

Regulations for the 2026 Equal Opportunity Fund

Funding worth €50,000 is available from the 2026 Equal Opportunity Fund.

As the chair of the Equal Opportunity Committee of the Academic Senate, University of Hamburg's equal opportunity commissioner is responsible for approving funding.

Funding for projects should not exceed €5,000 (except for completion scholarships). Approvals of more than €2,000 require the consent of The Equal Opportunity Committee.

In particular, funding is available for:

- Courses, research projects, conferences, and exhibitions relating to gender, diversity, and combining family with a career.
- Completion scholarships for doctoral dissertations and *Habilitationen* based on the guidelines for scholarships at the University of Hamburg (max. 6 months for women wishing to complete their work and able to prove that they have exhausted all other funding options).
- Student support for young researchers with children or a relative requiring care.

Funding will be granted for projects relating to structural and/or conceptual innovations as well as to attainment of the goal of equal opportunity at University of Hamburg.

In particular, funding from the Equal Opportunity Fund is to be used

- for projects for which no funding is available from other sources,
- to provide one-off supplementary support, and
- to apply for external (start-up) funding for projects.

University of Hamburg also promotes diversity-based equal opportunities. The criteria for equal opportunity are derived from the objectives and measures of the "Equal opportunity directive for academic sphere of University of Hamburg" and/or the "Equal Opportunity Plan of University of Hamburg" in its currently valid version and/or the "Diversity Concept of University of Hamburg" in its currently valid version.

Applications will be accepted from:

All members of the University of Hamburg (excluding UKE). Applications from technical, library and administrative employees are only permitted on behalf of academic staff.

Structure of the application

- Application form ([see homepage](#))
- letter with an explanatory statement

If applying for **project funding**, please also include:

- detailed project description, including the names of the responsible person(s) and those involved in the project as well as a description of project aims, with reference to the requirements detailed in these funding guide-lines
- detailed budget plan, including information on all other funding
- statement as to what extent the application has already been submitted elsewhere or declaration that no other funding has been granted or planned

If applying for a **scholarship**, please also include:

- tabular CV
- brief description of the research project (max. 2 pages)
- detailed schedule for the funding period
- statement as to what extent the application has already been submitted elsewhere or declaration that no other funding has been granted or planned
- Expert review from the supervisor, please use the form. Supervisors are asked to send the form directly to chancengerechtigkeit@uni-hamburg.de
- if applicable, birth certificate of the child(ren)
- If applicable, evidence or self-disclosure of disadvantage with regard to educational and participation opportunities

If evidence cannot be provided due to diversity dimensions¹ that lead to a disadvantage in terms of educational and participation opportunities, the applicant must justify the lack of evidence in a comprehensible manner. As evidence in the context of equal opportunities cannot always be provided in written form or through documents, proof can be provided through self-disclosure. Evidence of structural disadvantage in the context of equal opportunities can also be provided by referring to defined objectives and measures with regard to equality and diversity.

If applying for **student support**, please also include:

- explanatory statement of how funding will help you combine your career with family life
- if already known, the name(s) and date(s) of employment of your future employee(s)
- if applicable, birth certificate of the child(ren)

¹ Diversity dimensions can include gender identity, sexual orientation, ethnic origin, racist and anti-Semitic attributions, religion or belief, disability and chronic illness, age, social origin and social status, family status, pregnancy and parenthood, nationality and citizenship as well as external appearance.

Application procedure

Please send your application to the University of Hamburg's equal opportunity commissioner, i.e., the chair of the Equal Opportunity Committee. She is responsible for approving funding according to funding regulations.

The equal opportunity commissioner will prepare a report on the applications and their funding allocation for the Equal Opportunity Committee.

The Equal Opportunity Committee will be involved when:

- applicants request more than €2,000 of funding
- it is necessary to rank applications because their number exceeds the funding available

The deadline for applications is **March, 30th 2026**.

Important note: For budgetary reasons, authorized funds from the Equal Opportunity Fund 2026 must be transferred and settled by **December, 31st 2026**. It is NOT possible to carry over funds into the following year!

Signed January 2026
Equal opportunity commissioner of University of Hamburg
Chair of the Equal Opportunity Committee