PROJECT FUNDING

THE GERMAN VERSION OF THIS DOCUMENT SHALL BE LEGALLY BINDING

FUNDING FRAMEWORK

Integrated International Degree Programmes with Double Degrees – Funding Phase (from 2027 to max. 2031)

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

1

The German Academic Exchange Service (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst - DAAD) supports the funding programme "Integrated International Degree Programmes with Double Degrees" with funds from the Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space (BMFTR).

The funding programme is divided into three phases: the preparation phase, the funding phase, and follow-up funding. It is possible to join the funding programme during both the preparation phase and the funding phase.
During the **funding phase**, support is provided for the implementation and further development of integrated international undergraduate and graduate degree programmes in which highly qualified German and international students study alternately at the German institution and the foreign partner institution(s) and earn both national degrees (joint or double degree).

The objectives of the funding programme in the **funding phase** are
1: Highly qualified students have earned further qualifications and/or a degree through international double degree programmes.
2: Teaching staff have gained intercultural and international teaching experiences.
3: (Partner) universities offer advanced international degree programmes leading to double degrees.
4: The appeal and competitiveness of international double degree programmes have been enhanced.

With regard to the funding logic and the results, programme objectives and longer-term effects of the funding programme, see the results framework (**Attachment 1**).

Project objectives do not have to be defined for all programme objectives. However, at least one project objective must be determined for the programme objectives 1 and 4.

For impact-oriented project planning, see "**Handout WoM**".

Ecological sustainability

The DAAD has set itself the goal of further reducing its ecological footprint as an organisation and funding body. In the context of project funding, efforts

should be made to plan and implement projects in a way that preserves resources, the climate and the environment. This applies in particular to mobility/travelling and, depending on the type and scope of the project, can also relate to procurement and allocation, event management or marketing and public relations. Further information on climate-sensitive implementation of international university cooperation in DAAD project funding can be found in the handout.

Diversity
In its diversity agenda, the DAAD defines diversity, equal opportunities and inclusion as important cross-cutting goals for international academic exchange. Thus, talented people should be given the opportunity to contribute their diversity and different perspectives in the context of project funding. Projects must be planned and realised with this cross-cutting objective into account. Additional funding can be provided for people with disabilities and chronic illnesses (see information sheet "Information on mobility with disabilities and chronic illnesses"). Further information on diversity and equal opportunities in DAAD-funded projects can be found in the handout.

2 ELIGIBLE MEASURES

Eligible measures are

- Study stays for students from the German university at the international partner university(-ies) (**max. 6 full or 12 partial scholarships per cohort and partner university** typically up to 10 months (one or two semesters))
- Study stays for students from the partner university(-ies) in DAC countries at the German university (typically up to 10 months (one or two semesters))
- Teaching stays for teaching staff from the German university at the international partner university(-ies) (typically lasting 2 weeks to 3 months)
- Teaching stays for teaching staff from the international partner university(-ies) at the German university (typically lasting 2 weeks to 3 months)
- (Virtual) preparatory measures for students from the German university planning to study at the international partner university(-ies) (e.g. language courses, subject-specific courses, intercultural trainings taking place at the German university)
- (Virtual) support measures for students from the international partner university(-ies) during their stay at the German university (e.g. language courses, subject-specific courses, intercultural training)
- Development and refinement of curricula, teaching modules, or courses for the double degree programme
- Planning and coordination meetings at the international partner university(-ies) for project staff from the German university

- Marketing and public relations measures for students and alumni of the double degree programme (e.g. websites, social media, (virtual) information/advertising events, videos, newsletters, information/advertising materials to promote the double degree programme and foster engagement among alumni)
- Planning and organising (virtual) networking events at the German university and excursions within Germany to facilitate networking among alumni of the double degree programme
- Participation of alumni of the double degree programme from or in Germany in networking events at the German university
- Creating and/or maintaining a contacts database for alumni of the double degree programme

ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE

3 Personnel resources for project implementation and support

PERSONNEL

- research associates
- research assistants
- student assistants
- other personnel (e.g. administrative staff of the International Office)

Personnel expenditure includes the gross salary paid by the employer. Annual bonus payments under collective agreements are only eligible for funding during the approval period and only insofar as the payment date falls within this period. Other individual and collectively agreed one-off payments are only eligible for funding if the DAAD has issued a regulation to this effect and communicated it.

Material resources

HONORARIES (not for own staff)

- for external tutors, language instructors or other visiting lecturers to prepare students at the German university for a stay abroad
- for external instructors to supervise students from the partner university while in Germany
- for speakers participating in (virtual) networking events for alumni
- for external staff to implement digitalisation projects

Table of fees (for orientation)

Working time	**without** academic qualification	**with** academic qualification
1 hr.	34 – 68	51 – 83
2 hrs.	68 – 117	100 – 166
3 hrs.	117 – 166	151 – 250
4 hrs.	166 - 217	200 – 333
5 hrs.	217 – 267	250 – 416

6 hrs.	267 – 316	300 – 499
7 hrs. or more	300 – 367	350 – 566

Expenditure for mobility and, if applicable, accommodation can also be applied for and claimed in accordance with the principles of economic efficiency and frugality. These expenses, which do not relate to the fee itself, must be included in the fee agreement.

Please note:
Non-fundable expenditures include fees paid to persons collaborating on the project abroad, and for courses offered on a regular basis.

MOBILITY OF PROJECT PERSONNEL

Expenses for travel/flights for staff of the German university can be applied for and claimed in accordance with the federal travel expenses act (BRKG)/state travel expenses act (LRKG); in deviation from this, train journeys only 2nd class and flights only in economy class.

Please note:
Non-fundable expenditures include expenses for accommodation and subsistence, or other expenses not directly related to the trip (e.g. excess baggage fees, travel equipment, tips etc.).

MATERIAL RESOURCES

- consumables (e.g. office materials)
- rent (e.g. rental fees for external event rooms)
- printing/publications/advertising and public relations activities (e.g. social media, videos, (virtual) information/advertising events (including those organised by the German university at the partner university), information/advertising materials)
- external services (e.g. catering only for networking events for alumni or information/advertising events (max. 32 euros/person/meal), IT services)
- other expenditure (e.g. software licences, participation fees for online courses, travel and accommodation expenses incurred in connection with networking events for alumni, in accordance with the principles of economic efficiency and frugality, within Germany to or at the German university, transportation costs and admission fees for excursions organised for alumni within Germany)

Please note:
Non-fundable expenditures include rental fees for offices used by the grant recipient or the partner university, catering/restaurant expenses incurred in connection to planning and coordination meetings, expenditures for DAAD marketing measures, excursions (except for alumni), travel and accommodation expenses for international alumni traveling to Germany, summer schools, infrastructural expenses (e.g. technical equipment, hardware, teaching materials and furniture).

Funded persons

(See "**Information on supported persons– Scholarship awards**")

MOBILITY OF FUNDED PERSONS

- Mobility scholarships (Mobility between Germany ↔ destination country)
  - For students (at the bachelor's or master's level) of the German university, a mobility scholarship can be applied for and claimed during study stays at the international partner university (see **Attachment 3**).

  The mobility scholarship must be included as a benefit in the scholarship agreement.

- Mobility allowance (Mobility between DAC destination country ↔ Germany)
  - For students (at the bachelor's or master's level) from the partner university in DAC countries, a mobility allowance can be applied for and claimed during study stays at the German university (see **Attachments 4+5**).

  The mobility allowance arises from the first day of the trip and must be evidenced by a list of participants signed by the participants (this must be submitted with the interim report/evidence of use upon request). The mobility allowance covers all expenses associated with the trip (including travel and flights as well as expenses for visas, vaccinations, excess baggage, baggage insurance, etc.).

RESIDENCE OF FUNDED PERSONS

- Residence scholarships
  - For students (at the bachelor's or master's level) of the German university, a residence scholarship can be applied for and claimed during study stays at the international partner university (see **Attachment 3**).
  - Fixed insurance allowance
    In addition to the residence scholarship, a fixed insurance allowance of **35 euros per month** to cover international health insurance, including liability and accident insurance, can be applied for and claimed.

  The residence scholarship must be included as a benefit in the scholarship agreement.

  Lump-sum Child Allowance
  Under certain conditions, scholarship holders may apply for and claim a lump-sum child allowance, which must be provided for as a scholarship benefit in the scholarship agreement; see the "fact sheet on lump-sum child allowance".

- Accommodation allowance
  - For students (at the bachelor's or master's level) from the partner university in DAC countries, an accommodation allowance can be applied for and claimed during study stays at the German university (see **Attachments 4+5**).

› For researchers and professors from the international partner university an accommodation allowance may be applied for and claimed during teaching stays at the German university typically lasting between 2 weeks and 3 months, as follows:
  - for stays lasting up to 22 days: 89 euros/day
  - starting on day 23: 2,000 euros/month
  - in the last partial month of a stay of several months: 67 euros/day

The accommodation allowance arises on the first day of the stay and must be evidenced by a list of participants signed by the participants (this must be submitted with the interim report/evidence of use upon request). The accommodation allowance covers the costs of accommodation and meals as well as health, accident and liability insurance. The day of arrival and the day of departure each count as one day.

4 TYPE OF FINANCING

Funding is provided by way of full funding.

5 FUNDING PERIOD

As a rule, the funding period of the funding phase begins on 1 August 2027 at the earliest.

Applicants can initially apply for **two years** of funding (in the form of a first-time or subsequent application after receiving funding in the preparation phase). Applicants may then apply for another **two years** of funding (subsequent application). Afterwards the applicant can apply for another **four years** of funding (subsequent application) (i.e. 2+2+4 also with interruptions).

6 GRANT AMOUNT

The DAAD has set no cap to the grant amount which can be awarded in the funding phase. However, personnel resources and material resources (excluding mobility of project personnel) may not exceed 30,000 euros/funding year; for applications with several international partners, an additional 3,000 euros/funding year can be requested for each additional partnership.

7 DISCIPLINES

The programme is open to all disciplines.

8 TARGET GROUP

Bachelor's students, Master's students, academics, professors

9 ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligible applicants are state and state-recognised German higher education institutions.

10 SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION

Please note:
In response to Russia's attack on Ukraine, the DAAD has suspended all institutional forms of collaboration with partners in the Russian Federation and Belarus until further notice. Consequently, applications for project funding with partner institutions in the Russian Federation and Belarus cannot be accepted at this time.

Applications for double degree projects with France must be submitted to the Franco-German University (DFH, www.dfh-ufa.org).

The funding application must be submitted in full and on time via the DAAD online portal (www.mydaad.de). We also ask you to submit the following documents under the menu heading "Attachments":

- project description of the funding phase, see **form template** (attachment type: Project description)
- jointly signed and dated cooperation agreement(s) (no older than 10 years) (attachment type: Contracts/Agreements)
- endorsement by the university executive board, see **form template** (attachment type: Programme-specific attachments)
- joint study and examination regulations (attachment type: Programme-specific attachments)
- sample diploma supplement for the double degree programme (attachment type: Programme-specific attachments)
- accreditation certificate(s) or comparable document, if applicable (attachment type: Programme-specific attachments)
- for subsequent applications only: most recent progress report (attachment type: Programme-specific attachments)

Subsequent applications should be submitted via the DAAD portal under the menu heading "Submit subsequent application" for already approved projects.

Following the application deadline, applicants are no longer permitted to modify the financing plan or project description, nor submit missing or revised documents for consideration. Incomplete applications will be excluded from the selection process.

Please note:
Please read the attachment "**Information on supported persons- Scholarship awards**" and the **FAQs** before submitting your application.

We ask you to refrain from submitting unsolicited documents, e.g. brief description of the project, module handbooks, brochures, flyers, articles etc. Please do not submit read-only or password-protected documents.

Additional application requirements

- The responsible coordinator for the proposed double degree project must be a professor at the applying German institution. When establishing a double or joint degree programme of identical structure with **several partner universities**, the applicant must submit a **multi-partner application**, providing the names of each partner and descriptions of their regional characteristics (max. **six international partner universities**).
- During the funding period, there should be **at least 3 students from the German university and 3 students from each partner university** enrolled in the funded degree programme each year. The enrolment quota must be substantiated with regard to the respective target group. The funding applications must include a progress report outlining the development of student enrolment and the (intended) effects on the international structure of the applying university.

PLEASE NOTE:

- The participating institutions should mutually **waive tuition fees** altogether; if this proves infeasible, then at least a 50% reduction in tuition fees should be achieved. The DAAD assumes that students enrolled in double degree programmes in Germany receive full waivers. If tuition fees are generally not charged in the partner country, confirmation of this fact must be provided by the project partner.
- The DAAD requires that students enrol in the double degree programme prior to commencing their visit abroad, thereby demonstrating their intention to actually earn a double degree. All DAAD-registered students enrolled in these programmes must use their stay at the partner university to **pursue a double degree**.

THE FOLLOWING IS REQUIRED:

- a recent **joint cooperation agreement** (no older than 10 years), **signed by both universities**, which describes the binational curriculum of the double degree programme (complementary professional and intercultural instruction), credit points awarded for each module (or the individual courses), a course schedule and the names of the respective national or binational degrees
- issue joint **study and examination regulations**
- an **agreement outlining admission procedures** to the joint degree programme and for awarding credit for academic work completed abroad
- conferral of double degrees or a joint degree by both partner universities
- description of the degrees in the form of a **diploma supplement**

WE EXPECT THE PARTNERS TO:

- organise the exchange of students in both directions every year, preferably with an equal number of participants at each university. In the case of a

temporary disparity in student numbers, the partners must describe how **reciprocity** can be ensured through other suitable measures.
- ensure that groups are generally comprised of same-semester students and that the duration of study at both universities is as balanced as possible. For master's degree programmes, participants are expected to study at the partner university for at least one semester, and for bachelor's degree programmes, two semesters. Funding can be used to finance a max. six-month practical phase in the partner country, provided that a practical phase is mandated by the examination regulations and is carried out in combination with a semester abroad at the partner university.
- offer (subject-specific) **language preparation** to ensure that students have sufficient knowledge of the language of instruction and basic knowledge of the native language (if different from the language of instruction)
- offer subject-relevant and general **student counselling**
- ensure above-average academic qualification (top 25th percentile at the respective university)
- jointly administer final examination(s)
- receive or work toward securing national accreditation

APPLICATION DEADLINE

11 Application deadline is 15 October 2026.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

12 **Selection of applications for project funding**

The DAAD decides on funding on the basis of the evaluation of the applications by a selection committee.

SELECTION CRITERIA

(1) The subject-specific and overall quality of the project in terms of its ability to achieve the project and programme objectives (weighting: 70%)
(2) Quality and rigour of project planning (weighting: 15 %)
(3) Impact of the project on the individual target groups and areas addressed beyond the funding period of the project (weighting: 5 %)
(4) Consideration of diversity (weighting: 5 %)
(5) Climate-sensitive project organisation (weighting: 5 %)

SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION PROCEDURE

13 **Selection for scholarships**

The grant recipient decides on the awarding of scholarships on the basis of a selection committee appointed by the grant recipient.

- Public announcement of the scholarship offer
- Composition of the selection committee (e.g. grant recipient, number of committee members)

- Selection criteria (e.g. selection of best applicants, professional or personal suitability)
- Award of the scholarship
  - › per scholarship contract (e.g. "Declaration of acceptance" with concrete description of the scholarship benefits and their amount, e.g. residence and mobility scholarship)
  - › Handing over of a scholarship certificate (here: Naming of the DAAD, the sponsor BMFTR)

The selection procedure must be described in the project description.

14 ATTACHMENTS

1. Results framework
2. Indicator catalogue
3. Funding rates for students at German universities
4. Funding rates for students from DAC countries
5. List of developing and emerging countries (DAC countries)

15 FORM TEMPLATES

- Project description of the funding phase
- Endorsement by university management
- Application for lump-sum child allowance

16 IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Handout WoM
- Information sheet "Information on mobility with disability or chronic illness"
- Handout "Klimasensible Umsetzung von internationalen Hochschulkooperationen in der Projektförderung des DAAD" (as of yet only available in German)
- Handout "Strengthening equal opportunities and diversity in DAAD projects"
- Fact sheet "Lump-sum child allowance"
- Information on supported persons– scholarship awards
- Instructions for drawing up a financing plan
- FAQs
- Application checklist

17 CONTACT

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