

GradAB

Graduate Programme of the Institute for  
Employment Research and the School of  
Business and Economics of the University  
of Erlangen-Nuremberg

# PROMOTING JUNIOR RESEARCHERS

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GradAB doctorates



Zertifikat seit 2009  
audit berufundfamilie



# WHAT DOES THE GradAB OFFER?

GradAB is the joint doctoral programme in labour market research of the Institute for Employment Research (IAB) and the School of Business and Economics of the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg (FAU). It offers an excellent environment to prepare graduates for a career in academia and in policy consulting.

- The three-year scholarship programme provides high-level training in labour market research. Funding can be extended for another year under certain conditions.
- Doctoral students benefit from a professional research and policy-consulting environment in one of Germany's key institutions advising high-ranking social policymakers. To enhance internal networking, all doctoral students are provided with a workplace at the IAB.
- The GradAB works closely together with its partners from a large network of renowned national and international universities as well as research and policy institutions.
- Scholarship holders are granted access to the IAB's unique data resources on employment and social security (administrative and survey data).
- The scholarship offers financial support in the amount of 1,350 € per month (plus potential family allowances). Additional funding is available for participation in scientific conferences and further training, for internships and research visits abroad.
- Part-time academic employment of up to 10 hours per week alongside the scholarship is possible, e. g. in one of the IAB research departments.
- GradAB doctoral students with children are offered a part-time scholarship of up to six years.

# HOW THE GradAB IS STRUCTURED

The course programme provides training on labour market research, methods, and data at an advanced level and is held in English.

In the first year, the graduates attend compulsory modules to establish a solid base with respect to theories of the labour market and methods of empirical research. In the further course of the programme, students choose elective compulsory modules tailored to their individual needs.

Once a year, graduates present their “works in progress” and initial research results at a GradAB Jour Fixe.

The mentoring system offers individual supervision over the entire period of the GradAB programme.

Our graduates appreciate the stimulating and motivating atmosphere within the group of fellow PhD students from various fields of research.

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## The GradAB study programme

1st year	2nd year
Compulsory module I: Statistics and econometrics	Compulsory elective courses
Compulsory module II: The Sociological and economic basis of labour market research	
Compulsory module III: Good scientific practice	
Presentation at the GradAB Jour fixe	Presentation at the GradAB Jour fixe
Attendance of lectures with external speakers at the IAB Colloquium or at research seminars at the Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nü	
National and international conferences, research visits, and internships	

# WHOM DOES THE GradAB ADDRESS?

The programme is aimed at outstanding graduates from the fields of sociology, economics, or other social sciences who have a special interest in empirical or theoretical issues of labour market research and/or the development of required statistical-econometric methods.

The IAB and the FAU are firmly committed to the goal of diversity and equal opportunities. We emphatically encourage applications from women. International students and persons with disabilities are especially welcome.

“The IAB supports junior researchers in an exemplary way. The doctoral students are very well integrated into the Institute’s work.”

*Citation from the evaluation report of the German Council of Science and Humanities (Wissenschaftsrat, 2019)*

3rd year	4th year <span>ON APPLICATION</span>
	Compulsory elective courses
Presentation at the GradAB Jour fixe	Presentation at the GradAB Jour fixe
ernberg	Attendance of lectures ... see 1st to 3rd year
<span>OPTIONAL</span>	National and ... see 1st to 3rd year



“I enjoy the perfect mix of a structured PhD programme and autonomous research in a cooperative and inspiring atmosphere.”

**Katharina Diener**  
Institute for Employment Research



197 labour market researchers work at the IAB and form a unique professional research and policy-consulting environment



55 percent of the GradAB doctoral students are women



GradAB-Class 2019

6

GradAB-scholarships are offered every year

1,800

Euro is the personal yearly budget for conferences and further training



“The programme’s international orientation and well-developed network helped me in spending parts of my Ph.D. studies abroad and proved a great springboard for my academic career.”

**Prof Malte Reichelt**  
New York University Abu Dhabi

# HOW TO APPLY

## Applications

Along with the usual application documents (covering letter, CV, certificates) and an academic letter of reference, the application must contain an outline of the intended doctoral research.

## Selection committee

The applicants will be selected by a committee composed of representatives of the IAB and the School of Business and Economics of the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg.

## Periods of application

The GradAB programme starts on 1 October of each year. The application deadline is usually 15 March.

## Further information



For precise dates and comprehensive information about the GradAB programme, please see [www.iab.de/en/gradab](http://www.iab.de/en/gradab).

## Contact

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