



## Information Sheet Maternity Leave

### Extension of the Fellowship

If a baby is born to a research fellow during the sponsorship period, the mother may submit a written application to extend the period granted for sponsorship by up to 3 months, in line with statutory maternity rights. It is also possible to extend the sponsorship period if the research fellowship comes to an end during statutory maternity leave (usually 6 weeks prior to and 8 weeks after birth). A medical certificate confirming the pregnancy and stating the expected date of birth as well as the academic host's confirmation of research facilities and mentoring agreement are required to process this application. Decisions on extensions are taken by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation on the basis of the funds at the Foundation's disposal. A certified copy of the birth certificate must be submitted after the child is born.

When the research fellow does not reside in Germany during her maternity leave, the research fellowship will be temporarily interrupted and the fellowship payments will be suspended.

The application form is available on the Foundation's website at:  
<https://www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/benefits-for-families.html>

The above mentioned support cannot be granted in the framework of sponsorship for renewed stays in Germany.

### Parenthood: Interruption of the research fellowship

A research fellow may submit a written application (no specific form required) to interrupt the research fellowship for up to 18 months if a baby is due to be born or if the research fellow (male or female) is responsible for caring for a child under the age of 12 during the sponsorship period. A written statement from the academic host must be submitted confirming that the object of the fellowship is not endangered.