

# Guidelines

## Heinz Maier-Leibnitz Prize

### I Objectives

The Heinz Maier-Leibnitz Prize, named after the physicist and former President of the DFG, has been awarded to researchers at an early stage of their career since 1977 and aims to support and encourage the winners to continue to pursue their academic career.

### II Selection criteria

The funding is intended for researchers who are in a development and probationary phase of their career and seeks to enable them to remain in academia or achieve their professional goal of obtaining a permanent professorship.

The prize is not to be regarded as being awarded solely in recognition of a dissertation: since obtaining their doctorate, nominees are to have established a distinctive scientific profile, the results of their research having attracted attention within the subject-specific community, suggesting that excellent performance can be expected of them in the future. Generally speaking, this requires the presentation of documented research results, in particular in the form of publications above and beyond the dissertation.

### III Prize endowment

Up to ten prizes can be awarded per year, each endowed with €200.000. The prize money can be used for up to three years for the purpose of further academic research.

### IV Nomination system

#### 1. Requirements for nomination

The prize is open to early-career doctoral researchers who are academically based at research institutions in Germany or at German research institutions abroad, regardless of where the research was conducted.

It is not restricted to any specific subject areas.

Nominees may not have held a doctorate for longer than six years at the time of nomination. Those who have gained a post-doctoral teaching qualification may also be nominated for the Heinz Maier-Leibnitz Prize; the same applies to junior professors, those receiving funding under the DFG's Emmy Noether Programme, heads of Junior Research Groups and comparable researchers in early career phases. The prize is not available for those who already hold a permanent professorship or a permanent position in academia or industry with comparable remuneration.

#### 2. Eligibility to submit nominations

Prizes are awarded at the recommendation of third parties. The DFG issues a call for proposals to those entitled to submit nominations. Nominations may be submitted by the elected members of DFG review boards, universities and equivalent higher education institutions with the right to award doctorates in Germany, other members of the DFG, the Union of the German Academies of Sciences and the Humanities, the Hermann von Helmholtz Association of German Research Centres, the European Molecular Biology Laboratory, previous winners of the Heinz Maier-Leibnitz Prize and former members of the Selection Committee.

Individuals may submit one proposal each, institutions may submit up to three proposals, and the four non-university research institutions Max Planck Society, Leibniz Association, Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft and Helmholtz Association may submit up to five proposals.

Self-nominations are excluded.

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### 3. Nomination documents

Nominations must be received within the call period published by the DFG. They are to include the following documents, preferably in German and English:

- a statement of appreciation justifying the nomination;
- an academic curriculum vitae;
- a current list of publications;
- up to five important publications in full text (in the original language).

The DFG will specify the detailed modalities of submission in its call for proposals.

## V Selection procedure

There is an annual call for nominations. Those entitled to submit nominations will be notified in good time. Proposals received by the deadline are collected, checked for completeness and formal compliance with the nomination requirements and forwarded to the established Selection Committee for the Heinz Maier-Leibnitz Prize.

The decision is made by the Joint Committee of the DFG at the recommendation of the Selection Committee.

## VI Use of the prize money

The money may be used exclusively for further academic research work for a period of up to three years. The funds may not be used to cover the winner's personal expenses. The Special Funding Guidelines for Academic Awards apply (only available in German).

[DFG form 2\\_33](#)

## VII Further Information

For further details and contact persons at the Head Office, see [the DFG website](#).

## VIII Data Protection

Please note the DFG's data protection notice on research funding, which can be viewed and downloaded at [www.dfg.de/privacy\\_policy](http://www.dfg.de/privacy_policy). If necessary, please also forward this information to those individuals whose data will be processed by the DFG due to their involvement in your project.

[www.dfg.de/privacy\\_policy](http://www.dfg.de/privacy_policy)