

## Fellowship Program of the Objective 3 – Advancing Research Quality and Value

The Fellowship Program of Objective 3 aims at facilitating research collaborations and knowledge exchange on a national and international level. The goal of the fellowship program is to recruit (inter-) national experts who will contribute with their professional expertise to sustainably improve the quality of research and to establish research practices at the institutions of the Berlin University Alliance that make this possible. This explicitly includes Open Science practices. A distinction is made between Incoming Fellowships and Outgoing Fellowships. The two funding lines differ in terms of their target group and duration.

### Who can apply?

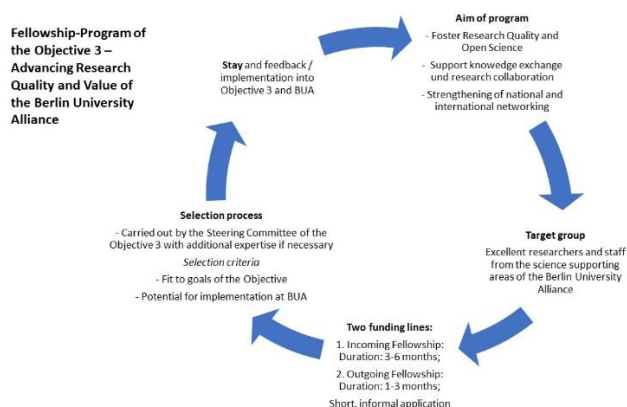
All researchers and staff from the science-supporting areas of the Berlin University Alliance partner institutions who are working on issues related to research quality and Open Science are eligible to apply for funding under the Fellowship Program.

### Selection process

In both lines, the Steering Committee of Objective 3 is responsible for selecting the applications to be funded. The Steering Committee reviews all incoming applications with regard to their fit with the goals of the Objective, especially regarding the potential for implementing measures with effects on structures or practices resulting from the proposed fellowship stay, as well as the adequacy of the requested funds. Depending on the expertise required for the evaluation of the application, additional experts from the BUA partners will be consulted.

### Application deadline

Applications can be submitted at any time, i.e. there are no fixed deadlines for submitting an application.



## Funding Line 1: Incoming Fellowship

Incoming Fellowships should enable the integration of national and international experts into the work of the Objective, if possible also beyond the duration of the actual funding. Their participation should contribute to building up and expanding the network of the Objective and the Berlin University Alliance, and thus, in the medium and long term, to further increase the national and, in particular, the international visibility of the Alliance. Incoming Fellows are guests of the respective host institution without the right to employment.

**Target group** Scholars who can sustainably support and complement projects and/or measures at the Berlin University Alliance with their excellent contributions, specific experience and competencies in the thematic area of Objective 3. Beyond their stay at one of the BUA institutions, the fellows are expected to become part of the Objective 3 network in the longer term.

**Duration of funding and focus** Nationally or internationally recognized experts can be invited for a period of 3-6 months to work at one of the BUA partner institutions and (jointly) conduct research on a topic relevant to the objective or to advance the implementation of measures with effects on structures or practices.

It is expected that the Incoming Visiting Fellow assumes a mentoring role for a topic or a concrete project and, after the initial stay, remains in regular contact with the inviting institution and Objective 3, either through subsequent short stays or virtual exchanges. The aim is to ensure that the cooperation and exchange is sustainable.

During the stay, the Fellow (m/f) will work on research and/or implementation projects together with colleagues from Berlin and will organize events in consultation with the host institution. The choice of host institution depends on the topic and the organizational anchoring of the applicant's working group.

**Application and funding:** Applications/proposals can be submitted by scientists\* from BUA institutions. Expressions of interest or proposals for Fellows to be invited should be addressed to the Steering Committee of Objective 3 and should include the following information (max. 3 pages): name, title, institution of proposing PI (applicant).

- Name, title, institution of proposed Fellow
- Planned duration and time frame for the fellow's stay
- Explanation of the subject and goal of the stay, envisioned contributions of the Fellow.
- Brief description of the fellow's involvement in the work of the group or institution.
- Commitment by the host institution to provide a workspace and access to required resources or infrastructure. (\*no BUA template)
- Overview of the required funds (please use BUA template "budget planning")

In principle, applications can be made for:

- Personnel (Scholarship\*), up to 2.500 Euro per month
- Travel funds generally up to 1,500 euros, to be settled according to the principles of the Federal Travel Expenses Act
- Material resources for the realization of events, e.g. seminars and workshops.

*\* The fellowship is usually awarded as a scholarship. It does not establish an employment relationship or a right for employment.*

## Funding Line 2: Outgoing Fellowship

Outgoing Fellowships are intended to give outstanding researchers or staff from the science-supporting areas of the Berlin University Alliance the opportunity to learn from the expertise at other (inter)national institutions and to incorporate this knowledge into the institutions of the Berlin University Alliance relevant to the goals of Objective 3. Thus, this funding line is especially intended to promote "learning from others" and the dissemination of "tacit knowledge". Similar to the Incoming Fellowships, the Outgoing Fellowships also serve the purpose of networking with relevant national and international actors.

**Target group** Outstanding researchers at all career levels of the Berlin University Alliance who are working on a topic relevant to the Objective. In addition, the Outgoing Fellowships are also open to employees from the science-supporting sector. The Fellows are given the opportunity to work at a relevant institution of their choice (national or international) and to familiarize themselves with new theoretical and/or methodological approaches.

**Duration of funding and focus** The funding duration for Outgoing Fellowships is 1 to 3 months. The aim of this funding line is to become familiar with structures or processes established at other institutions that serve to sustainably ensure research quality or implement open science practices (good practice examples). In addition, institutions can be selected that are currently working on the development and especially implementation of processes and/or structures whose introduction is also intended or suitable for the partners of the Berlin University Alliance. In this sense, in particular, fellowships are supported that aim to bring together actors of different provenance, i.e. to promote the collaboration of mixed teams from academia and practice (including politics and administration).

**Application and funding** To apply for funding, BUA partner employees submit an application that addresses or includes the following aspects (max. 3 pages): Name, title, institution, working area

- Explanation of the subject and goal of the stay
- Brief description of the guest institution, in particular explanation of factors / characteristics that justify the choice of the institution: Why has this institution been chosen? Why is it suitable?
- Letter of acceptance from the selected host institution, including a commitment to provide a workspace and access to required resources or infrastructure. (\*no BUA template)
- Approval / consent of the home institution
- Overview of the required funds (please use BUA template "budget planning")

In principle, travel funds including funds for accommodation at the location of the host institution and, if applicable, material funds can be applied for. The amount of travel funds may vary

depending on the destination country. The amount of travel funds, their application and settlement are subject to the regulations of the Federal Travel Expenses Act.

### **Promoting equal opportunities**

The Objective supports the promotion of equal rights and opportunities in science. Against this background, applicants from the partner institutions of the Berlin University Alliance can apply for childcare costs for accompanying children up to the age of 12 years in the amount of 600,- Euro for the first child and 100,- Euro for each additional child upon presentation of appropriate proof. Travel expenses that exceed the regular rates of the Federal Travel Expenses Act due to health restrictions are also eligible in principle, but are subject to individual assessment. Applicants are requested to provide appropriate evidence. Needs and proportionality will be assessed during the application review process. Additional funding will be provided in accordance with the rules of the respective institution. There is no fundamental entitlement to additional funding.

### **Contact**

Objective 3 – Advancing Research Quality and Value

Center for Open and Responsible Research (CORE)

Web: <https://www.berlin-university-alliance.de/en/commitments/research-quality/index.html>

Mail: [core@berlin-university-alliance.de](mailto:core@berlin-university-alliance.de)

If you have any questions about the Fellowship Program, the CORE team at Objective 3 will be happy to assist you.

*Further Information on the Federal Travel Expenses Act:*

[https://www.bva.bund.de/DE/Services/Bundesbedienstete/Mobilitaet-Reisen/Dienstreisen/Rechtsgrundlagen\\_RK/rechtsgrundlagen\\_rk\\_node.html](https://www.bva.bund.de/DE/Services/Bundesbedienstete/Mobilitaet-Reisen/Dienstreisen/Rechtsgrundlagen_RK/rechtsgrundlagen_rk_node.html)

### **On the Objective 3 – Advancing Research Quality and Value**

Objective 3 addresses questions about what constitutes good research, how the quality of research and its results can be assessed and sustainably ensured, and how framework conditions must be designed to make this possible. In this sense, addressing research quality is both an institutional goal and a field of research. The goal is to jointly strengthen the value, quality, integrity and credibility of research.