

## Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies (BGS MCS) - Call for Applications

The Graduate School is a joint project by Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, and the Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient (ZMO). As a part of Freie Universität Berlin's Department of History and Cultural Studies, our offices are situated on its campus in Berlin Dahlem.

### Programme

The **BGS MCS** supports doctoral candidates who develop academically well-founded and relevant answers to questions arising in various research areas under the thematic umbrella of Muslim cultures and societies. The BGS MCS also provides its fellows with access to a broad academic network. The program is ideal for highly qualified and socially engaged junior scholars with a global outlook. For further information, see: <https://www.bgsmcs.fu-berlin.de>.

### Scholarships

*For admission in October 2027, the BGS MCS will award two scholarships from the Gerda Henkel Foundation to projects with a historical focus.* These scholarships include a monthly stipend for living expenses, as well as travel and research funds.

Additionally, the BGS MCS will select eight candidates who will be guaranteed a place at the graduate school on the condition that they raise their own external funding (private funding is not permitted).

The selected candidates will be supported by the BGS MCS in applying for external funding, for example from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), the Avicenna-Studienwerk, the Gerda Henkel Foundation, or the Elsa Neumann Foundation.

### Application Requirements

Applications must contain the following documents:

- Curriculum Vitae (CV / Resume) and motivation letter
- Selection of a supervisor from the list of supervisors in the application portal
- An outline of the dissertation project., incl. time-table
- One letter of recommendation
- Proof of relevant language skills
- Original and certified copies of degrees

The attached [guidelines](#) will help you to prepare your application.

**The application package, complete with all documents, needs to be submitted via the application platform: <https://www.drs.fu-berlin.de>.**

**The platform only accepts PDF documents as uploads. The documents must not be in read-only format.**

### Deadline

The application deadline is **31 October 2026, 12:00 noon (CET)**.

**Prospective applicants are invited to join our live Q&A session on 15 September 2026, at 2pm CET via Webex: [tinyurl.com/bd6zcat](https://tinyurl.com/bd6zcat) (Password: graduate).**

If you have further questions that are not addressed in the guidelines or in the FAQ on our website, please write to us at the following email address: [application@bgsmcs.fu-berlin.de](mailto:application@bgsmcs.fu-berlin.de).

We look forward to receiving your application!