ADD-ON FELLOWSHIPS FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY LIFE SCIENCE

The Joachim Herz Stiftung offers 20 grants within the “Add-on Fellowships for Interdisciplinary Life Science” programme. The purpose is to support the interdisciplinary work of young scientists and to offer an insight into adjacent branches of study which are important for their scientific research. As part of the programme, the fellows will participate in a net of events organized by the foundation itself and will be provided with funds for the attendance of conferences, research stays or professional training.

1 ELIGIBILITY

The Add-on Fellowships programme targets young scientists from various disciplines who conduct interdisciplinary research in the life sciences. The purpose of these fellowships is to offer an insight into adjacent branches of study. Eligible for the grants are doctoral students and postdocs from various disciplines which are already integrated into the German science system. The transition between both career stages is possible during the term of the fellowship. The programme does not cover living expenses. These must be funded by a position in a university, a non-profit research institute or by another grant. Therefore, applicants have to make sure that the regulations of their primary funding allows additional funds.

2 AMOUNT AND DURATION OF THE GRANT

The fellows are supported for a period of two years and two months with up to 12,000 Euro for their individual research and 500 Euro for fellow networking events. The fellowships allow research stays, conference visits and advanced training in a flexible and individual manner. The majority of the Add-on fellowship funds shall be used for interdisciplinary research and training. Part of the funding is available for attending conferences or for research visits in the fellow’s own discipline and for purchasing equipment (PC, software, etc.), as well as training and personal career development.

Fellows with children are eligible to apply for an additional funding of up to 3,000 Euro for the reconciliation of work and family life. These funds can be used for childcare costs during conference visits or research trips. This also includes travel and accommodation costs for relatives who take on the childcare.

In exceptional cases, a fellowship recipient may apply to JHS to have their fellowship extended in order to further use their funds. The decision whether or not the application is accepted is at the free discretion of the Joachim Herz Stiftung.

3 NETWORK MEETINGS

In addition to the individual promotion, every six months a meeting takes place which enables and consolidates networking and communication among fellows and among different
branches. Network meetings are a binding part of the programme and the corresponding expenses are included in the fellowship funding.

4 APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Following documents should be submitted in the term for the application:

• Completed application form
• Letter of motivation (max. one page)
• CV
• Description of the research (max. one page)
• Supporting letter of supervisor/group leader (stating her / his support and the need for fostering the applicant's interdisciplinary skills)
• Copies of the degree certificate / transcript of records and, if available, a doctorate certificate

The deadline for applications ends in June 2019. The funding starts in November or December 2019.

5 SELECTION PROCESS

The selection process has two levels. First, the representatives of the Joachim Herz Stiftung examine the applications. Then a selection committee formed by independent scientists and representatives of the Joachim Herz Stiftung gather to select up to 20 fellows. The selection criteria are as follows:

• Comprehensible and convincing description of the interdisciplinary research,
• Motivation and need for fostering the applicant's interdisciplinary skills,
• Viability and effective planning of the use of the funding,
• Interest in interdisciplinary network events organized by the foundation.

6 ACCEPTANCE OF THE GRANT AND AWARDING

With the acceptance of the grant, the fellow is obliged to inform the Joachim Herz Stiftung immediately of any change that may be relevant for the grant. In addition, the fellow is obliged to send an interim report to the Joachim Herz Stiftung at the end of the first year of funding and a final report at the end of the funding period. With the admission to the fellowship programme, the fellow signs a grant agreement with the Joachim Herz Stiftung, which regulates the usage of the funds, the duty to provide evidence and the delivery deadlines.

7 OTHER

The Joachim Herz Stiftung reserves the right to revoke a fellowship and to claim for reimbursement if the information provided in the application were incorrect or incomplete, the conditions for the grant approval are not respected or other good reasons for a revocation exist. A claim to the fellowship does not exist.
The Joachim Herz Stiftung also reserves the right to make changes or amendments to these guidelines.