


# Module

## Walter Benjamin Position



This module can only be applied for under the Walter Benjamin Programme.

### I Objective

If you would like to conduct your research project – or parts thereof – in Germany, you can apply for a Walter Benjamin position for this period.

### II Description

The Walter Benjamin position enables researchers in their early training phase to conduct their own research project in Germany and to benefit from additional career-promoting conditions.

With the funded position, you can focus exclusively on your research project and advance your qualifications. You should be integrated into a research environment that supports you in carrying out the project and gives you the opportunity to plan your next career steps in a targeted manner.

Grants for a Walter Benjamin position are generally only available to fund employment at a research institution in Germany or at a German research institution abroad.

The position is remunerated with a postdoctoral salary. For details, please refer to the overview *DFG Personnel Rates* (DFG form 60.12).

[www.dfg.de/formulare/60\\_12](http://www.dfg.de/formulare/60_12)

During DFG-funded working hours, you may not perform any non-research-related tasks, such as patient care. However, participation in training programmes is possible during this time. You may take on teaching responsibilities on a voluntary basis to the extent that they promote your career. As a rule, this translates into a teaching load of two credit hours per semester.

If you would like to take on the position at

- an institute or member organisation of the Max Planck Society, the Fraunhofer Society, the Helmholtz Association, or
- a member organisation of the Leibniz Association if, as an exception, it does not make a standard payment to the DFG, or
- a publicly funded research institute associated with any of these organisations, or
- an international research facility located in Germany,

you can do so only if this entity also funds 45% of the position, in addition to the support required under the programme. Confirmation of support must be provided with the proposal.

### III Proposal Instructions

Please submit with your proposal a statement by your employer certifying that he or she will function as your employer during the funding period and will ensure, together with you, the conditions necessary for carrying out the project. A template with the mandatory content can be found at:

[www.dfg.de/formulare/41\\_027](http://www.dfg.de/formulare/41_027)

In addition, submit a statement by the host researcher indicating that you will be provided with the means to carry out the project at the host institution, what kind of individual career support you will receive, and how you will be integrated into existing local structures and research networks. This statement relates to the future and is not a letter of endorsement recognising your achievements to date.

In principle, the project must be carried out on a full-time basis. Please apply for a full-time position even if you intend to reduce your working hours for family reasons (childcare, dependent care) or in cases of disability or chronic illness. Calculate the duration of the project on the basis of a full-time position. If approved, you can then reduce the position's hours and extend its duration accordingly.