

November 2015

Tender

JOINT STUDY AND DOCTORATE PROGRAM ESTABLISHMENT FUND

As part of its internationalization strategy, Freie Universität Berlin seeks to develop joint study and doctorate programs with its international Partner Institutions.

The goal is to build symbiotic relationships that enhance the range of study programs offered by the FU by opening attractive new educational possibilities for students and doctoral candidates.

In this way, Freie Universität faculties and central institutes can receive funding from the Center for International Cooperation.

What is the Fund intended for?

Funding is intended for the establishment of joint masters courses in the form of *double-degree* programs (with a degree issued by both institutions) and, for doctoral-level initiatives, the development of international research training groups and similarly structured doctorate programs (e.g. EU-ITN, etc.).

Funds are intended to be used in the first (preparatory) phase of the proposed project. They should thus be viewed as start-up funding and can only be awarded one time. For this reason, the proposal must account for potential future costs and how these will be financed in the middle and long term (e.g. through applications to relevant organizations, foundations, etc.). Efforts to establish joint study or doctorate programs should be based on the existing Freie Universität teaching catalogue and, as a general rule, on existing partnerships that have been reliable collaborators in academic and administrative matters (e.g. successful student exchanges, research projects, etc.). Initiatives with potential new Partner Institutions will require a justification.

The total endowment of the Fund is €100 000. A maximum of four successful applications will receive initial funding. Financing is directed towards submitted budgets and should be released within the calendar year 2015. The money may be used for material and personal costs, as well as travel expenses. Projects that have already received funding from the Center for International Cooperation are not eligible for renewed funding.

Who is eligible for funding?

All Freie Universität Professors are eligible for funding. As a general rule, proposals must be submitted jointly by at least three professors (one of which must be tenured). A project leader must be designated in the application. All submissions must be submitted through the faculty's dean's office or the administration of the central institute.

Selection criteria

The assessment of submitted proposals will be conducted by committee. Proposals should include

the following elements, which will serve as evaluation criteria:

- Clearly formulated project goals
- Designation of the foreign partner institution. Rationale for the choice of partner and details of past collaboration
- Explanation of the benefit for the faculty or central institute (e.g. what type of synergy effects may be achieved? How will the FU catalogue be strengthened/broadened?)
- Explanation of the benefits for students/doctoral candidates and an estimation of the attractiveness of the planned joint study course/doctoral program
- Sustainability of the project (How should the project proceed after the startup phase, when should an application be submitted to funding organizations?)
- Concrete timeframe for the implementation of the start-up phase (including stated goals/results to be completed by the end of the start-up phase.)

Proposal composition and closing date

Proposals may be written in German or English. The applications should not be longer than five pages and should include the following documents:

- Written endorsement of the faculty (dean's office) or central institute (chairperson)
- Detailed budget calculation
- Schedule for the implementation of initiatives
- Written statement from the partner institution (with details of the project leader and, as the case may be, other participants)

Applications may be submitted electronically to the Center for International Cooperation via the relevant dean's office or central institute by the following dates: **30.06.2015, 30.09.2015 and 31.12.2015**

Center for International Cooperation

Britta Piel

Freie Universität Berlin

britta.piel@fu-berlin.de

Tel: 030-838-73943

Center for International Cooperation is happy to respond to any further questions.

www.fu-berlin.de/cic