

## Programme Information

### **Capes-Humboldt Research Fellowships for post-doctoral researchers**

In providing 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 and scholars from Brazil who are just embarking on their academic careers and **who completed their doctorates less than four years ago**<sup>1</sup> to spend extended periods of research (6-24 months) in Germany. Scientists and scholars from all disciplines may apply.

The research outline is carried out in cooperation with academic hosts at research institutions in Germany. Applicants choose their own topic of research and their host in Germany. Details of the research outline including information on the intended duration of the fellowship must be agreed with the intended host before applying. 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 the evaluation of their academic qualification. There are no quotas for individual disciplines. A candidate's academic qualification is assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

- academic record and academic performance to date (mobility, determination, breadth of research activities, academic productivity)
- quality of key publications specified in the application (originality, degree of innovation, applicant's contribution in cases of multiple authorship)
- originality and innovation potential of the suggested research outline (significance for the advancement of the discipline, convincing choice of academic methods, prospects for academic development of the applicant, clear focus and feasibility of realization within the requested funding period and at the chosen host institution)
- the applicant's future potential (academic potential, further academic development, career prospects)

Applications are assessed on the basis of independent peer reviews requested 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.

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

Additional benefits for research fellows:

- **language fellowship** for an intensive language course lasting two to four months at selected language institutes in Germany **immediately prior to** the actual period of research; language fellowships may also be granted to accompanying marital partners;
- **family allowances** for accompanying family members staying at least three months (monthly allowance: up to 326 EUR for marital partners and up to 234 EUR for each child);
- **for single parents: flat-rate allowance** for accompanying children (under the age of 18) for stays of at least three months (400 EUR per month for the first child and 100 EUR per month for every additional child);
- **additional extension** of the fellowship up to 12 months for research fellows accompanied by children under the age of 12;
- **a subsidy towards research costs** to be paid to the hosts in Germany amounting to 800 EUR per month (for research in the natural sciences and engineering) and 500 EUR (for research in the humanities and social sciences);
- **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;
- **extensive alumni sponsorship** once a successful research stay has come to an end, especially for maintaining contacts 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 statement** by an academic host at a research institution in Germany.
4. **Necessary language skills:** humanities or social sciences and medicine: good knowledge of German if it is necessary to carry out the research successfully; otherwise a good knowledge of English; natural sciences and engineering: good knowledge of German or English.
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 to Capes as follows:

Selection process	Registration	Result	Start of fellowship or language course
<b>Call 6</b>	8 September 2014 – 31 December 2014	until 15 May 2015	July/August 2015 – May 2016
<b>Call 7</b>	1 January 2015 – 31 July 2015	until 15 December 2015	February/March 2016 – December 2016
<b>Call 8</b>	1 August 2015 – 31 December 2015	until 17 May 2016	July/August 2016 – May 2017
<b>Call 9</b>	1 January 2016 – 29 July 2016	until 15 December 2016	February/March 2017 – December 2017
<b>Call 10</b>	30 July 2016 – 30 December 2016	until 16 May 2017	July/August 2017 – May 2018
<b>Call 11</b>	31 December 2016 – 28 July 2017	until 15 December 2017	February/March 2018 – December 2018

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

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.