



Call for applications

Lilo and Wilm Bartels Prize

The **Lilo and Wilm Bartels Prize** will be awarded for the first time in 2026 to promote excellent early career researchers at the Faculty of Natural Sciences at the University of Hohenheim. It is aimed at outstanding young researchers in a decisive phase of their academic career – the transition from the doctorate to the postdoc phase – and specifically supports those who have the courage to break new ground, develop independent academic profiles, and actively shape the next step in their academic careers.

Funding objective

The prize is aimed at all researchers in the Natural Sciences who are characterized by **special scientific achievements** and a **high degree of innovation** and who would like to carry out an ambitious research project at the Faculty of Natural Sciences at the University of Hohenheim. In particular, support will be provided to **creative, forward-looking**, and **risk-taking** project ideas that can emerge from previous research work, but are not necessarily thematically linked to it.

Requirements

Scientists can apply for the award

- who have already completed their doctorate *or* are about to complete it,
- whose planned research is based at the Faculty of Natural Sciences,
- who offer an independent and promising scientific perspective.

Type of funding

The prize is endowed with **20,000 euros** and is designed as a personal award. It serves to support a future research project in the early postdoc phase.

The funds can be used flexibly and independently by the award winner. In particular, this includes:

- purchasing research funds and equipment,
- financing of travel expenses,
- covering publication costs,
- and other project-related expenses.

In addition, the funds can also be used to secure one's own livelihood provided that the funded time is used for further scientific development – in particular the preparation of a further research proposal at a renowned funding institution (e.g. German Research Foundation (DFG)).

Application documents

A project outline of no more than five pages must be submitted. This should include the following aspects:

- presentation of the planned research project,
- explanation of the innovative character and scientific relevance,
- context in the scientific career to date,
- perspectives for your own professional development,
- description of how, where, and in what period the funding is to be used to prepare a further third-party funding application.

Application deadline, procedure, submission, and selection committees

The project outline as well as a complete resumé and relevant certificates (studies, doctorate) must be submitted electronically in a coherent PDF file. After the deadline, the documents are formally reviewed and then submitted to a multi-stage review process.

In particular, this includes:

- scientific quality and originality of the project outline,
- innovation potential and risk appetite of the project,
- connectivity to international research,
- as well as the recognizable development potential of the applicant.

Please send your complete documents by 7 June 2026 to:

bartels-preis@uni-hohenheim.de. The awarding of the prize will take place during the Dies Academicus on 3 July 2026 in Hohenheim.