The Institute for Advanced Study of the Technical University of Munich (TUM-IAS) is part of TUM’s institutional strategy to promote top-level research in the Excellence Initiative by the German federal and state governments.

TUM-IAS awards Fellowships to distinguished researchers and gives them the necessary time and financial support to explore new venues, to develop novel research areas and to establish intensive international collaborations.

To attract scholarly talent from around the globe TUM-IAS invites applications for the prestigious

Hans Fischer Fellowship
Hans Fischer Senior Fellowship

Target Group: Up to 10 Hans Fischer (Senior) Fellowships will be awarded to outstanding international scientists who intend to explore innovative, high-risk topics in their research areas together with a TUM research group. Applications are invited from all areas of the TUM research portfolio.

Objective: The Fellowships last 3 years with the expectation that the Fellow will spend a total of at least 9 months at TUM (which can be divided individually into several stays). In this way, TUM-IAS intends to further a lasting and productive connection on an international level.

Funding: Hans Fischer (Senior) Fellows receive €50,000 for travel, housing and research-related costs, as well as support for one doctoral candidate at TUM. For Fellows with family responsibilities, the TUM-IAS offers flexible funding (for example for childcare/school fees) and various other kinds of provisions. In addition, Hans Fischer Fellows receive an award of €30,000. Hans Fischer Senior Fellows receive an award of €60,000.

Regional Fellows (Africa/Latin America): To foster regional diversity, the TUM-IAS will award up to 2 of the Hans Fischer and/or Hans Fischer Senior Fellowships to a candidate from a home institution in Africa and/or Latin America (all American countries with the exception of Canada and the US). Candidates for this Fellowship will undergo a separate evaluation, taking into account local evaluation factors. The Fellow will then receive the regular Hans Fischer (Senior) Fellowship benefits. For the Regional Fellowship, the tandem application rule (see below) does not apply.

Siemens Hans Fischer (Senior) Fellows: TUM-IAS invites nominations for Hans Fischer and/or Hans Fischer Senior Fellowships that focus on the research fields of Simulation and Digital Twin and the Future of Autonomous Systems/Robotics. Up to 2 Fellowships can be awarded in the course of this call.

Tandem Call: Applications for Hans Fischer and Hans Fischer Senior Fellowships (including the Siemens Fellows, not including the Regional Fellows) require a tandem application, i.e. each prospective host must nominate two potential Fellows, one of which must be a female scientist. Both applications will be evaluated individually according to our usual multi-stage evaluation procedure. Tandem nominations can be for the same or for several Fellowship categories (Hans Fischer, Hans Fischer Senior, Rudolf Diesel Industry Fellowship). From the proposed tandem, both candidates may be successful, or one, or none.

Conditions Hans Fischer Fellowship (Early-Career Researchers):

- Proposed Fellows have to have completed their doctorate within the last 12 years (allowance can be made for special circumstances, such as parental leave).
- Proposed Fellows may be asked to provide evidence of employment at their home institute for the duration of the Fellowship.
Application: The nominee and the planned TUM host submit a joint application including the following documents:

- nomination letter by the host, including the facilities provided by the hosting institute,
- CV including a list of major publications (please highlight the 3-5 most important publications),
- a statement of purpose jointly signed by the candidate and the hosting professor, describing how the Fellowship would contribute to the innovation of the scientific or technological environment at TUM, and the specific goals to be achieved. The statement of purpose should also include the following elements:
  - a budget plan,
  - a time plan regarding the candidate’s projected periods of stay at TUM,
  - an identification of possible additional (interdisciplinary) collaboration partners both within TUM-IAS and within TUM as well as a short explanation as to why this collaboration would be beneficial,
  - an outline for an international, ideally interdisciplinary workshop/colloquium, to be organized during the active Fellowship period,
- a list of 4-6 international peer-reviewers without any conflict of interest (please see here), - if applicable, also a list of persons that should be excluded from reviewing the proposal,
- letter of nomination from the Dean of the hosting department or another member of the TUM Extended Board of Management (EHP) or TUM-IAS Board of Trustees.

For more details, see the TUM-IAS Nomination Guidelines).

Deadline: Applications are to be submitted via email to the TUM-IAS office by October 24, 2018. In order to ensure a smooth application and evaluation procedure we strongly advise to contact the TUM-IAS management team with the key application data at least one week before the submission deadline.

TUM-IAS explicitly encourages nominations of and applications from women as well as from all others who would bring additional diversity dimensions to the university’s research and teaching strategies.

More information on TUM-IAS and the Hans Fischer Fellowship is available on the TUM-IAS homepage.