

Call for Applications:

30 International Fellows in the

College for Interdisciplinary Educational Research

About CIDER

The College for Interdisciplinary Educational Research (CIDER) is an international and interdisciplinary network of researchers in the field of education. The goals of CIDER are:

1. to promote interdisciplinary research in education,
2. to support public engagement with science,
3. to build an international cross-disciplinary research network in education,
4. to advance the academic careers of its fellows.

The college is part of the Leibniz Education Research Network (LERN) and started in 2013 with a first cohort of fellows. By the start of CIDER V in April 2027, four cohorts will have successfully completed the programme. Meanwhile, CIDER is well established in the field of educational research and recognised for excellent interdisciplinary collaboration and successful promotion of scientific careers.

CIDER V is supported by the *Wübben Stiftung Bildung* and by several LERN institutes.

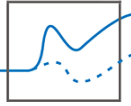
The Fellowship

CIDER calls for applications for a fifth cohort of 30 excellent early-career scientists in economics, education science, psychology, or sociology in their early postdoctoral stage.

CIDER is an international and interdisciplinary fellowship programme for early-career researchers in empirical educational research. The programme supports interdisciplinary research, international networking, career development, and public engagement with science.

In CIDER V, the programme's interdisciplinary profile will be further strengthened through a cross-disciplinary thematic focus on educational inequalities, while continuing to address competence development and educational outcomes. Building on this thematic focus, CIDER V will place special emphasis on the communication and transfer of scientific findings, including dedicated workshops on science communication and support for transfer activities by the fellows.

CIDER Cohort V is scheduled from April 2027 to March 2030. The fellowship will begin with a Kick-off Workshop in April 2027. Applicants are kindly asked to keep this period available; the exact dates will be communicated in due course. Fellows are expected to participate in the activities listed below. The working language of the college is English.



What We Offer

CIDER offers a wide range of activities, career support and funding opportunities to its fellows, including:

- Workshops on topics of educational research, with a special focus on science communication,
- The international CIDER-LERN Conference,
- Funding for interdisciplinary research collaborations on the main research areas of the college, including educational inequalities, competence development, and educational outcomes,
- Funding for communication and transfer activities,
- The CIDER Public Science Award for outstanding communication and transfer activities,
- Networking opportunities with other fellows and experienced researchers,
- Mentoring by senior fellows.

Who Can Apply

Candidates are expected to fulfil the following criteria:

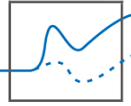
- Postdoctoral scholars who received their PhD in 2024 or later,
- Above-average academic degree in one of the following disciplines: economics, education science, psychology, or sociology,
- Current employment (incl. scholarships) at a university or research institution in Europe,
- Research in the field of education or education-related issues,
- Special interest in communicating scientific results,
- Strong skills in quantitative methods of empirical social research,
- Strong interest in interdisciplinary collaboration on empirical research projects (within the college),
- Excellent written and spoken English.

Candidates with disabilities will be given preference if equally qualified.

Application Documents

The application should include the following documents:

- CV and publication list,
- Copies of credentials (transcripts),
- Letter of interest in English with reference to the college's main research areas and the topic of science communication,
- Two letters of reference from senior researchers or other academic advisors, to be handed in by the applicant (in English or German),
- One published paper or a dissertation chapter (draft or completed).



How to Apply & Contact

Candidates are kindly requested to submit their application documents electronically to:

The CIDER Coordination Team
DIPF | Leibniz Institute for Research and Information in Education
Prof. Dr. Florian Schmiedek
Email: cider-coordination@dipf.de

Application documents have to be in English (letters of reference may also be in German) and submitted by **October 18, 2026**.

If you have any questions, please contact the CIDER Coordination Team at cider-coordination@dipf.de. More detailed information about the college can be found on this website: <https://www.leibniz-bildung.de/en/about-cider/>

Partnering Institutes

CIDER V is supported by the *Wübben Stiftung Bildung*. In addition, the following LERN institutes are engaged in CIDER V:

- BIB – Federal Institute for Population Research (Prof. Dr. C. Katharina Spieß)
- CATALPA – Center of Advanced Technology for Assisted Learning and Predictive Analytics at the FernUniversität in Hagen (Prof. Dr. Marcus Specht)
- DIPF | Leibniz Institute for Research and Information in Education (Coordination of CIDER and the LERN Network) (Prof. Dr. Florian Schmiedek, Head of CIDER)
- DZHW – German Centre for Higher Education Research and Science Studies (Dr. Marcus Beiner)
- HIB – Hector Research Institute of Education Sciences and Psychology (Prof. Dr. Ulrich Trautwein)
- ifo – Leibniz Institute for Economic Research at the University of Munich (Prof. Dr. Ludger Wößmann and Prof. Dr. Henning Hermes)
- IPN – Leibniz Institute for Science and Mathematics Education (Prof. Dr. Olaf Köller)
- IQB – The Institute for Educational Quality Improvement (Prof. Dr. Petra Stanat)
- LIfBi – Leibniz Institute for Educational Trajectories (Prof. Dr. Cordula Artelt)
- WZB – Berlin Social Science Center (Prof. Dr. Heike Solga)
- ZEW – Leibniz Centre for European Economic Research (Dr. Guido Neidhöfer)
- ZLB – Centre for Teacher Education at the University of Münster (Prof. Dr. Elmar Souvignier)

The fellowship does not include employment at a LERN institute.