

Regulations for the award of scholarships within
the Alexander von Humboldt
Polish Honorary Research Scholarship

General resolutions

§ 1

1. These Regulations, hereinafter “the Regulations”, determine the conditions for application for, contest procedure and realisation of the Alexander von Humboldt Polish Honorary Research Scholarships, hereinafter “Scholarships”.
2. Scholarships are awarded to outstanding German scholars with the highest qualifications and a significant contribution to global research, as recognition for their previous research achievements and in order to permit them to conduct scientific research at a selected institution in Poland.
3. Candidates for a scholarship may be nominated for the competition by Polish scholars, hereinafter “Proposers”. Applications submitted directly by German scholars will not be accepted.
4. A candidate should possess the position of professor or an equivalent position outside of a university.
5. The scholarship can be awarded for a period of 3 to 6 months for a stay at one or – in justified cases – a greater number of scientific institutions in Poland.
6. The scholarship may be taken up in a period up to 3 years from its conferral. In justified cases, on the application of the scholarship recipient the time for realisation of the scholarship may be extended by a maximum of 12 months.
7. The scholarship can only be awarded once to a given recipient.
8. The funds for realisation of the programme come from the funds of the Foundation for Polish Science, hereinafter “the Foundation”, or other sources, and are determined in the Foundation’s annual financial plan.

Competition procedure

§ 2

1. The programme takes the form of a competition embracing all fields of science.
2. The competition is organised once annually, and the final date for submission of applications is 30 September of a given year.
3. Applications for scholarships should be submitted via an electronic form available on the Foundation website, together with all required attachments.
4. The following attachments should be submitted with the application:
 - a) Information about the candidate’s academic career track and major achievements
 - b) A list of the candidate’s major publications and three selected recent publications
 - c) A short description of the research project which the candidate intends to pursue in Poland

- d) A reference letter by the nominating Polish scholar on the academic qualifications of the nominated candidate
- e) At least three complete addresses of renowned scientists who may be approached by the Foundation for a reference on the candidate.
5. The application for a scholarship may be withdrawn on the request of the proposer at any stage of the competition procedure.
6. Applications submitted to the Foundation are subjected to a formal examination, followed by a merit-based assessment of the content.
7. In order to assess merits of the application, the Foundation Board appoints independent reviewers whose names will remain confidential. The criteria for assessment of the application's merit comprise:
 - a) An evaluation of the candidate's research output and previous achievements, including in particular an assessment of the candidate's contribution to his/her discipline
 - b) An evaluation of the candidate's plans for the research to be conducted in Poland
 - c) An evaluation of the potential of the host institution.
8. A decision on award of a scholarship is taken by the Foundation Board on the basis of merit evaluation of applications.
9. The Foundation informs interested parties of the results of the competition in written form. The name of the beneficiary and information about his/her scientific output and career history is published on the Foundation website, and may also be communicated through other media.

Scholarship and grants

§ 3

1. The amount and means of disbursement of a scholarship is determined on an annual basis by the Foundation Board.
2. The Foundation will cover the costs of one return trip to Poland for the beneficiary and his/her spouse, as long as the spouse intends to stay with the beneficiary during the scholarship for at least 3 months. Costs will be reimbursed after submission of documented travel costs.
3. On request of the proposer, the Foundation may provide a grant for payment of costs of the participation of the beneficiary in academic conferences in Poland.

Rights and obligations of the applicant and beneficiary

§ 4

1. The proposer is obliged to guarantee the nominated German scholar the technical possibilities for realising the planned research programme: access to laboratories and materials necessary for the research as well as to the appropriate archives and libraries.
2. The proposer should also provide the beneficiary invited by him/her with required help in organising their stay in Poland, especially in finding accommodation.
3. After completion of the stay in Poland, the beneficiary and proposer should submit to the Foundation a short report on the beneficiary's scientific activity during the scholarship stay.
4. The beneficiary is obliged to conduct the research project declared in the application.
5. The beneficiary has the right to decline the awarded scholarship or part of it.

6. Beneficiaries may take on teaching duties in host institutions.
7. Publications of beneficiaries arising from the research conducted in Poland should contain relevant information about the role of the Foundation in funding the stay.

Final resolutions

§ 5

1. The Resolutions were passed by the Foundation Board on 13 May 2009.
2. These Regulations supersede the Regulations for the award of scholarships within the Alexander von Humboldt Polish Honorary Research Scholarship of the Foundation for Polish Science passed by the Foundation Board on 18 December 2001.
3. Scholarships awarded in competitions adjudicated before the Regulations came into effect are conducted according to the rules provided in it.
4. All changes to the Regulations may be made according to the same principles by which it was passed.
5. The Regulations come into effect on the day of the decision of the Minister of Science and Higher Education to ratify it.