

# Funding programmes for researchers – doctoral programmes, international mobility, networking



- Mission of the FGU
- FGU programmes in the research sector
  - Doctoral programmes: Franco-German graduate schools, “Cotutelle de thèse”, PhD track programmes
  - Networking opportunities: Scientific events for young researchers (workshops, summer schools)
  - Academic encounters and exchanges
- Support of postdocs
- The research network of the FGU

## “Broadening horizons and promoting academic excellence”

### The Franco-German University (FGU)

- is a network of affiliated member universities from France and Germany. Its administration is based in Saarbrücken.
- was founded as an international institution by means of an intergovernmental agreement (the Weimar Agreement) in 1997.
- provides expert guidance on Franco-German university relations with the aim of enhancing university and research cooperation between the two countries.

# The FGU support instruments



**Doctoral programmes**

**Franco-German  
graduate schools (FGGS)**

**Cotutelle de thèse**

**Franco-German  
PhD track programmes**

**Networking  
opportunities**

**Scientific events for young  
researchers**

**Academic encounters  
and exchanges**



In order to promote cooperation in the field of Franco-German research, the FGU supports graduate schools in all academic disciplines. It's possible to associate a third country.

The funding primarily supports the research activities and travel opportunities of doctoral students.

Call for applications: annually

Application deadline: 31-10



### Who is entitled to submit an application?

- French *Écoles doctorales*
- all German institutions offering structured doctoral programmes

### Funding period:

- Four years (since 2016), it's possible to submit an application to renewal

### Amount of funding: max. €261,800

- funds of infrastructure: €12,000/year  
Funds for establishing a network: €5,000
- Mobility grant: max. 18 months x €600 for 15 doctoral students during their stay in the partner country
- International scholarships for proposals which have been evaluated 'excellent': max. 18 months x €1,300 for max. two doctoral students during their stay in the partner country (for selected cooperations only)



# Doctoral programmes



„*Cotutelle de thèse*“

Agreement on the binational joint  
supervision of a doctoral thesis (1997)

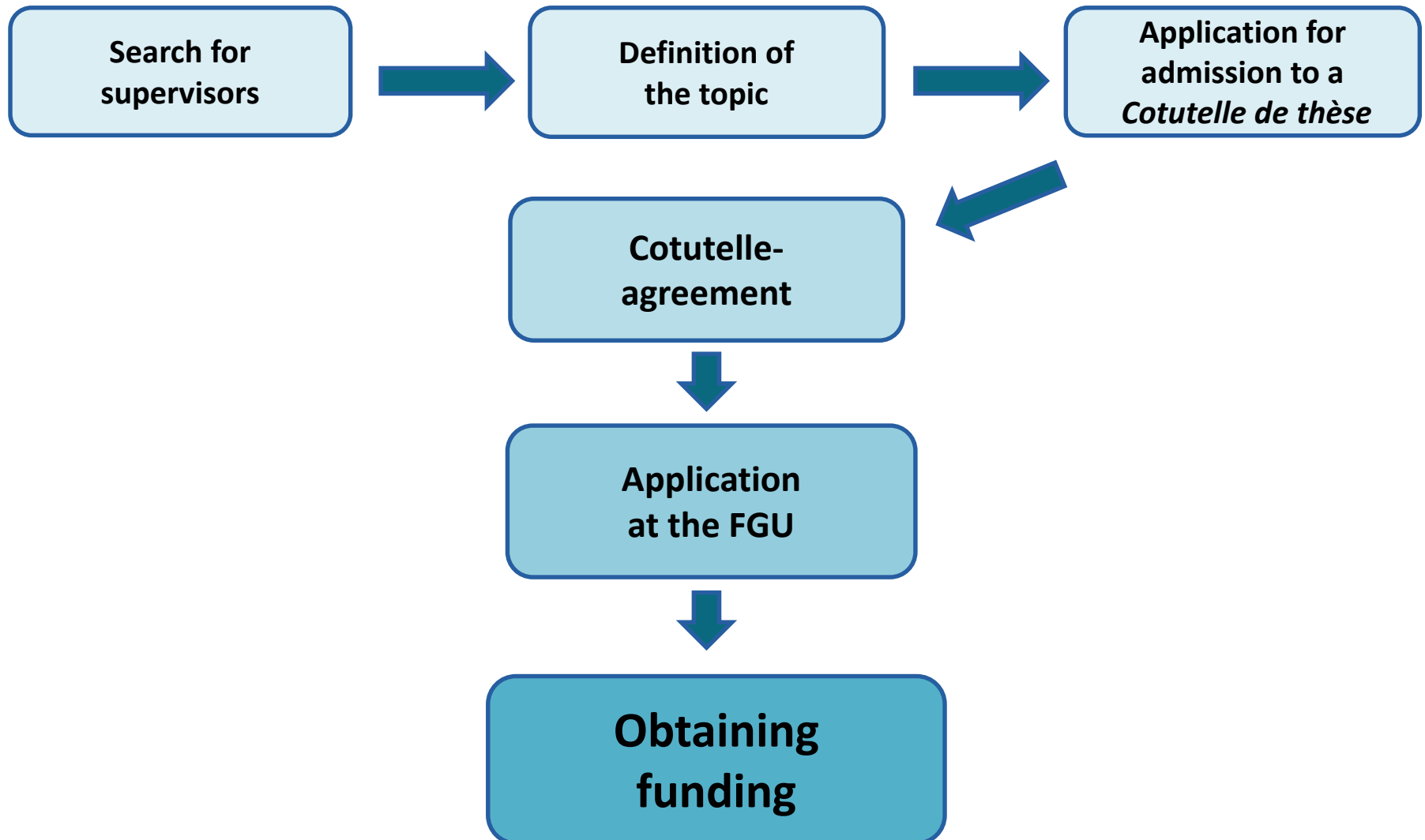
A Franco-German *cotutelle* system allows doctoral students to write their dissertation under the supervision of at least one professor in Germany and another in France.

Doctoral students are awarded a doctoral degree from both institutions after passing the joint defence.

# Doctoral programmes



## Procedure of a *Cotutelle*







*Cotutelle de thèse:*  
**Financial support by the FGU**

Since 01-01-2015, the funding has been restructured.  
Doctoral students now additionally benefit from:

1. Financial assistance for additional charges of the doctoral student
2. Refund of travel and accommodation expenses in the context of the joint defence



## *Cotutelle de thèse*

### Call for applications:

- As soon as the *cotutelle de thèse* agreement is signed by both institutions, it has to be handed in. The last signature of the agreement must not be older than a year.
- Application papers and abstract have to be written in French and German, English is permitted in exceptional cases.

### Amount of funding:

#### **1) Up to €4,000 to cover additional expenses during doctoral studies**

- Payment in two tranches: €2,000 at the beginning of the funding; €2,000 when the date for the joint defence is fixed (usually 3 years later)

#### **2) Up to €1,000 to cover the costs of the joint defence**

Refund of expenses up to two months after defence based on valid documentation

→ The doctoral student has to keep the FGU posted about any delays concerning the dissertation, otherwise the claim shall expire.



## Franco-German PhD track programmes

In the Franco-German PhD track programmes, the two years of the master's programme are combined with a further three years spent on a doctoral degree to form a five-year study period in total.

Supporting the students' mobility is one of the main priorities.

The programme is open to all kinds of disciplines. The association with a third-country partner is possible.

Call for applications: annually

Application deadline: 31-10



## Franco-German PhD track programmes

### Who is entitled to submit an application?

- Universities or non-university research institutes offering a programme which leads to a Master or an equivalent degree
- Institutions providing a doctoral training which, on the French side, is part of an *École Doctorale*

### Funding period:

- 5 years, possibility to submit an application to renewal

### Amount of funding:

- Infrastructure costs: €20,000/year
- Mobility grant during the master programme: €270/month
- Mobility grant during the doctoral programme: €600/month
- International scholarships for applications which have been evaluated 'excellent': €1,300/month for two doctoral students



## Scientific events for young researchers (workshops, summer schools)

### Aims:

- to create networks
- to provide a venue for high-level academic discourse based on a specific pedagogical approach

→ open to all disciplines

They can be organised as individual events as well as a series of events, where events build on one another and which is aimed at building a network.

Depending on the duration and design of the event, it is called either workshop (events of up to five days) or summer school (duration of more than six days).

Application deadlines: 15-03-2021, 15-06-2021, 15-10-2021



## Scientific events for young researchers (workshops, summer schools)

### Parties entitled to submit an application:

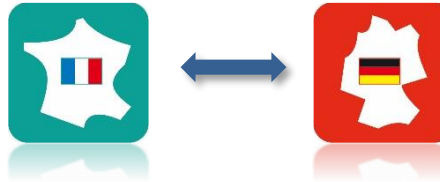
- German and French universities as well as non-university research institutes

### Funding period:

- minimum 2 days, up to 4 weeks

### Amount of funding: max. €15,000

- Depending on attendance and duration of the event. The amount of funding is €2,000 to €15,000.
- The funding may be used to cover travel and accommodation expenses of the participants and contributors
- Expenses for student assistants (in exceptional cases also for contributors)
- Communication costs (publications, creating a website etc.)



The Academic Encounters and Exchanges are used as a basis for organising and holding meetings between partner universities and for supporting the development of new degree and research programmes.

The funding covers travel and accommodation expenses.



## Who is entitled to submit an application?

- German and French universities and research institutes as well as Franco-German cooperation institutions

## Call for applications:

- Permanent application, at least one month before the encounter takes place

## Amount of funding: max. €2,500

- The financial support for the meetings between the partners includes the refund of travel and accommodation expenses
- A faculty may only be involved in two applications per year

# The network of the FGU in the field of research



- 28 Franco-German graduate schools, 14 of them in cooperation with a third country (e.g. Morocco, Ukraine, Switzerland)
- 7 PhD track programmes
- Ca. 100 doctoral students enrolled in a *cotutelle*-system
- Over 70 Scientific events for young researchers (2021)



**[www.dfh-ufa.org/Forschung](http://www.dfh-ufa.org/Forschung)**



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