

GGNB: Financial support

-Overview-

Travel Grants

Each year the GGNB programs receive a certain budget for travel grants for which their PhD students can apply.

[PhD students of the **IMPRS** (Molecular Biology, Neurosciences, PBCS, Genome Science), please send the application to your respective IMPRS Office, and **MolMed** student to the MolMed Office.]

Travel Grants can be applied for to support (i) the presentation of results of thesis projects at international meetings, (ii) participation in special methods courses, workshops and research training outside Göttingen, and (iii) short-term stays (up to three months) outside Göttingen to acquire new techniques or continue experimental work in the research group of a collaborating partner.

- Documents to be handed in for the application:
 - o **application form** (available on the *GGNB Internal* webpage),
 - o separate **statement** by supervisor which should explain how the travel contributes to the progress of the thesis (via email).
 - IMPRS PBCS: signature of supervisor on application is sufficient.
- The GGNB/IMPRS Office will check formalities and forward them to the respective program committees for a decision.
- **Deadlines for application:** 31 March, 30 June, 30 September, 31 December.
- The application has to be sent at least 6 weeks before the trip (IMPRS PBCS: shortly before the trip). It is not possible to retroactively apply for a travel grant.

GGNB Emergency Funds

(for Bridging Funds in the IMPRS PBCS please see below)

Short-term scholarships are available to fund PhD students, as either start-up or wrap-up funds.

A sub-committee of the GGNB Board manages the Emergency Fund applications. Apply to ggnb@gwdg.de or your respective IMPRS office (*for IMPRS PBCS see below*).

- **Deadlines** for application: 31 March, 30 June, 30 September, 31 December.
- Funding is limited to a maximum of **3 months**
- The stipend rate is 1365 EUR plus 103 allowance (*Sachkostenzuschuss*) per month, plus child allowance (if applicable)
 - o From October 2025 the stipend rate will be raised to 1800 EUR plus 103 EUR allowance (*Sachkostenzuschuss*), plus child allowance (if applicable)
- **Application:** send to GGNB resp. your IMPRS Office (for PBCS refer to separate application form!):
 - o **Application form.**
 - o **Detailed project plan** for the anticipated duration of the stipend. Include a timeline.
 - o Information on the **current and previous financing** of your PhD project.
 - o **Description of need** for the Emergency Fund, incl. what led to the current lack of funding.
- **Detailed statement by supervisor**, including details on the status (junior group leader / senior PI / ...), size of the work group, detailing why and for which period a GGNB Emergency Fund is needed and when the finalization of the PhD thesis can be realistically expected. The statement has to include a written confirmation that there is no other funding possibility, outlining the efforts to find

other sources of funding and plans for alternative funding in case the emergency scholarship is not granted.

- Only **complete** applications will be processed.

The following conditions apply for GGNB Emergency Funds:

- The student who receives this fund has to be admitted to GGNB and to be enrolled at Göttingen University for the entire duration of the stipend.
- **IMPORTANT** for doctoral students at the **University** and the **University Medical Center**:
 - For legal reasons, it is **not possible** to receive a **stipend after a work contract**.
 - The only exception is a wrap-up for the final three months of the PhD, including the month of the thesis defense. You cannot receive another work contract as a PhD student after that, nor can you extend your thesis again.
 - In case of a gap in funding between two contracts, you are **not** eligible for an Emergency Fund.
- Contracts as “wissenschaftliche Hilfskraft” are usually not permitted during the duration of the stipend.
 - Please check with your HR department whether recipients of stipends may have a parallel contract as “wissenschaftliche Hilfskraft” in case this is planned.
- All income from gainful employment will be deducted from the stipend.
 - Please check with your HR department whether this includes also contracts as “wissenschaftliche Hilfskraft” (in case this is allowed, see above!).
- Only income from self-employment up to 400 EUR per month does not have to be deducted.
- Stipend holders at the University Medical Center (incl. ENI) additionally have to complete a *Stipendienvereinbarung* of the Research Support and EU-Office of the UMG well in advance - contact the Research Support and EU-Office (stipendien@med.uni-goettingen.de) as soon as possible.

The following selection criteria will be taken into account:

- Financial need of the work group
 - Possible alternative funding sources
 - Own contribution to funding of student by group
- Junior group status
- Previous funding to group
- Unforeseen circumstances, health or family situation

Bridging Funds in the

IMPRS Physics of Biological and Complex Systems (PBCS)

- Supervisor has to apply for Bridging Funds
- No application deadlines apply
- May be used as start-up, emergency or wrap-up funding in case of financial difficulties. Funding can only be granted if unexpectedly, no other funding is available and if follow-up financing is guaranteed (bridge).
- The funding period can cover a maximum of six months.
- Bridging funds are paid as reimbursement of a working contract. They can only be granted as long as IMPRS funds are still available.

Applications:

- The completed application form including a short description of the project and an explanation of the need for the requested funding.
- Applications should be send to the program coordinator Antje Erdmann (imprs-pbcs@gwdg.de) if possible 6 weeks before the requested funding period.

Selection: by the Program Committee based on the application.

GGNB Family Support

Co-funding is available to fund lab assistants for doctoral students whose lab work is restricted, e.g. due to pregnancy or breast-feeding.

- GGNB and the department can jointly fund a lab assistant to do experiments for up to three months.
- Discuss with your supervisor whether staff would be available to assist with the experiments (e.g. a lab technician or student assistant).
- No application deadlines apply.
- Send an e-mail to GGNB (ggnb@gwdg.de), indicating when the lab assistant will be needed, and why.