



Job Announcement

The University of Potsdam was founded in 1991 and has firmly established itself within the scientific landscape and developed into an outstanding economic factor and growth engine for the region. The University of Potsdam excels in acquiring third-party funds, has received multiple teaching awards, has a very service-oriented administration, and has been honored several times for its family-friendly culture. About 21,000 students and 3,000 employees study and work at three campuses – Am Neuen Palais, Griebnitzsee and Golm – at one of Germany's most scenic institutions of higher education.

The **Faculty of Science**, at the **University of Potsdam** invites applications for the following **position** limited to **four years** (max. until December 31, 2029):

Academic Staff Member/Independent Postdoc position in the field of Sustainable Materials Design ID no. 334/2025

This full-time position (100 %) is available from the October 01, 2025. The position is classified within remuneration group 13 of the collective wage agreement among the German federal states ("Tarifvertrag für den öffentlichen Dienst der Länder" – TV-L). The fixed term of employment is in accordance with Section 2 subsection 1 of the German Act on Fixed-Term Employment Contracts in Science and Academia (Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz or WissZeitVG).

Your Field of Work:

The successful applicant will have an emerging research profile in the wider topic of sustainable materials design. The University of Potsdam has recently established a university research focus (UFS) in "Sustainable Materials Design". The successful applicant will be associated with one of the participating institutes of the UFS, chemistry, physics, or biology. Applicants should have expertise in areas that support the goals of the UFS, such as light-matter interaction, photocatalysis, renewable resources, sustainable nanomaterials or polymers. They will support the UFS in research and leadership.

Candidates are expected to propose a research plan for the position, which should be able to lead into an independent academic career.

The Scope of Your Responsibilities:

- Establish an independent research group within the framework of the UFS (this will be supported by an annual budget for the group)
- Support of ongoing research at the Faculty of Science, as well as participation in collaborative projects specifically within the framework of the CRC 1636 "Elementary Processes of Light-Driven Reactions at Nanoscale Metals" (www.uni-potsdam.de/en/sfb1636) and/or the proposed CRC "Next-generation Poly(esters)"
- Apply for additional funding for the research group for instance within the Emmy Noether program of the DFG or an ERC starting grant

Your Qualifications:

- Master's and PhD degree in a natural science field related to sustainable materials design or equivalent

- previous postdoctoral experience is a plus
- strong academic track record enabling application for competitive grants
- strong team and communication skills for working in an interdisciplinary environment and commitment to collaborate among various fields of research
- Proficiency in written and spoken English
- knowledge of German is advantageous but not required

What We Offer:

We offer a multinational and interdisciplinary work environment at the Science campus Golm at the University of Potsdam, close collaboration with other scientific institutes, and an excellent infrastructure including modern lab and office space.

- An annual budget of 10 k€, for research expenses allocated to the successful applicant's group.
- Support by (at least one) mentor at the Faculty of Science
- Access to infrastructure at the Faculty of Science and specifically within the UFS
- Support with career development for instance within the Potsdam Graduate School

As a university, we combine the strong potential for development of a teaching and research institution with the attractive working conditions of the public sector. The University of Potsdam is a reliable employer that supports its employees with a variety of offers and benefits:

- Make the most of the various continuing education and networking opportunities offered by the University of Potsdam to refine your subject-specific and interdisciplinary competencies for professional as well as personal growth.
- All campuses have good transport connections. You can receive a monthly subsidy for the public transport job ticket and use our campus bicycles.
- Benefit from a company pension scheme, a special annual payment, and capital-forming benefits.
- Take advantage of the various offers from our Occupational Health Management unit as well as the Academic Sports Center.
- To improve employees' work-life balance, the University of Potsdam offers flexible working hours and a defined share of remote working hours (e.g. work from home). You have 30 vacation days per year (with a 5-day week) and are also exempt from work on December 24 and 31. Our Service for Families can advise you on how to better balance work and family life.

You can find more information about working at the University of Potsdam at <https://www.uni-potsdam.de/de/arbeiten-an-der-up/arbeitgeberin/uebersicht>

For more information about this position, please contact Prof. Ilko Bald (bald@uni-potsdam.de). Further information can be found under: <https://www.uni-potsdam.de/susmat>

Your Application

Please send us your application including the **ID no. 334/2025 by July 31, 2025** by email to bald@uni-potsdam.de. Your application should include a motivation letter (1 page max), a CV with publication list, and a short research proposal (2 page max).

If you completed higher education qualifications outside the EU, please submit a German translation and [the assessment of the Central Office for Foreign Education \(Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen – ZAB\)](#) . Alternatively, please send us a PDF file from the database for the [recognition and assessment of foreign higher education certificates \(ANABIN\)](#).

The University of Potsdam values the diversity of its community and pursues the goals of equal opportunity regardless of gender, nationality, ethnic and social origin, religion/belief, disability, age, and sexual orientation and identity. Applications from abroad and from persons with a

migration background are expressly encouraged. The university strives for a balanced gender ratio in all employment groups; in areas where women are underrepresented, women are given preference in case of equal suitability (Section 7 paragraph 4 of the Brandenburg Higher Education Act). People with disabilities are given preferential consideration in case of equal suitability. In aptitude tests and selection interviews, individual compensation measures for disadvantages are granted, taking the specific disability into consideration. If a person with a disability would like to make use of individual compensation measures, please state this in the application letter.

Potsdam, 18.06.2025