

Research Opportunities Week 2023

FAQ

Last updated: April 05, 2023.

Application Portal

Can I submit documents after the deadline?

No, you need to ensure that you submit your application by May 14, 2023; otherwise your application will not be taken into consideration.

Can I update my application after the deadline e.g. new publications?

For reasons of fairness, additions or changes to the application are not possible after the deadline.

Can I update my application after I submitted it, if it is still before the deadline?

In this case, please contact TUM ForTe (postdoc@tum.de).

I have just submitted my application and realized that I uploaded a wrong file on the server. Can I still change it?

In this case, please contact TUM ForTe (postdoc@tum.de).

How do I know that my application is complete?

You won't be able to submit your application if your application is incomplete and/or if you have not uploaded all required files.

Can I upload restricted PhD files?

Please upload PhD files without any restrictions, otherwise the reviewers will not be able to see them.

To whom should I address my cover letter so that my application is directed appropriately?

If you choose the format of an official letter (for your Letter of Motivation), you are welcome to address the Selection Board. Bear in mind that the letter must be written in English. Please also ensure that your Letter of Motivation can be understood by anyone who is not an expert in your specific field of expertise. Be certain to address all prerequisite points (Why you choose TUM and the respective TUM professors with whom you intend to work).

My supervisor does not want me to upload the support letter. Can s/he submit it directly?

Yes, you will be able to notify your supervisor through the portal to upload the support letter.

Please note that the system requires you to upload a document, otherwise you are not able to submit the application. So please plan ahead to ensure the letter is submitted in time.

Host Professors

Whom can I mention as Host Professors?

Full Professors, Assistant Professors, Tenure Track Professors and TUM Junior Fellow	yes	In case of doubt, compare with the List of Professors at TUM as well as the TUM Junior Fellows .
Retired Professors/Professors Emeriti	no	Retired professors are listed here: Professors Emeriti
Adjunct Professorships/ Außerplanmäßige Professoren	no	
Honorary Professors	no	Honorary Professors are listed here .
Any other researcher or postdoc at TUM	no	

How can I find out about the status of a professor?

Please check if s/he is mentioned in the [List of Professors at TUM](#). In case of any doubt, feel free to contact us before submitting your application. Particularly new professors at TUM might not have a profile immediately.

Should I contact the professors that I have listed in my application in advance?

Please refrain from contacting the professors for your ROW application. You do not need to inform them that you listed them in your application.

Eligibility Criteria

Can I apply for the Research Opportunities Week if I am working or living in Germany?

No, in this case you are unfortunately not eligible to apply. Eligible applicants must have their official place of residence outside Germany.

Can I apply for the Research Opportunities Week if I am now working in Germany, but did my PhD abroad?

No, in this case you are unfortunately not eligible to apply. Eligible applicants must have their official place of residence outside Germany.

I am already working at TUM, can I apply for the Research Opportunities Week?

No, in this case you are unfortunately not eligible to apply.

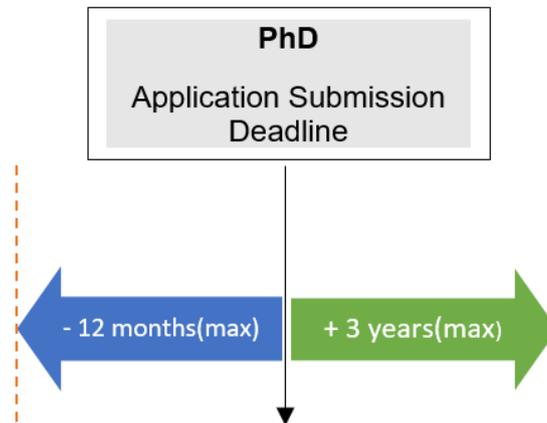
A professor at TUM has offered me a position which I will start before the Research Opportunities Week in October 2023. Can I still apply for the Research Opportunities Week?

No, in this case you are unfortunately not eligible to apply.

For how many years after finishing my PhD am I eligible to apply for ROW?

Please note that the ROW is aimed at early career postdocs. You can apply for ROW and afterwards for the TUM Global Postdoc Fellowship if you have finished your PhD within the last three years from the date of application. So for this round, you are eligible only if you have

completed your PhD in October 2020 or later. The date is calculated based on the date mentioned on your PhD certificate. If you have not completed your PhD yet, see below “Can I apply for the ROW if I haven’t finished my PhD yet?” Please note that will be no exceptions to this rule.



I have completed my PhD before October 1, 2020. Am I eligible to apply?

Unfortunately, you are not eligible to apply for the event. The Research Opportunities Week aims at researchers who have recently finished their PhD or are about to finish it, so we cannot make any exceptions to the three-year rule.

I applied for the Research Opportunities Week in the past, but I was (a) not selected or (b) I was selected but unable to attend. Am I eligible to apply again?

- a) You cannot apply again if you had applied before and were not selected.
- b) You can reapply if you had applied previously and were selected but not able to participate. (You should still have completed your PhD less than 3 years from the date of application).

Can I apply for the ROW if I haven’t finished my PhD yet?

Yes, you are eligible, but you need to submit a confirmation letter from your supervisor stating that you will finish your PhD within the next 12 months. It is sufficient if you finish your PhD within the next 12 months calculated from the ROW date (October 2023).

Be aware that any TUM Global Postdoc Fellow needs to have his/her PhD title and submit the official certificate before being able to start the Fellowship.

If you are unable to finish your PhD within the next 12 months, you are currently not eligible to apply. We highly recommend to watch out for future ROW events.

Language-related questions

Do I need to speak German to join TUM or participate in the Research Opportunities Week?

No, German language skills are not necessary in most fields at TUM – except if your research requires German language proficiency.

My PhD certificate is in Spanish/Portuguese/English/French. Do I need to have a translation?

You may add an English translation, however, it is not mandatory.

My PhD certificate is in Arabic/Russian/Korean/Mandarin. Do I need to have a translation?

For any language that we would not be able to read, please add a translation in English.

All other documents need to be written in or translated into English since not all members of the Selection Committee speak German.

Can I submit my application in German?

Since not all members of the Selection Committee speak German, please ensure that all relevant submission documents are in English.

Publications

Can I hand in a paper that has not been uploaded yet?

You can upload an unpublished paper, but be aware that the reviewers can also read it.

Is the number of publications a strict criterion for a successful application?

There is no requirement to have a certain amount of publications before applying for the ROW. However, depending on the research area reviewers might look at your track record to determine your scientific excellence.

Outcome of the Selection

When will I be informed about the results?

We will duly inform all applicants about the results of their application by end July 2023. We request all applicants to be patient and await the outcome of their applications.

It is already August and I did not hear back from TUM.

We reply to every applicant who have submitted an application via email. However, in rare cases, emails which we send via our portal do not reach applicants. So we request each applicant to check the portal periodically under the communication tab for new messages.

Questions regarding the participation

If I am invited to participate, what are the next steps?

You need to confirm your participation in the event via email. You will be informed about the upcoming steps through the portal.

I need a visa to attend the ROW. Can you provide me with an invitation letter for the visa application?

In order to receive a formal letter of invitation from TUM, you need to be selected to participate in the ROW first. After receiving our confirmation, we can provide you an official letter.

Can TUM also provide an invitation letter of my partner/family?

No, we can only issue invitation letters for persons who are selected for the Research Opportunities Week.

What happens if I am selected, but not able to attend the event?

Please inform us immediately if you are unable to attend the ROW in order to cancel your participation.

I will be unable to participate for the entire week, is it possible to attend for few days only/part of the week?

The Research Opportunities Week is a one week event. The events are organized in a manner to augment your understanding, make connections and create opportunities. If you are selected, you must be able to join the event for the entire week.

Are there any costs involved in participating in the ROW?

The event is free of charge for everyone selected to participate in the event.

Contact

TUM Talent Factory

Website: <https://www.tum.de/nc/en/research/postdocs/research-opportunities-week/>

Contact us via: postdoc@tum.de