

Tender for a doctoral scholarship at the Graduate School for Climate and Environment (GRACE)

Introduction

The graduate school GRACE provides a transdisciplinary and voluntary graduate program at KIT for doctoral candidates working in thematic fields associated with the KIT Climate and Environment Center. In addition to in-depth scientific training and support for international networking of doctoral researchers, GRACE promotes networking of doctoral students at the KIT Center for Climate and Environment. The Graduate School is particularly committed to incorporating new research areas, support interdisciplinary research approaches, and PhD projects related to the current challenges such as the biodiversity crisis, climate change and transition towards renewable energies and sustainability.

Together with the Dr. Hartwig Blume Foundation, GRACE is offering a 3-year doctoral scholarship aimed at fostering interdisciplinary research addressing pressing environmental challenges.

Scholarship overview

- Number of Scholarships: 1
- Duration: 3 years
- Intended start: January 2025
- Annual funding: full-time scholarship based on DAAD rates
- Benefits from GRACE program (financed research stay, conferences etc.)

Eligibility and research focus areas

Proposals can be submitted by all KIT institutes with relevant research topics. The proposed projects should align with the topics and objectives of GRACE and the KIT Center Climate and Environment. Projects should also support the aims of the Dr. Hartwig Blume foundation to contribute to environmental protection, climate protection and/or sustainability. Subject areas include, but are not limited to:

- Biodiversity and ecosystem services
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation methods and strategies
- Urban environmental governance and socio-geographical perspectives
- Sustainable use of natural resources
- Environmental studies regarding renewable energy

Expectations for scholarship recipient and the participating institute

The scholarship recipient must enroll in GRACE and participate in its program according to the graduate school's regulations. The participating institute is expected to co-finance with non-personnel costs of 5,000 € per year.

Application procedure and documents

Candidates interested in this opportunity need to contact a host institute at KIT first and develop a sound research proposal together with the host institution. Applications must include:

- Cover letter referring to the objectives and criteria outlined above
- Research proposal with intended supervisor and main referee
- CV of the PhD candidate
- Bachelor and Master certificates and transcript of records
- Letter of support from intended supervisor with description of in-kind contributions

Please submit your application as a single PDF document via email to GRACE management at application@grace.kit.edu. Applications submitted later than October 14, 2024 may not be considered.

Evaluation criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on:

- Excellence of the PhD candidate
- Relevance to the scholarship aims and alignment with research focus at KIT Center Climate and Environment
- Feasibility and clarity of the proposed research plan
- Commitment to providing the required co-financing and in-kind contributions

Selection process

The awarding of scholarships is decided by an extended group of the GRACE steering board. The granting of the scholarship is subject to the acceptance of the GRACE steering board and admission to the respective KIT department/faculty.

Contact information

For further information and to submit proposals, please contact GRACE management at application@grace.kit.edu.