

Regeln der guten wissenschaftlichen Praxis

Rules of Good Academic Practice

Scope

The Rules of Good Academic Practice¹ apply to persons applying for individual funding and applicants of project funding as well as funded scholarship holders, project leaders and persons funded as part of a project.

I. Rules of good academic practice

The following general rules of good academic practice are to be strictly observed:

- Academic work shall be carried out *lege artis*.
This means that the methods and standards of quality that are customary and recognised in the respective discipline shall be observed.
- The results of one's own academic work shall be rigorously questioned.
This means that the results of one's own academic work should not be negligently accepted as being true, but that alternative explanations must be considered and results critically scrutinized and tested before being announced as a research outcome.
- Absolute honesty shall always be maintained, especially with regard to the contributions of others, in applications, during studies and in academic work.
This means, on the one hand, that only authentic and unfalsified data may be used and only correct statements made. On the other hand, it means that the intellectual property of others shall be respected, the contributions and insights of others shall always be disclosed as such with no pretence of own ownership. This ban on plagiarism applies equally to doctoral degrees, other academic work and graded work completed during the course of studies.
- An independent inspection of one's own academic findings must be possible at all times.
This means that the results of one's own work must be documented and collected data saved and stored so that third parties may verify the correctness of results.

Moreover, the rules of good academic practice of the respective (host) university or non-university research institution at which the funded person is studying, carrying out research or working in another way shall be observed.

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¹ Based on: Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), 2013, Safeguarding Good Scientific Practice, Bonn, available online under:
http://www.dfg.de/en/research_funding/principles_dfg_funding/good_scientific_practice/index.html

II. Procedure in the event of violation

Deliberate or grossly negligent violation of the above rules of good academic practice constitutes academic misconduct.

In case of reasonable suspicion of academic misconduct, DAAD offers the person concerned the opportunity to state his/her position regarding the accusations in writing within two weeks.

If the suspicion can be neither ruled out nor confirmed, DAAD shall request the university or the non-university research institution at which the funded person is working to investigate and assess the matter.

If the suspicion is confirmed, DAAD may impose one or several of the following sanctions depending on the nature and severity of misconduct:

- If misconduct is determined **before the start of funding**:
 - rejection of the application with appropriate statement of reasons (if a scholarship or funding agreement has not yet been concluded)
 - revocation of scholarship or withdrawal from funding agreement with appropriate statement of reasons
 - temporary or permanent ban on renewed application
- If misconduct is determined **during/after the funding**:
 - written reprimand and caution of funded person
 - ban on participation at meetings of scholarship holders
 - withdrawal of status as DAAD alumnus and disqualification from participation in alumni activities
 - termination of scholarship or funding agreement with appropriate statement of reasons (without the recovery or proportional recovery of payments already made)
 - revocation of scholarship or withdrawal from funding agreement and recovery of payments already made