



## The Oxford Berlin Research Partnership – Early Career Researchers Mobility Call 2025

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### Eligibility and other requirements

Postdoctoral researchers and doctoral students of the University of Oxford or BUA partner institutions (FU, HU, TU, Charité) working with researchers from an **already existing or recently initiated collaboration** between Oxford and Berlin.

Depending on your research discipline, there might be a thematic focus for researchers based at the institutions of the **Berlin University Alliance** or the **University of Oxford**.

Interdisciplinary applications or applications in the **Humanities** can be in any research area.

Areas where applications in the **Social Sciences** are particularly welcome include democratic resilience and colonial legacy.

Applications in the field of **Medical Sciences** dedicated to the following research topics are particularly welcome:

- Circadian Medicine
- Computational Pathology
- Neurodegeneration
- Mitochondria and Metabolism
- Healthy ageing
- Disease prediction and prevention
- Global Health

In **STEM**, a preference is given to applications from researchers based at any of the four institutions part of the Berlin University Alliance or the University of Oxford in the following research areas:

- Energy (in particular batteries/energy storage systems, photovoltaics, energy distribution, flexible use of energy, bioenergy, energy transformation, energy systems design)
- Process automation (in particular self-driving laboratories, process control, robotics, digitalisation laboratories and (bio)process industries, FAIR data systems)
- Bio- and chemical catalysis of complex systems (in particular hydrogenase, cell engineering and difficult to express proteins, evolutionary processes)

Cross-divisional collaboration in interdisciplinary projects is encouraged.

### Evaluation criteria and process

Your application will be reviewed against the following criteria:

- Academic Merit/Clarity (40% weighting)
- Added value of the collaboration between Berlin and Oxford (30%)
- Potential for further collaboration and acquisition of third-party funding (20%)
- Diversity of the teams and topics (10%)

Upon completion of the review process, you will be notified of the outcome of your application by email. We regret that we will not be able to provide personalised feedback on any applications.

After the cooperation activities are completed, we will ask you to submit an informal short report and will provide the corresponding online form to you.

### How much funding can be applied for (for Oxford Researchers going to Berlin)

The funding is available for a period of a minimum of two and a maximum of up to eight weeks to be spent in Berlin. **The maximum funding amount available is £3,800.00.**

For the calculation of accommodation and travel costs, please consult the University's guidance on financial expenditure: <https://finance.admin.ox.ac.uk/expenses#collapse1042796>

### How much funding can be applied for (for BUA Researchers going to Oxford)

The funding is available for a period of a minimum of two and a maximum of up to eight weeks to be spent in Oxford.

**The maximum funding amount available is €4,500.**

#### Accommodation

You can receive up to 99 euros for an overnight stay excluding the cost of breakfast. If the actual cost of your overnight stay exceeds 99 euros per night, you must provide an explanation for the full amount to be reimbursed. Acceptable reasons include e.g.:

Cheaper accommodation was unavailable due to exceptional reasons

(If your indicative cost is higher than 99 euros per night, please note this in the budget sheet.)

#### Daily subsistence allowance

You can charge €43 for a 24-hour stay.

If meals are covered (e.g. breakfast in a hotel), the lump sum is to be reduced. For a breakfast, this is €8.60 (20 percent of €43). For lunch or dinner, the reduction is €17.20 respectively (40 percent of €43).

On the day of arrival and departure, the subsistence is €34.40.

Please note that you do not have to claim subsistence. If you would like to calculate without it, please do not forget to exclude it from your travel expense report later.

### Travel

There is no guideline for flight/travel costs, but the principle of economic efficiency applies.

### Bench fees

Please note that your host department or institute might charge bench fees. Your research contact in Oxford can help you find out how much these are. Where possible, your research host should have these waived for you. Please explore together if this is possible. In the rare cases where this might not be possible, please supply an explanation and include them in your budget on the application form.

If you require access to library facilities during your stay in Oxford, fees for Bodleian Reader cards can be reimbursed. Please make sure you find out the cost (which varies according to the length of stay) in advance of making your application so you can include it in the budget.

### Reimbursement / Invoice submission

Please note that you should hand in your invoices by 4 December at the latest. In case of funding approval, you will receive more detailed information on the management of the funds.

## Visa Details

Please take into account visa regulations – these might differ depending on the length of your stay, your nationality, and your destination.

Please consult the relevant regulations on the following websites and check if you need a visa to come to the UK/Germany to carry out your research:

DE→UK: <https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa>

(EU nationals up to six months for visa-free study and research: [https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa/y/germany/work/six\\_months\\_or\\_less](https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa/y/germany/work/six_months_or_less) + <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/find-out-if-you-require-an-atas-certificate>)

UK→DE: <https://uk.diplo.de/uk-en/02/visa/travel-after-brexit/2441830?view> and <https://uk.diplo.de/uk-en/02/visa/professional-activities-not-classed-as-work/2447446?openAccordionId=item-2447448-0-panel&view>

(NB: UK and other non-visa nationals for visits to the Schengen area should take particular note of the “90 days in any 180 day period” regulation – this includes personal stays in the Schengen area, e.g. for holidays. Please adjust the length of your stays accordingly.)

Where applicable, visa costs will be reimbursed. Please indicate them in your budget calculations.

## Electronic Travel Authorisation for EU and other visa-free nationals

Please note that from 2 April 2025 EU nationals and citizens of other visa-exempt countries (e.g. US, Australia, Canada, South Korea etc.) are required to apply for Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) before travelling to the UK.

The application process can be completed through an app or online and requires a valid passport. It costs 16 GBP and is valid for multiple trips for up to 2 years (or earlier if your passport expires before).

Most applications are processed within 3 days or fewer.

You need to make sure to obtain an ETA before travelling to the UK. More information is available from the following website: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-an-electronic-travel-authorisation-eta>

If you are applying for an ETA for the first time as part of this funding call, the cost of the ETA can be reimbursed. Please indicate this in your budget calculations.