



Reformationsgeschichtliche
Forschungsbibliothek
Wittenberg

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR THE YEAR 2026

The Research Library of Reformation Studies (RFB) opened in 2018 in Wittenberg Castle as a study centre for the history and culture of the Reformation and its effects and reception. Originating from the libraries of the Protestant Preachers' Seminary Wittenberg and the Luther House Wittenberg, it has a total collection of 230,000 volumes, including old holdings of around 100,000 titles with a focus on 16th and 17th-century prints. Researchers can focus on Reformation and church history, early modern university and educational history, late medieval and early modern Latin and German literature, and historical books and library science. They also have access to extensive source holdings and a wide range of secondary literature here. There are also extensive collections of prints from the holdings of the seminary. The Research Library of Reformation Studies is supported by the Luther Memorials Foundation in Saxony-Anhalt, the Protestant Preachers' Seminary Wittenberg, the Leucorea Foundation, and the University and State Library of Saxony-Anhalt.

Supported by the Protestant Church of Germany (Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland EKD), the Research Library of Reformation Studies is awarding scholarships for the year 2026 to enable research stays in Lutherstadt Wittenberg. The target group is primarily doctoral students and postdocs in the qualification phase. However, applications from academics after completion of the qualification phase are also possible. In principle, only projects that work with the historical holdings of the research library in Wittenberg can be funded.

A scholarship includes the following benefits:

- € 1.250,- residence allowance per month,
- a separate and reserved working area in the reading room of the RFB and support for literature and source research by RFB staff,
- the opportunity to set up a personalised reference collection for the duration of the stay at the RFB.

In addition, the search for suitable accommodation in Wittenberg can be supported.

The following are required

- a topic or methodological approach for which site-specific work with the holdings of the RFB in Wittenberg is of central importance,
 - a research question on the late Middle Ages or the Early Modern period, focussing on the Reformation in its historical and cultural context,
 - the willingness to present the project in a publication of the Research Library for Reformation Studies or alternatively as part of a colloquium or a lecture event in Wittenberg and
 - compulsory residence in Wittenberg during the funding period.
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The following application documents must be submitted

- Curriculum Vitae,
- a short project outline of 1-2 DIN A4 pages, which clearly shows that the project is related to the holdings of the RFB,
- an expert opinion,
- for doctoral projects, a confirmation of supervision,
- copies of transcript of records/reports,
- a list of publications, if applicable.

Applications are accepted in German or English and should be bundled into one PDF file and sent to: sekretariat@rfb-wittenberg.de.

Further information on the Research Library of Reformation Studies and its holdings can be found at <https://www.rfb-wittenberg.de>.

If you have any further questions, please contact the administrative staff of the RFB at sekretariat@rfb-wittenberg.de or +49 3491 5069-200.

The application deadline for scholarships in 2026 is **January 6th, 2026**.