



**Call for proposals**  
**„HessenFonds“-scholarship for refugees and researchers at risk – highly**  
**qualified students, doctoral students and researchers at Philipps-Universität**  
**Marburg**

**Funding line for doctoral students and researchers at risk**

The Hessian Ministry of Higher Education, Research, Science and the Arts (HMWK) provides scholarships at the state universities of Hesse within the framework of the "HessenFonds for refugees and researchers at risk – highly qualified students and researchers". The funding supports the continuation of studies or a scientific career at the state universities of Hesse and normally lasts one year.

**Eligibility:**

- nominees may be individuals who face a threat in their country of origin based on ethnic, sexual, gender, or religious identity, or political or civic engagement based on liberal democratic principles and striving to contribute to positive social change
- threats may include threats to personal well-being or security (e.g., physical violence, arrest, denial of civil and educational rights, loss of employment/research position for political reasons, or the like), and armed conflict in the country of origin
- applicants must be residing in their country of origin at the time of application or in a third country outside the EU if they have already had to leave their country of origin for the above reasons

**Doctoral students:**

- outstanding scientific achievements
- acceptance as doctoral candidate incl. confirmation of supervision at Philipps-Universität Marburg (acceptance by the doctoral committee as well as a letter of recommendation by the supervisor incl. assessment of the nominee's scientific achievements).

**Researchers:**

- outstanding achievements in research and/or teaching
- confirmation of a research or teaching position as well as confirmation of supervision by the Philipps-Universität Marburg (in the form of an letter of recommendation or letter from the host, including an assessment of the nominee's scientific achievements, also with regard to integration in the research area)

**Persecution may be evidenced by:**

- statements or documentation from the Scholars at Risk Network (SAR), the Council for at-Risk Academics (CARA), or the Scholar Rescue Fund (SRF) - if available and not older than 12 months.
- or: Credible documentation of the threat from a third party, e.g., a nongovernmental organization, embassy, or relevant research institution
- or: Documents describing and/or confirming the threat to personal safety, e.g., official and other documents and records describing the threat situation, social media posts with relevant links, arrest warrants, proof of threat, police reports, court orders, or similar documents

**Important:** Individuals, who are already residing in an EU state, hold a residence permit in an EU state, are in asylum proceedings in an EU state, or have access to a safe country of residence due to dual citizenship or other circumstances, as well as nationals of an EU state, are not eligible for funding.

### **Scope of funding:**

The HessenFonds scholarship includes the following scholarship rates:

Doctoral students: 1,200 euros/month

Researchers: 2,300 euros/month

### **Funding period:**

01 October 2024 to 30 September 2025

A later start is possible with the approval of the HMWK. The scholarship should be started no later than six months after receipt of the scholarship commitment, otherwise a new application is usually required.

### **Application procedure**

Applications must be submitted directly to the Philipps-Universität Marburg. For the application, please use the forms from the [website](#) only, further documents to be submitted can be found in the forms. Please send **the signed application form** in PDF format as well as the **required attachments in a summarized PDF document** and in the **indicated order** by no later than

**31 July 2024**

to [pia.schoengarth@verwaltung.uni-marburg.de](mailto:pia.schoengarth@verwaltung.uni-marburg.de) .

The following selection process consists of two steps. In the first step, Philipps-Universität Marburg nominates qualified applicants in a ranking list via the President at the Hessian Ministry of Science and Art. The internal university nomination procedure is regulated by Philipps-Universität Marburg. In the second step, the Hessian Ministry of Higher Education, Research, Science and the Arts (HMWK) makes the final selection of scholarship holders according to the award criteria.

It takes up to three months for the HMWK to review the documents of the nominated applicants and to make the selection. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Pia Schöngarth. Please refrain from sending inquiries to the HMWK.

### **Award criteria**

The "HessenFonds" scholarships are awarded to doctoral candidates and academics with endangered status on the basis of their performance. The following criteria, among others, are used to assess performance:

- Ranking by the nominating university
- Previous achievements in studies, research or teaching
- Assessment by the expert opinion
- Description of the doctoral or research project
- Letter of motivation
- curriculum vitae
- language skills
- If applicable, voluntary commitment, special achievements

There is no legal claim to the granting of a scholarship.

### **Contact**

For any questions regarding the scholarship and application documents, please contact Ms. Pia Schöngarth, [pia.schoengarth@verwaltung.uni-marburg.de](mailto:pia.schoengarth@verwaltung.uni-marburg.de), 06421-28 26813.