

Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung gGmbH - Social Sciences

WZB

Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin
für Sozialforschung

The WZB is the leading social science research institute in Germany and stands among the world's most renowned institutes in this field. At the WZB, researchers from around the world with diverse methodological and disciplinary backgrounds—including sociology, political science, economics, and law—conduct research. They engage in problem-oriented basic research that addresses major societal challenges. The research is theory-driven, practice-oriented, often long-term, and internationally comparative. At the same time, the WZB promotes the exchange between research and society in various formats. The WZB is a nonprofit limited liability company (GmbH) and a member of the Leibniz Association. It is funded by the Federal Republic of Germany and the State of Berlin. The advertised position is within the Einstein Center Population Diversity (ECPD), a collaboration of several Berlin universities and research institutions coordinated by Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin. The ECPD studies the consequences of increasing population diversity for social inequality and health disparities with a focus on the growing diversity of families. For more information about the Center, see <https://einstein-diversity.com/>. Within the ECPD, the postdoctoral research fellow is expected to contribute to the objective “The Relationship between Family Diversity and Inequalities in Children’s Education and Health”. The objective explores how, and through which mediating channels, family diversity influences children’s educational success and health. Mechanisms of particular interest include (a) economic, social, cultural, and emotional resources in the family, (b) parents’ and children’s health, and (c) genetic nurture.

A Postdoctoral Research Fellow (f/m/x) (ID 416)

at the research unit “Skill Formation and Labor Markets”, Social Science Center (WZB)

City: Berlin; Starting date (earliest): 01/01/27; Duration: 3 years; Remuneration: in accordance with EG 14 TVöD Bund; Closing date: 04/10/26

Tasks

- Contributions to the conceptual, theoretical, and empirical development of the work package described above and to the overall mission of the ECPD
- Design and implementation of original research to advance the goals of the work package described above, including, but not limited to, the empirical studies based on secondary analysis of complex survey and register data as well as original data collection efforts
- Empirical studies based on the Dutch register data
- Close interdisciplinary cooperation with project participants, both within and across work packages of the ECPD
- Publication of research output in international peer-reviewed journals, usually in cooperation with co-authors from the ECPD
- Presentation of project results at workshops and conferences
- Participation in dissemination activities targeting scientific and non-scientific audiences
- Coordination with project partners, both within and across work packages

Requirements

- An excellent Ph.D. in sociology or a social science discipline, on a topic related to the work package described above
- Excellent academic writing skills, demonstrated by publications in international peer-reviewed journals
- Excellent skills in quantitative methods and the analysis of complex data (e.g., longitudinal data, multilevel data, register data)
- Expertise in the fields of sociology of education, social mobility, and family sociology
- Knowledge of social-biological explanations of health (incl. socio-genomics) is considered a plus
- Experience in register data or big data handling
- Excellent writing and communication skills in English
- Advanced organizational skills, as well as the willingness and capacity for teamwork

What we offer

- Remuneration in accordance with EG 14 TVöD Bund
- Additional benefits for public service employees (VBL U)
- Advice and support regarding visa and residence permit
- A well-equipped workplace in the center of Berlin
- International, cooperative, and diversified working environment
- In-depth integration into the scientific community in the form of colloquiums and conferences
- Thorough mentoring and guidance
- Flexible working hours and the possibility of mobile working (at least 20% of the weekly working hours agreed in the contract)
- Comprehensive program for continuous professional development and further qualification, in the own discipline and beyond
- Reduced monthly ticket for local public transport (Jobticket or Deutschlandticket Job)
- Counselling and support services for WZB employees in difficult life situations

Application

We value diversity and welcome all applications – irrespective of gender, nationality, ethnic or social origin, religion, disability, age, or sexual orientation. WZB expressly encourages women or persons with migration backgrounds to apply. Equally qualified applicants with disabilities will be given preference.

If you have any questions regarding the job opening, please contact Heike Solga (heike.solga[at]wzb.eu) with “postdoctoral fellow application” in the subject line.

Job interviews will likely take place on 16 October 2026.

For more information about the research unit, follow this link <https://www.wzb.eu/en/research/dynamics-of-social-inequalities/skill-formation-and-labor-markets>

For more information about WZB, see www.wzb.eu.

Have we caught your interest? In that case, we are looking forward to receiving your application via our online application tool by 4 October 2026.

Candidates are requested to submit a CV, a list of publications, a cover letter (in English), relevant certificates, and contact information for three references. Materials should be submitted as one integrated PDF document.

More information at <https://stellenticket.de/206905/FUB/>

Offer visible until 27/09/26

