



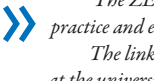
Doctoral and Postdoctoral Opportunities at ZEW

Exceptional Experiences and Benefits



“Doing my dissertation at ZEW is an exceptional journey with both sweets and joys. ZEW has provided me with rich research resources and the freedom for conducting my research. The special blend of both research and policy oriented work makes the ZEW experience particularly enjoyable.”

Dr. Qingwei Wang, ZEW Research Fellow and Former Researcher in the Research Department
“International Finance and Financial Management”



“The ZEW DocNet has provided me with the opportunity to share the practice and experience with my supervisor and other colleagues and researchers. The link between our applied research at ZEW and the basic research at the universities is great. The opportunity to expand my theoretical knowledge in the doctoral programme at the University of K. U. Leuven is exactly what I need for my work at ZEW.”

Franz Schwiebacher, Researcher in the Research Department
“Industrial Economics and International Management”



“After completing my doctoral dissertation, I was drawn to ZEW because I wanted to pursue my interests in empirical labour economics within a large team of experienced researchers. While working on a project funded by the German Research Foundation I had the opportunity to pursue my academic career and complete my postdoctoral habilitation thesis at the University of Mannheim. At ZEW the active support in joining national and international research networks is particularly valuable to me.”

PD Dr. Nicole Gürtzgen, Senior Researcher in the Research Department
“Labour Markets, Human Resources and Social Policy”

Why ZEW?

Research at a leading international institute. The Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW) in Mannheim is one of Europe's leading economic research institutes and enjoys a strong reputation. ZEW's guiding mission is to study the optimal performance of markets and institutions in Europe. ZEW applies a plurality of methodologies with a focus on microeconomic and microeconomic research.

Commitment to cutting-edge research and policy advising of highest quality. One of ZEW's guiding objectives is to provide economic policy advising based on rigorous economic research. The German federal and state governments, international ministries, and the European Union are ZEW's most important clients for advising services.

Excellence in economics has a number of dimensions at ZEW: the publication of research findings in renowned refereed journals, national and international networking, knowledge transfer at conferences and workshops, the creation and maintenance of unique databases.

Support and development of staff. Postgraduates and postdocs at ZEW receive comprehensive and close support for their projects from qualified senior researchers and/or research associates. ZEW also actively supports the ongoing professional development of its staff.



“For me, pursuing my doctoral studies at ZEW has been the right choice. ZEW offers an excellent research environment. I gain valuable experience from working in research projects with other colleagues and I appreciate the insights in policy advising. Moreover, the close link to the University of Mannheim allows me to attend courses of the University’s doctoral programme to improve my theoretical qualifications. Finally, I think it is quite motivating, especially for young researchers, that ZEW generously supports the participation in international scientific conferences.”

Katharina Finke, Researcher in the Research Department
“Corporate Taxation and Public Finance”



Outstanding Characteristics of ZEW

Although ZEW is closely networked with universities and applies university level standards in its research activities, our work is clearly differentiated from economics research conducted at universities:

- ZEW sets **broader goals** than economics faculties. Policy advising and knowledge transfer have considerably higher significance for us.
- The size of ZEW and the broad spectrum of topics studied by our research units permit us to take on **comprehensive and complex economics advising projects**.
- ZEW’s infrastructure and resources make it possible to develop, maintain, and offer **complex analytical models**, such as the European Tax Analyzer or the PACE computable general equilibrium model. We are also able to undertake **long-term surveys** which university faculties would not be in a position to sustain, such as the ZEW Financial Market Test and the Mannheim Innovation Panel.

What We Offer

- Research work at a leading international economic research institute
- Support during postgraduate doctorates and postdoctoral studies
- Outstanding equipment of working places and access to unique databases
- Support by publishing research findings
- Participation in national and international scientific conferences
- Research stays at renowned foreign institutions
- Integration in national and international research networks
- Sabbaticals to pursue work independent of project responsibilities
- Further education, e.g. courses in econometrics and presentation skills
- Excellent, team-oriented working atmosphere



“ZEW DocNet has offered me the great opportunity to write my dissertation and do project work at ZEW in harmony. In addition to the supervision from the University of Mannheim, I received full support and useful advice from my ZEW colleagues regarding the empirical modelling in my dissertation. I also benefitted a lot from the extensive industry experience of the ZEW team.”

Dr. Nina Leheyda, Researcher in the Research Department
“Industrial Economics and International Management”



Two Ways of Doctoral Education at ZEW

Two-thirds of ZEW’s scientific employees are working on their doctoral thesis while being involved in research projects. We currently employ 82 doctoral candidates. University graduates can attain their doctoral degree

- by working as a full-time staff member at ZEW within the framework of ZEW’s In-House PhD Programme
- by participating in the ZEW Doctoral Studies Network (ZEW DocNet) launched in 2006.

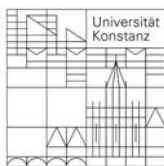
Regardless of the path chosen, clear milestones help to ensure that our doctoral candidates make steady and rapid progress. Our doctoral candidates require on average less than five years to obtain a PhD.

In ZEW’s In-House PhD Programme, young researchers develop in tandem with experienced economists and the heads of the research units a topic for their doctoral thesis based on ongoing project work. Then a dissertation supervisor is sought out at a German or foreign university. The ongoing development of the dissertation is based on the regulations for doctoral studies at the university in question.



ZEW DocNet is an international network that links ZEW with graduate programmes at the Universities of Konstanz, Mannheim, St. Gallen (CH), Maastricht (NL) and Leuven (BE). Those who choose the ZEW DocNet pathway have to apply first for admission to the graduate school of a participating university. Depending on the structure of the respective doctoral programme, doctoral students are invited to apply as early as possible for a research position in one of ZEW's research units. In the majority of doctoral programmes, the time most fitting for applications seems to be, at the latest, the end of the first or the beginning of the second year. PhD students may then pursue their project work either in part or entirely at ZEW.

For an overview and more detailed information, please see page 12.



UNIVERSITY OF
MANNHEIM



Universität St.Gallen



Maastricht University



Postdoctoral Offers at ZEW

Postdocs at ZEW are in charge of research and consulting projects in collaboration with the heads of the Institute's research units. Postdocs at ZEW are encouraged to habilitate.

ZEW is highly reliant on the knowledge and experience of long-term staff. Senior researchers thus have the chance of becoming deputies or heads of research units. Furthermore, ZEW senior researchers are frequently appointed to professorships at universities and polytechnics with the support of ZEW.

An advantage of working at ZEW is the flexible arrangement of working hours, which helps to promote a balance between professional and family life.

In accordance with ZEW policy, the vast majority of scientific staff engaged in research activities have a fixed-term contract. However, a conversion into an unlimited contract for postdocs is possible.



“At ZEW, postdoc researchers have excellent possibilities to further develop their academic career. Most recently, a cooperation agreement between ZEW and WHU – Otto Beisheim School of Management allowed me to become an Assistant Professor for Industrial Organisation. This position will help me to build a strong research network, to ameliorate my teaching skills, and to collect important experiences in the self-administration of a university.”

Juniorprof. Dr. Kai Hüsichelrath, Head of the Research Group
“Competition and Regulation”

Support via ZEW’s Qualification Programme

ZEW helps to advance careers of its staff with a qualification programme. The research sabbaticals funded under the programme free up time for researchers to pursue work independent of their project responsibilities at ZEW, e.g.

- ◉ to complete their doctoral or postdoctoral thesis
- ◉ to do research at renowned German and foreign institutions
- ◉ to participate in seminars, colloquia, and summer schools in Germany and abroad.

All research staff have access to ZEW’s internal professional development programme. There are courses in econometrics, computing, foreign languages and communication, as well as leadership skills.



“Sabbatical leaves are among the benefits most valued by ZEW researchers. Typically, a researcher takes one to two mini-sabbaticals during the time at ZEW to conduct research without working on projects. I have spent time at MIT and at Stanford after finishing my PhD and it helped me enormously to bring forward my academic career.”

Prof. Dr. Andreas Löschel, Head of the Research Department
“Environmental and Resource Economics, Environmental Management”

Interdisciplinary and International Networking

Intense cooperation with research institutions in Germany and abroad is a decisive factor in the success of ZEW’s economic research. ZEW has distinguished international partners, primarily in Western Europe, but increasingly in Eastern Europe as well as overseas (e.g. with Economics Nobel Prize laureate Prof. James J. Heckman, PhD, University of Chicago, and with Xiamen University, one of China’s leading economics faculties).

ZEW is highly networked to universities. The Institute is currently collaborating with more than 40 research associates, most of them professors at German and international universities. Conversely, many ZEW researchers are engaged as lecturers at universities.

The **ZEW Visiting Researchers Programme** promotes scholarly exchange by bringing academics to the Institute for extended research stays. The programme is aimed at deepening the involvement of international researchers in the Institute’s work.



**ZEW Visiting
Researchers
Programme**

The **ZEW Short-Term Exchange Programme (STEP)** provides excellent opportunities for short-term research stays at ZEW. This programme attracts established researchers of proven academic excellence from all over the world.





Who Should Apply?

A postgraduate/postdoc is eligible to apply if he/she has

- ▶ an honours degree in economics/business administration or related studies
- ▶ a PhD degree (only if applying for a postdoctoral position)
- ▶ interest in theoretical and empirical approaches to economic issues
- ▶ the ability to work in a team and at the same time the competence to work on his/her own initiative
- ▶ a good knowledge of statistics and econometrics
- ▶ a good command of German (helpful but not obligatory)

PhD-Specific Activities

ZEW DocNet

Application for admission to the graduate school of a participating university

ZEW's In-House PhD Programme

Application for admission directly to ZEW

Phase 1

1st – 2nd year

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Doctoral courses and mentorship from professors at the respective university ■ Development of first paper/ dissertation topic ■ University regulations ■ Application to ZEW ■ Matching of ZEW projects and university topics ■ Agreement about workload at ZEW | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Mentorship at ZEW from the heads of research units, senior researchers, and research associates ■ Development of first paper/ dissertation topic ■ Participation in selected courses of a doctoral programme at a university in coordination with the mentor |
|---|--|

Phase 2

1st – 2nd year

- First draft of a discussion paper
- Presentation of draft paper at a ZEW seminar
- Search for a PhD supervisor

Phase 3

2nd – 4th year

- Development of further papers
- Active participation in international conferences
- Sabbaticals/periods of paid release

Phase 4

3rd – 5th year

- Completion of further papers
- Sabbaticals/periods of paid release
- Stays at research institutions
- Completion of the doctoral thesis



Application and Contact

Applicants should submit a written application. During the interview procedure, candidates will meet staff members and the head of the relevant research unit, as well as the ZEW president. The application procedure includes a lecture and the discussion of its contents.

Further information about ZEW and current vacancies can be found on the Internet at www.zew.de/en.

Applications should be sent to:

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68034 Mannheim
Germany
E-mail brettar@zew.de
Phone +49 621 1235 - 250*

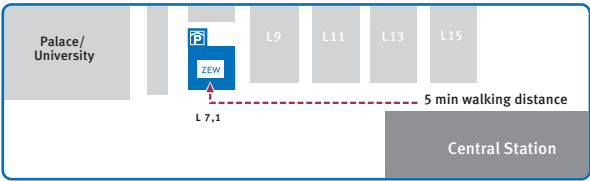


Travelling by Plane via Frankfurt Airport

Mannheim is conveniently close to Frankfurt Airport. Travel time via ICE high-speed train from Frankfurt Airport to Mannheim main station is about 30 minutes.

Travel time (non-stop) by plane:

New York – Frankfurt approx. 8 hrs / Beijing – Frankfurt approx. 10 hrs



Walking to ZEW from Mannheim Central Station

It is a five-minute walk from Mannheim central station to ZEW.

ZEW

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Centre for European
Economic Research

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