

## Contact

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DFG election portal with detailed information:

[www.dfg.de/fk-wahl2015](http://www.dfg.de/fk-wahl2015)

Abbreviated English version:

[www.dfg.de/rb-election2015](http://www.dfg.de/rb-election2015)

### Queries

Contact details are listed on the DFG election portal.

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Design: Tim Wübben, DFG

## DFG Review Boards: Fair and Subject-Driven Experts

The DFG review boards are an important body in the decision-making process on DFG grants. They prepare the final decision by making a subject-driven award recommendation.

Review board members

- ▶ evaluate grant proposals according to scientific criteria,
- ▶ advise the DFG on strategic issues, and
- ▶ are especially committed to early-career support for researchers.

These activities take place in meetings as well as in writing. The DFG communicates electronically with the review board members through *elan*, the DFG's electronic proposal processing system.

The review boards – like grant applicants, reviewers and other members of the DFG's policy and decision-making bodies – must observe the rules for good scientific practice and the rules to avoid any appearance of conflict of interest.



## What is the DFG?



The Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) is the central self-governing research funding organisation in Germany. It serves all branches of science and the humanities by funding research projects at universities and other research institutions. Support is provided to individuals and projects that have been judged outstanding in a competitive peer-review process. The DFG also fosters international scientific cooperation and is committed to promoting the next generation of researchers.

The DFG is science-driven: Researchers choose the topics of their projects, and reviewers issue funding recommendations based on the quality of these projects. Funding decisions are made by committees composed of researchers and government representatives.

In organisational terms, the DFG is an association under private law. Its members are German universities, non-university research institutions, scientific associations, and the academies of science and humanities. The DFG's annual budget of over €2 billion is financed mainly by Germany's federal and state governments, with additional funds provided by the EU and private donors.

English



Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft  
German Research Foundation

## Review Board Election 2015

Shaping Research through  
Subject-Driven Representation

DFG

DFG

## Why Vote?



Every four years, the DFG holds elections to select volunteer scientists and academics to serve on its review boards. You can help decide who will represent your subject area on the DFG review boards.

### By voting

- ▶ you play an active role in the self-governance of the research community, and
- ▶ you have the opportunity to choose individuals to represent your academic subject area.

Make your vote count by participating in the 2015 election.

## Who Can Vote?

In general, you are eligible to vote in the review board election if you

- ▶ have completed a doctorate and
- ▶ conduct academic research, during the election period (from Monday, 26 October 2015, 2 pm, to Monday, 23 November 2015, 2 pm), at a German institution that is an established DFG voting centre.

You can find the exact voting requirements and additional voting criteria in the regulations for review board elections at [www.dfg.de/rb-election2015](http://www.dfg.de/rb-election2015).

### How do I register to vote?

Research institutions that serve as voting centres for the DFG generally register all their eligible voters. If you have been registered, your voting centre will automatically send you the information you need to vote in the online election. Then you're just a few clicks away from casting your ballot, which can be done on any computer connected to the internet.

If you need information on voting requirements in specific cases, please contact your local established voting centre or refer to the DFG election portal (see "Information for Voters"), especially if your research institution is not an established voting centre.



## Who Can Be Elected?



Scientists and academics with a doctorate who research actively and independently within the German academic research system and would like to help shape research funding are eligible for review board membership. Details on eligibility and candidature can be found in the regulations for review board elections on the DFG election portal at [www.dfg.de/rb-election2015](http://www.dfg.de/rb-election2015).

Candidates for the review boards are nominated primarily by the DFG member organisations and eligible scientific and academic associations and societies. From these nominations, in the summer of 2015, the DFG Senate will approve a list of candidates in 213 subject areas for 48 review boards.

Review board members serve on a voluntary basis and make an important contribution to furthering excellence in their respective fields.

## Six Votes for Research: Submitting Your Ballot

Each voter has six votes to help determine the composition of the review boards.

In your election notification you will find personal access information to the online voting system. There you will have the chance to cast your votes for the candidates of your choice. The election is currently scheduled to take place from Monday, 26 October 2015, 2 pm, through Monday, 23 November 2015, 2 pm. The official beginning and end of the voting period will be announced on the election portal and in your election notification.

Voting takes just a few minutes and ends with an electronic confirmation of your participation by the voting system. The system's user-friendly navigation enables you to search by people and subject areas to find the right candidates quickly.

After the end of the voting period, all votes will be counted and results will then be posted on the DFG election portal. Thanks to the online election, you will be able to quickly see who will serve on the new review boards from 2016 to 2019.

### Secure voting

The voting system and the voting process are set up to ensure ballot confidentiality. Votes cast into electronic ballot boxes cannot be traced. In addition, the entire election process will be monitored by an election commissioner appointed by the DFG Senate as well as the DFG's data protection officer.