The Munich Data Science Institute (MDSI) at the Technical University of Munich (TUM) invites applications for

# Linde / MDSI Doctoral Fellowships

This unique fellowship program fosters interdisciplinary collaboration and promotes innovative approaches to addressing data science challenges. All Linde / MDSI Doctoral Fellows across different disciplines will become essential to MDSI's thriving and dynamic research atmosphere. They will participate in the specially tailored MDSI training program. Furthermore, they will be co-located at the institute's facilities as needed. Collaboration and interaction with fellows and faculty from other research areas is highly supported.

In this call for applications, we aim to recruit new fellows from:

**All areas of data science, machine learning, and artificial intelligence, their mathematical foundations, and their application in the various scientific fields represented at TUM.**

To apply for a fellowship, doctoral candidates must compose a **motivation letter** that outlines their interest in the doctoral thesis and connection to the above research areas. In this context, it should reflect on past achievements and the applicant's academic track record.

Furthermore, applicants must compose a brief **research plan** describing their ideas for the thesis topic. As part of this, they elaborate on fitting research groups with which they would like to establish contacts at TUM (and elsewhere). In particular, the group that will be hosting the doctoral researcher at TUM must be described. Ideally, the doctoral candidates coordinate the research plan with their future supervisor.

Furthermore, candidates must **contact a potential thesis supervisor** at TUM. Eligible as supervisors are all professors at TUM (https://www.professoren.tum.de/en/; also see Regulations on the Awarding of Doctoral Degrees at TUM), including TUM Junior Fellows (https://www.professoren.tum.de/en/tum-junior-fellows) with a thematic fit to the general areas described above.

The supervisor must agree to provide the second half of the applicant's salary (co-funding principle). To that end, they must sign the **support letter** provided with this call for applications. Please note that the fellowship supplies only 50% of the doctoral researcher's total salary, regardless of the actual number of contractual work hours.

Applicants who still need to start working at TUM should know that this process may take considerable time. Therefore, it is advisable to approach potential hosts well in advance before applying.

**Eligibility:**

- Excellent master's degree (or equivalent)* in computer science, mathematics, engineering, natural sciences, or other data science-related social disciplines.
- General admission requirements for a doctorate at TUM are met as defined here: https://www.gs.tum.de/en/applicants/application/.
- Membership in the TUM Graduate School (as per supervision agreement) cannot have started before the call's deadline.

**Please provide the following documents:**

- CV including a list of publications and awards (if applicable).
- Scanned transcripts of certificates (bachelor's degree, master's degree including transcript of records, other degrees, or awards).
- Motivation letter as described above (max. 500 words).
- Research plan as described above (max. 500 words plus references).
- Names and addresses of two persons who can provide recommendation letters. Please inform the reference persons to send the recommendation letters directly to MDSI before the call closes (to application@mdsi.tum.de, e-mail subject: LoR Linde PhD - <your name>).
- Support letter of the chair willing to act as a host (see attached). In this letter, the host agrees to supply one-half of the doctoral researcher's funds. The hosting chair should send the support letter to MDSI before the call closes (to application@mdsi.tum.de, e-mail subject: LoS Linde PhD - <your name>). **Hosts can support one fellow at a time only. Please check the MDSI web page to identify hosts that cannot support further fellows**.

Please submit your application as one pdf file to the following e-mail address: application@mdsi.tum.de (e-mail subject: Application Linde PhD - <your name>); the application **deadline is 7 January 2024**. Notification about the results is planned for the end of February 2024.

Successful applicants will be hired per the current German collective pay agreement up to TV-L E13. The fellowship period will have a maximum duration of three years. Applications from disabled persons with essentially the same qualifications will be given preference. TUM strives to raise the proportion of women in its workforce and explicitly encourages applications from qualified women.

You transmit personal data as part of your application for a position at the Technical University of Munich (TUM). Please note our data protection information per Art. 13 General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) for collecting and processing personal data in the context of your application. By submitting your application, you confirm that you have taken note of TUM's data protection information (https://portal.mytum.de/kompass/datenschutz/Bewerbung/#English).

*If you are still studying for your master's degree, you may send a bona fide statement from the university stating the examination marks already obtained. In addition, you will have to finish your master's studies before starting with the doctorate at TUM.