

## **Information regarding the special provisions that apply to the Feodor Lynen Research Fellowship Programme during the coronavirus pandemic**

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the travel warnings issued by Germany's Federal Foreign Office and the travel restrictions and quarantine regulations many countries have imposed for arriving travellers remain in effect. Depending on the current Covid-19 situation in the respective host country, authorities have enacted special guidelines and provisions that can include personal restrictions in private and professional life. In light of this, special regulations will apply until further notice in addition to the "Guidelines and Information for Feodor Lynen Research Fellows" which are part of the provisions governing your fellowship.

**In general:** If you can foresee that you cannot commence or complete your fellowship as planned – irrespective of whether this is due to the pandemic or some other reason – please inform your contact person at the Foundation!

Please refer to the following links for information on the specific details of the individual options available to you and clarify any questions in good time.

Guidelines and Information for Feodor Lynen Research Fellows:

[https://www.humboldt-foundation.de/fileadmin/Bewerben/Foerderung\\_waehrend\\_Aufenthalt/Forschungsstipendien\\_im\\_Ausland/lynen-fellowship\\_guidelines.pdf](https://www.humboldt-foundation.de/fileadmin/Bewerben/Foerderung_waehrend_Aufenthalt/Forschungsstipendien_im_Ausland/lynen-fellowship_guidelines.pdf)

FAQs regarding the special provisions mentioned here:

<https://www.humboldt-foundation.de/en/explore/newsroom/news/coronavirus-pandemic-faq>.

### **Commencing your fellowship in Germany:**

If you are unable to enter your host country, or if other pandemic-related reasons speak against entering the country, we encourage you to initially begin your research fellowship in the framework of the pandemic-related special regulations in Germany.

Conditions:

- You do not pursue any additional full-time work,
- you can conduct your research from home,
- your host's agreement plus written confirmation that you can be appropriately incorporated into the joint research work done at your host institute.

Please clarify if the host contribution can be paid even in the event that you commence your fellowship in Germany. If this is not possible, the Foundation can assume payment of the entire fellowship amount for the time being.

During a period of sponsorship in Germany, fellowship payments will not include the foreign allowance.

### **Postponing your fellowship:**

In the event that the current pandemic situation necessitates postponing the commencement of your fellowship, please submit an application stating the reasons. The application does not need to follow a particular form. Please indicate in your application the new commencement date or a general time horizon and request your host to submit written approval for the new schedule. Due to budgetary restrictions in the following

years, a postponement of more than 12 months will only be possible in exceptional cases and might entail a shortening of the fellowship period which was initially granted.

Please clarify all vital details with your host institute, the visa authorities, etc., that are necessary for commencing your fellowship. In addition, please coordinate the host contribution for the new sponsorship period with the relevant offices.

Once the date on which you will enter your host country is definite (visa has been issued, flight has been booked), please inform the Foundation once more and ask your host to confirm the new dates for your research stay.

You are entitled to a first fellowship payment during the first month only when you entered your host country by the 15th of that month (or the next working day).

### **Interrupting your sponsorship in another country**

In the event that due to the pandemic, it is not possible to conduct your research project properly at your host location, you have the option of continuing your fellowship in Germany on a temporary basis. The prerequisites and general conditions are the same as for commencing a fellowship in Germany (see above).

You are entitled to a foreign allowance when you leave your host country after the 15th of the month or return to your host country by the 15th of the month (or the next working day).

### **Interrupting or terminating your fellowship early**

Should it not be possible to continue your research project in an adequate way either at your host institute or in Germany due to the pandemic, your fellowship must be interrupted or terminated ahead of schedule.

It is possible to interrupt your fellowship for up to 12 months when you have coordinated this with your host institute and the interruption does not necessitate any substantial changes to your research project.

In the event that your fellowship is terminated, the various options offered by alumni sponsorship (see A.4 and C of the Guidelines) are available to you in later years.

### **Reimbursement of cancellation costs**

Should you unexpectedly have to terminate your stay at your host institute due to new circumstances arising from the pandemic and this unavoidably leads to cancellation costs that cannot be reimbursed through another source, the Foundation can possibly reimburse part of the costs. Decisions are made on the basis of the individual case.