

Inge Dirmhirn Award for Gender- and/or Diversity-Specific Bachelor, Master/Diploma Theses and Dissertations at the BOKU University 2026

Guidelines for awarding the prize

§ 1. Target group and purpose of the award

(1) The Inge Dirmhirn Award for gender- and/or diversity-specific bachelor's, master's/diploma theses and dissertations is awarded once a year by the Equal Opportunities Working Party BOKU (AKGL) to students or graduates of the BOKU University.

(2) The purpose of the prize is to award gender- and/or diversity-specific scientific work, to draw attention to this work in an appropriate manner and thus to motivate other students and scientists to increasingly deal with gender- and/or diversity-specific issues and to incorporate these into their scientific field.

§ 2. Topic of the submitted thesis/dissertation

The topic of the approved thesis or dissertation must be gender- and/or diversity-specific with BOKU-relevant content. German- or English-language theses or dissertations with creative approaches, which are particularly interdisciplinary in nature and stand out above the average of good research, are particularly welcome.

§ 3. Amount of the prize money

A cash prize of € 500 is awarded for an already approved Bachelor's thesis, € 1,000 for an already approved Master's/diploma thesis and € 1,500 for an approved doctoral thesis.

§ 4. Prerequisite for submission

The corresponding academic degree must be awarded in the period between January 1, 2024 and November 15, 2026 (date of confirmation of decision to award degree).

§ 5 Applications

(1) The award for gender- and/or diversity-specific bachelor's, master's/diploma theses and dissertations is publicly announced. The application for the award has to be made according to the guidelines for the awarding of the prize decided by the AKGL BOKU.

(2) The following documents must be submitted electronically as an application for the award of the prize:

1. application form (the application form is available on the following website:

https://short.boku.ac.at/en_dirmhirn-foerderpreis.html)

2. curriculum vitae

3. a summary of the work in German **and** English (maximum 5,000 characters each, including spaces)

4. comprehensible justification by the applicant as to why the work meets the decision-making criteria stated in § 8 para. 1 of these guidelines; in particular, that BOKU-relevant gender and/or diversity-specific aspects are included in the work in the light of interdisciplinary research approaches;

5. Confirmation of decision to award corresponding academic degree (copy)

6. Grading form of the bachelor thesis resp. assessment form for defensio of Master's thesis **and** assessment form for Master's thesis resp. certificate of the doctoral examination for doctoral dissertation (copy)

7. statement of the supervisor responsible for the submitted work regarding the suitability of the work for the awarding of the prize in terms of the decision criteria mentioned in § 8 para. 1 of these guidelines (existence of BOKU-relevant gender and/or diversity-specific aspects of the work in light of interdisciplinary research approaches).

8. the complete paper incl. cover sheet

(3) Applications for the award may be submitted by 15 November 2026 at the latest exclusively in electronic/digital form, if possible, in one PDF document by e-mail. The submission documents are to be submitted sorted and numbered in the order stated above under § 5 para.

2.

The complete work may also be submitted separately as a pdf.file. The submission is to be sent to:

Arbeitskreis für Gleichbehandlungsfragen BOKU/ Equal Opportunities Working Party (AKGL):
akglboku@boku.ac.at

Applicants will receive an application confirmation by e-mail.

The completeness and quality of the application will be considered in the decision-making process. In case of a low number of applications, an extension of the application deadline by the AKGL is possible.

§ 6 Awarding of the prize

(1) The prize will be awarded by 15 December 2026. The prize winners will be notified in writing. The prize will be awarded at an academic ceremony in 2027.

(2) By submitting an application, all persons participating in the award competition accept all conditions associated with the award procedure. There is no legal entitlement to participate in the awarding of the prize. Legal recourse is excluded.

(3) The decision on the award of the announced prize is made by the AKGL in the course of the award procedure described in § 7 and § 8 of these guidelines.

§ 7. Jury for the preparation of the decision

(1) For the preparation of the decision, the AKGL will appoint a jury consisting of at least three members or substitute members of the AKGL, whereby the AKGL shall pay attention to reasons of bias of the jury members.

(2) All applications received by the AKGL will first be forwarded to the jury after the submission deadline. The jury first examines the applications for completeness and the presence of formal deficiencies, whereby applications that do not meet the requirements set out in § 1 para. 1, § 2, § 4 and § 5 para. 3 of these guidelines are eliminated from the selection process. The setting of a grace period by the applicant to remedy formal deficiencies is at the discretion of the jury. Applications revised in this way will take part in the award procedure.

(3) The jury is also free to invite shortlisted applicants to a personal presentation or a presentation via video conference, as well as to involve other informants to support the decision-making process. The jury will deliberate and prepare a reasoned proposal which, in

the opinion of the jury, contains the most suitable works for the award. All decisions of the jury will be taken by a simple majority of votes. At the request of a jury member, voting will be by secret ballot. The deliberation and voting of the jury may also take place by video conference and online voting tool.

(4) The jury will present its proposal to the AKGL. For this purpose, all applications received shall be sent to all AKGL members and substitute members in advance. The AKGL has to reject the proposal for a new deliberation and for the preparation of a new proposal to the jury with a simple majority of votes, if essential procedural provisions were violated during the preparation of the jury proposal.

§ 8. Decision on the award

(1) Decisive for the decision on the award is whether the submitted work has gender- and/or diversity-specific topics that are relevant to BOKU in terms of content. Furthermore, the AKGL will consider the creativity and interdisciplinarity of the research approaches in the decision and assess whether the work stands out above the average of good research. The completeness and quality of the proposal (e.g. quality of the justification letter, statement of the supervisor) is also taken into account in the decision-making process.

(2) The AKGL decides in its meeting on the basis of the proposal of the jury for which submitted work the prize will be awarded. This decision requires the presence of at least half of those entitled to vote and a simple majority of the votes cast for the application or the jury's proposal. A simple majority is given if the number of votes cast in favour of the motion or the proposal of the jury is greater than the number of votes against.

(3) If, at the request of a member or substitute member of the AKGL, the prize is to be awarded for other works submitted contrary to the jury's proposal, a two-thirds majority of the votes cast in favour of the proposal is required for a valid decision by the AKGL. A two-thirds majority is given if the number of votes cast in favour of the proposal is at least twice as large as the number of votes against.

(4) Abstentions or other inadmissible voting behaviour of a member shall be considered as votes not cast. The decision of the AKGL shall be final.

(5) For reasons of urgency, a vote may also be taken by circular letter within the meaning of section 18 of the Rules of Procedure of the Equal Opportunities Working Party.

§ 9. Awarding of the prize, presentation in BOKU media

The awarding of the prize by the AKGL takes place during an academic ceremony at the BOKU University. The award winners will also be presented on the BOKU homepage and in BOKU media.

§ 10. Contact and information

For information and questions, the AKGL is available at the following address:

Equal Opportunities Working Party (Arbeitskreis für Gleichbehandlungsfragen, AKGL)

Phone: +43-1-47654-19301

E-mail: akglboku@boku.ac.at

Gregor-Mendel-Straße 33, 1180 Vienna

<http://www.boku.ac.at/gleichbehandlung.html>