



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service



Planetary Transitions: Potsdam Artist Residency

Frequently Asked Questions

Please note: This FAQ will be constantly updated depending on the questions we receive.

Current version: 21 February 2024.

1. Who is eligible to apply?

Artists who fulfil the following criteria:

- Individuals who do not have German citizenship and live outside of Germany
- Individuals who do not have German citizenship and who will reside for a maximum of 18 months in Germany prior to starting the fellowship (e.g., an applicant wishing to commence a fellowship on 1 September 2024 may not have taken up residency in Germany before May 2023).
- Dual citizenship holders (German and a second citizenship) who have lived for at least the past 6 years outside of Germany.

Individuals who “only” hold German citizenship are ineligible.

2. What would be the amount of the stipend?

The stipend would be 2,500 Euro per month. This stipend is tax-free in Germany. Please check whether you have to pay taxes in your home country.

3. Will my travel be covered by the programme?

The DAAD will pay a travel cost allowance for travel from your home destination to Germany and back for both you and your family. You will be reimbursed after arriving in Germany.

4. Is health insurance covered?

No. You have to cover this from your stipend. You must have valid health insurance to participate in the programme and to get a visa for Germany.

Past fellows have used the following services, for example:

- <https://ihc-company.eu/home/>
- <https://www.mawista.com/en/>
- <https://www.educare24.com/>

These providers offer different packages and options. Please check for yourself, what is most appropriate for your situation.



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Please note that this is not a recommendation. Other insurance companies may provide services better tailored to your personal situation.

5. Are any other insurances covered?

No.

6. What facilities are provided for my work?

The RIFS will provide an office space and programme partners will leverage their networks to connect you with other artists and cultural institutions in Potsdam and Berlin.

Please mention in your application what type of facilities you are likely to require.

We would be delighted to organize a public event at the end of your fellowship to show your work.

7. What relocation support is provided?

The programme partners have secured an apartment close to the city centre in Potsdam ("Boardinghaus Potsdam", <https://www.boarding-potsdam.de/>). Fellows are invited to stay at the apartment free of charge for the first three months of their residency.

The apartment may be rented beyond this three-month period, but this must be paid from the stipend.

8. Do I have to live in the apartment?

No. You are welcome to find alternative accommodation.

9. Will my application materials be forwarded to other parties than the partners?

Yes. Materials will be forwarded to a jury consisting of the three partner organisations and two external jury members.

10. Who will be the external jury members?

They will be selected based on the applications we receive.

11. Will the names of the external jury members be communicated?

Yes, after the selection process, together with information on the successful applicant.



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12. Should I contact the partners and/or researchers at the RIFS to discuss my idea?

Applicants should be able to relate to the work of the RIFS. Please check the website of the RIFS.

If you are uncertain, feel free to contact researchers at the institute. They may also provide inspirations for your application and your work.

However, please note that the final decision will be made by a jury consisting of representatives from the partner organisations as well as external jurors.

13. Is a remote fellowship possible?

No.

14. Can I take a break in the fellowship, i.e. divide it over several stays?

No.

15. What obligations do I have during my time as artist fellow?

We would invite you to present your work at one of the series of events held at the RIFS (e.g. the Tuesday Talk series, but other formats would be possible).

We will invite you to participate in the bi-weekly Fellow Meetings, where you will meet other RIFS Fellows, including other artists.

Otherwise, we assume you would actively engage with other people at the RIFS and also beyond, such as cultural institutions in Potsdam and Berlin.

16. What is the working language at RIFS?

English.

17. English is not my first or second language. Can I still apply?

Yes. However, conversational skills are necessary.

Applications must be submitted in English.

18. I will come with a family. Is there anyone I can contact regarding details?

Yes. Please contact Solange Lingnau from the City of Potsdam via Solange.Lingnau@rathaus.potsdam.de if you have any questions.



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19. What support is provided with respect to planning travel to Germany?

We will happily advise you on planning your travel and provide administrative support to help fellows and their families secure visas and residency titles and to meet other requirements.

20. Can the fellowship be extended?

The maximum duration is six months.

21. Can we apply as a collective?

Yes, but our budget is limited to a stipend of 2,500 Euro per month for six months. In addition, the apartment we secured so far is not suitable for a large group of people. Additional housing would need to be funded through the stipend.

Please note that three months is the minimum stay.

22. Is there anything else I should know?

For further information, please contact the head of the RIFS Fellow Programme via achim.maas@rifs-potsdam.de. We will update this FAQ based on any feedback that we receive.