

CALL 2026



Graduate School
of Geosciences



The Graduate School of Geosciences (GSGS) at the University of Cologne offers

two DAAD-GSSP scholarships for international doctoral candidates

funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) as part of the Graduate School Scholarship Programme¹ (GSSP) for a maximum of 4 years.

We are looking for highly motivated international doctoral candidates who will carry out their own research project closely related to ongoing research in the working group of their potential supervisor. They will be supervised by a professor in one of the Geosciences at the University of Cologne. You can find a list of the partaking supervisors and their research topics in Geography, Geology & Mineralogy, or Environmental Sciences on the call website.

What we offer:

- You will either work within the stimulating and inspiring research environment of an existing coordinated research programme and/or benefit from a dedicated support structure for doctoral candidates.
- You will further benefit from being a member of the GSGS, which provides a research and learning environment with structured guidance by a Thesis Advisory Committee, transferable and technical skills training, support for attending conferences, and offers for networking.

Your profile:

- You are highly motivated to pursue a doctorate in your chosen research field.
- You hold an above-average Master's degree (or equivalent) in a discipline relevant to the chosen project.
- You have very good English skills and are willing to learn basic German.
- You are a non-German citizen, and, as per 31 May 2026 you have not been resident in Germany for more than 15 months (refugees are exempt).

Both scholarships are to start between 1 July and 1 December, 2026. The deadline for applications is 31 January, 2026 o'clock noon (CET). For details of the application process, including a link to the online application form, please visit the call website <https://geosciences.uni-koeln.de/gsgs/opportunities/graduate-school-scholarship-programme>

There you can also register for one of two online information meetings for potential applicants on 13 and 15 January, 2026.



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service

The PhD scholarships are funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) through the Graduate School Scholarship Programme.

¹ <https://www.daad.de/en/information-services-for-higher-education-institutions/further-information-on-daad-programmes/gssp/>