



### Promoting Young Researchers in the MPS: Call for Proposals

Deadline: September 30, 2020

## Sign UP! 2021: Careerbuilding Program for Post Docs of the MPS

### Institute Directorates can now nominate outstanding female post docs for participation

In January 2021, the successful program "Sign Up! Careerbuilding for female post docs" will start again. It offers women post-doctoral researchers of the MPS the opportunity to participate in high-quality career training. The program promotes them in their career development and prepares them for leadership roles in the scientific community. As of now, the Institute Directorates can nominate female scientists at postdoctoral level for participation.

The Max Planck Society has long been committed to promote young female researchers and bring more women into leadership positions. Our active commitment is already showing success. Within our framework, the "Sign Up!" program focusses on the pivotal target group of female post docs. The pilot program developed jointly by the MPS and the EAF Berlin, an independent academy for diversity in leadership, was completed with great success in 2010. Since then the MPS conducted already seven rounds of the program and will invite to an alumnae network day for the first time in 2021.

### Who can participate?

Up to 18 post-doctoral researchers can be selected for the program. Candidates should

- have high academic potential
- have proven scientific record
- be particularly ambitious and
- be motivated to ascend towards leadership positions in academia.

### What does the program offer?

The program includes three seminar modules of 3 to 4 days that offer personal skill training and provide information on scientific careerbuilding. Discussion with top scientists, alumnae of the program, will give participants firsthand insights about the opportunities and challenges lying ahead.

The seminar modules will focus on the following areas:

- *Careers in academia*: career paths in academia, success factors, appointment procedures, application strategies, self-marketing,
  - *Leadership & communication in academia*: self-management, leadership roles, professional communication and presentation
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## Sign Up! Careerbuilding for Postdocs of the MPS

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- *Scientific community*: research funding and institutions, political developments and strategic issues

### How is the selection process structured?

Candidates must be nominated by the institute directors of the Max-Planck-Society with a recommendation letter. The post docs are asked to write a short statement about their motivation and indicate their contact details. A selection committee will select the final program participants, based on the quality of the recommendation letter, the letter of motivation and a fair share of sections and institutes.

**Closing date for applications is September 30, 2020.**

### The program details and costs

The program starts with the first module from 12 – 14 January 2021. It will be followed by the second module from 18 – 20 May 2021. The next day, May 21, the first alumnae network meeting will take place. Participants are cordially invited. The program will be completed by the third module from 09 – 12 November 2021. The modules take place in seminar hotels in Berlin. If due to Covid-19 pandemic the three modules cannot be carried out in presence in 2021, we will offer them online. Seminar language will be English.

For participants selected for the program, the participation in all three modules is mandatory.

The General Administration of the MPS covers the costs for the coordination and implementation of the program.

The respective institute will bear the conference costs of their participant (travel, accommodation and meals).

**The program is conducted in cooperation with the EAF Berlin.** The independent academy provides advisory service for institutions in a change process towards more diversity in leadership. As a non-profit organization the EAF Berlin works with organizations in business, government and academia - such as the Leibniz Association and the Helmholtz Association and several Universities. The academy conducts innovative programs and trainings for personnel and organization development and practices oriented research projects. Prof. Dr. Barbara Schaeffer-Hegel and Dr. Helga Lukoschat founded the EAF Berlin in 1996 as a spin-off from the Technical University in Berlin. Jointly with the Technical University Berlin and in cooperation with considerable technology companies, leading research institutions and technical universities, the EAF Berlin founded the Femtec in 2001, an international career platform for female scientists. The MPS has collaborated with the EAF for several years as part of a corporate partnership.

### Contact

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