once a successful research stay has come to an end, especially for maintaining contact with collaborative partners in Germany during the Humboldtian's entire academic career.

Application requirements

1. **Doctorate** in Brazil or abroad with an official revalidation in Brazil completed less than four (4) years prior to the date of application.
2. **Academic publications** reviewed according to international standards and printed in journals and/or by publishing houses.
3. **Confirmation that research facilities are available and mentoring agreement and a detailed expert's report** by an academic host at a research institution in Germany.
4. **Language skills:** natural scientists and engineers must have a good knowledge of German or English; physicians and researchers from humanities and social sciences must have a good knowledge of German if it is necessary to carry out the project successfully; otherwise a good knowledge of English is required.
5. Brazilian **nationality** or permanent residence visa in Brazil.
6. Proven teaching or research activity in Brazil.
7. Research already funded in other programmes cannot be financed again within the Capes-Humboldt Research Fellowship Programme.

Potential applicants who have been in Germany for more than six months at the time of application are not eligible to apply.

Academics who have already been sponsored by the Humboldt Foundation are not eligible to apply for the Capes-Humboldt Research Fellowship Programme but should turn to the Foundation's Alumni Programme for support for further research stays.

Application procedure

Applications can be submitted as follows:

Selection process	Registration	Result	Start of fellowship or language course
Call 1	August 10, 2012 – August 31, 2012	Until December 15, 2012	February/March 2013 – December 2013
Call 2	September 3, 2012 – January 31, 2013	Until May 15, 2013	July/August 2013 – May 2014
Call 3	February 1, 2013 – August 31, 2013	Until December 15, 2013	February/March 2014 – December 2014
Call 4	September 3, 2013 – January 31, 2014	Until May 15, 2014	July/August 2014 – May 2015
Call 5	February 1, 2014 – August 31, 2014	Until December 15, 2014	February/March 2015 – December 2015

Fill in the **application form** available at www.capes.gov.br/cooperacao-internacional/alemanha/capes-humboldt

The form and documents required for inscription to the program must be submitted to the email address Humboldt@capes.gov.br and also sent by post to the following address until the deadline of the application period:

Capes, Diretoria de Relações Internacionais, Setor Bancário Norte, Quadra 2, Bloco L, Lote 06, 2º andar CEP 70040-020 - Brasília, DF.

Capes will confirm receipt of the application by email. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that he or she has submitted all the necessary documents.

Applications must be submitted as a single entity to avoid loss of documents or confusion of applications.

The application documents will then usually be forwarded to independent reviewers appointed by Capes and the Humboldt Foundation for written review. On the basis of these independent peer reviews a selection committee composed of about 10 academics reaches a decision on approving research fellowships. The selection committee meets twice a year, in spring and in autumn.

If an application has been approved,

- a) the fellow will be asked to fill in a link at Capes system to be able to receive benefits of the scholarship;
- b) The fellow arriving from Brazil may start the fellowship as indicated in the table above. Otherwise the fellowship will be forfeited.

Further details pertaining to the fellowship and to the research stay can be found in the [Guidelines and Advice for Research Fellows](#) of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. Moreover, the [Rules of Good Scientific Practice](#) of the Humboldt Foundation and the [ethical rules of the 7th EU Framework Programme](#) apply both to applications and sponsorship.