

Call for Proposals

X-Student Research Groups: research teams made up of junior researchers and students Funding in the framework of Excellence Strategy

**Call for the winter semester 2024-25
--- application deadline: June 2nd, 2024 ---**

With the X-Student Research Groups the Berlin University Alliance is supporting research teams made up of junior researchers and students. The aim is to involve students in current research projects of partner institutions and enable them to participate in top-level research at an early stage of their studies.

1 What is an X-Student Research Group?

- Using the format of the X-Student Research Groups, the Berlin University Alliance supports research projects in which junior researchers and students conduct joint research.
- X-Student Research Groups are organized in the form of research seminars. They usually run over the course of one semester.
- A junior researcher is responsible for leading the student research teams so that a current research question from their own research can be worked on together with the students. This gives junior researchers the opportunity to transfer their own research into teaching and to gather initial experience in managing research groups.
- Students who participate in an X-Student Research Group will receive study points.

2 What does the research funding look like?

- In order to run an X-Student Research Group, the junior researchers receive a contract for teaching assignment (in total 35 hours). This teaching assignment runs over the course of one semester with the option of extending beyond this period into a second semester. Depending on budgetary or personnel regulations, it may be possible to award material resources instead of a teaching assignment.
- On top of that, candidates can apply for research-relevant material or travel funds up to a maximum of 750 euro.
- In order to prepare the junior researchers for their assignment, they are also invited to participate in a teaching qualification program whose main focus is on the management of research groups.
- The Berlin University Alliance sponsors up to 16 X-Student Research Groups per call for proposals.

3 Who can apply?

- Junior researchers from the four partner institutions of the Berlin University Alliance: Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Technische Universität Berlin, and Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin. Applicants can include doctoral candidates, postdocs, and junior professors from all disciplines who are interested in conducting joint research with students.
- The joint research should be linked to a current research project of the junior researchers. This might be including, for example, all research projects of the Berlin partner institutions. Dissertations of doctoral candidates should be clearly distinguished from research conducted in X-Student Research Groups.

4 Which documents must be submitted?

- (1) **Application form (online)** form with details about the applicant, about the research project, and about the institutional link. To do this, the [online application form](#) must be filled out.
- (2) **Project outline** (maximum three pages, additional page containing bibliography if required) with a description of the planned research project, time schedule, assessment of potential participating students, and ideas for possible collaborations with other actors or institutions. The [notes on the project outline](#) provide more detailed information on how the outline should be structured and what to look for in each block.
- (3) **Optional - Application for material or travel funds** up to a maximum of 750 euro; a prerequisite for the approval is that the funds are necessary for carrying out the project or would clearly enhance the research of the X-Student Research Group. The [notes for applying for material or travel resources](#) provide more detailed information on what can be applied for and what needs to be taken into account here.
- (4) **Form - Proof of institutional affiliation:** In order for the X-Student Research Group to be offered as a research seminar for students, an institutional affiliation is necessary. This affiliation is ensured by a professor who is informed about the application and who agrees with his or her signature to support the project in organizational matters (e.g. room allocation, technology). For this purpose, the [institutional affiliation form](#) must be filled out and signed.

Further information on the call can be found at:

<https://www.berlin-university-alliance.de/en/commitments/teaching-learning/sturop/research-groups/call-for-proposals/index.html>

5 When, where and how must the application be sent?

After you have completed the online application form, please submit all other required documents by email in pdf format to the StuROP^x Coordination Office: call-sturop@berlin-university-alliance.de

Please keep the following instructions in mind:

- Assemble all documents as one pdf document.
- Within the pdf document, keep the order mentioned above, so please start with your project outline. A cover letter is not necessary.
- Please name the pdf document as follows:
LAST NAME FIRST NAME _Groups_WiSe 2024-25
e. g. SMITH STEVEN_Groups_WiSe 2024-25

The Deadline is June 2nd 2024.

6 Questions about the call?

If you have questions regarding the call or the format of the X-Student Research Groups, please contact the team of StuROP^x (sturop@berlin-university-alliance.de).

A **digital information event** on the X-Student Research Groups will be held on **April 29, 2024** via Zoom:

[11:00 a.m. in English](#)

Please also refer to the [FAQ about the X-Student Research Groups](#) on the StuROP^x-website, which can give you further information on the application process, the selection process but also on the format.

Berlin University Alliance

Student Research Opportunities Program (StuROP^x)

Cross-Cutting Theme Teaching and Learning

Program Head: Dr. Julia Rueß (julia.ruess@berlin-university-alliance.de)

Program Manager: Dr. Nina Lorkowski (nina.lorkowski@berlin-university-alliance.de)

Program Assistant: Johannes Trenkner (johannes.trenkner@berlin-university-alliance.de)

Assistant: Katarina Macová (katarina.macova@berlin-university-alliance.de)

www.berlin-university-alliance.de/commitments/teaching-learning/sturop/index.html

www.berlin-university-alliance.de

Address:

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Hausvogteiplatz 5-7

10117 Berlin