



Maternity leave: extension of the fellowship

If a baby is born to a fellow during the sponsorship period, the mother may submit a written application to extend the period approved for sponsorship by up to 3 months, in line with statutory maternity rights. It is also possible to extend the sponsorship period if the fellowship comes to an end during statutory maternity leave (usually 6 weeks prior to and 8 weeks after birth). A medical certificate confirming the pregnancy and stating the expected date of birth as well as the academic host's confirmation of research facilities and mentoring agreement are required to process this application. After the child is born, a digital copy (as a scan, for example) of the birth certificate must be submitted. The Foundation reserves the right to request a certified copy (or original version) of the birth certificate.

When the fellow does not reside in Germany during her maternity leave, the fellowship will be temporarily interrupted and the fellowship payments will be suspended.

The [online application form](#) is available on the Foundation's website.