

Excellence Track: An extension program of the M.Sc. in Physics

The Mainz Physics Academy (MPA) of the Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz invites applications for a newly established **Excellence Track**.

The Excellence Track is a certificate program designed as an extension of the Master's degree in Physics at JGU for students interested in research and intending to pursue a subsequent doctorate. The program is aimed at high-achieving, research-oriented students and enables them to further develop their scientific knowledge as well as complementary and transferable skills in a structured program. Students who successfully complete the "Excellence Track" together with their Master's degree at JGU will be considered strong candidates for a doctorate.

Structure and content

In order to successfully complete the Excellence Track, students must acquire a minimum of 23 credit points in addition to the regular Master's program. These credit points are distributed over two categories:

1. Scientific Competence and
2. Complementary and Transferable Skills.

All courses must be successfully completed before submission of the Master's thesis. Graduates of the Excellence Track will receive a certificate attesting the additional academic achievements and qualifications.

Admission and requirements

If not already enrolled as a student at JGU, candidates must submit their application for the Excellence Track together with the application for the regular Master's program in Physics. Alternatively, if they are already matriculated as Master students, the enrolment in the Excellence Track must be completed before the start of the second semester of the Master's program.

Admission to the Excellence Track requires a completed Bachelor's degree in physics that has lasted no longer than one semester over the standard period of study.

Applicants should rank in the top 15% of graduates of the Bachelor's program in physics at their previous university. Admission can also be achieved by excellent grades at the end of the first Master's semester at JGU.

A selection committee decides on the admission to the Excellence Track after reviewing the applications and interviewing suitable candidates.

Student scholarship

A limited number of students of the Excellence Track program can apply for financial support. These scholarships are endowed with **€850** per month for a maximum duration of two years.

These scholarships are awarded through a highly competitive process based on academic achievements, extracurricular activities, and further qualifications such as experience abroad or internships.

Application

Please fill in the application form at <https://physics.uni-mainz.de/excellence-track> Additionally please send your complete application documents as a single pdf file to xtrack@uni-mainz.de before **March 31st, 2021**. The letter of recommendation should be sent separately to the same E-Mail address.

Application documents

- Cover letter including a short motivation statement
- Detailed curriculum vitae
- Copy of the Bachelor's degree certificate with a Transcript of Records in German or English
- Copy of the proof of admission to the Master's program at JGU
- One signed letter of recommendation by a senior scientist, with institutional letterhead, to be sent separately.
- When applying for a scholarship, please state your reasons for applying for financial support.

All documents may be submitted in English or German. Documents in any other language must be translated and legally certified.

Further information can be obtained from the coordinator of the Mainz Physics Academy, Dr. Marie-Christin Wedel (xtrack@uni-mainz.de).

