



PostDoc Peer Mentoring Team 2024: Call for Participants & Application Form

Peer mentoring means that postdoctoral researchers work together as a closed group for a year to enhance their professional development. The PostDoc Peer Mentoring Team is intended for persons interested in receiving and giving support to/from peers outside their immediate work area

- on career steps (within or beyond academia)
- on work- & life-balance related topics

The programme, now in its third year, works on the assumption that each of the group members has an advantage of knowledge, skills and experience in a specific domain that they can make accessible to the others. Additional knowledge and training will be provided by subject-matter experts and professional career coaches.

The group will consist of up to 15 participants. It is interdisciplinary, mixed-gender, and will last from spring 2024 until spring 2025. The working language is determined within the group. The Team is supported by the PostDoc Office in organizational matters.

This is for you if...

- you are a postdoctoral researcher employed on a temporary contract at the University of Graz at the time of application
- you can commit to stay with the Peer Mentoring Team for one year and can fit the dates listed below into your schedule

To apply to become part of the 2024/25 Team...

Submit the following documents until **March 10, 2024** to postdoc@uni-graz.at (subject line "Peer Mentoring Application"):

- application form (see below), short curriculum vitae (2 pages max.)

Places in the Team are awarded on the basis of fulfilment of the above requirements, timing of the application, diversity regarding research fields and previous experiences, as well as a match in goals among the group (minimum participants: six persons).

Contact for questions: Dr Johanna Stadlbauer, Coordinator PostDoc Office, University of Graz, Heinrichstraße 22/II, 8010 Graz, +43/(0)316/380 – 1255, postdoc@uni-graz.at, <https://postdoc.uni-graz.at>

Overview of the programme & dates

Note: the number of peer sessions can vary, it is determined by the Team as needed

April 2024

April 17 (Wed), 4pm: PostDoc Office Annual Event (voluntary participation)

Content: Annual event of the PostDoc Office, including certification of previous Peer Mentoring Team (option for get-together of previous and new Team).

April 18 (Thu), 10am-2pm: Team-building session, facilitated by Johanna Stadlbauer & Yasmin Dolak-Struss (fixed date, SR 67.01, Elisabethstraße)

Content: get to know each other, determine how group wants to work together (i.e. language, frequency of meetings, moderation/preparation, shared values...), identify and prioritize topics, determine support needed from PostDoc Office.

April 24 (Wed), 1pm-5pm: Training in peer-coaching methods, facilitated by Yasmin Dolak-Struss (fixed date, SR 67.01, Elisabethstraße)

Content: Introduction to peer-coaching methods & tools with practical exercises.

May 2024

May 7 (Tue), 2pm-4pm: Peer session 1 (fixed date) SR 67.01 to be confirmed)

Content: topics of choice.

May 23 (Thur), 9am-1pm: Strategic Career Planning: Online workshop with Margarethe Hubrath (fixed date), followed by 45min individual coaching sessions if needed

Content: half-day with expert in academic careers and tenure paths, topics of choice, includes prior access to online learning environment, as well as follow-up 45min individual coaching if needed, to be arranged individually with the trainer by March 2025.

June 2024

Peer session 2 (flexible date, organized by Team)

Content: topics of choice.

Peer session 3 (flexible date, organized by Team)

Content: topics of choice.

July-August 2024

July 1 (Mon): Expert session 1: HR Q&A with Daniela Stangl (fixed date, organized by PostDoc Office)(SR 67.01 to be confirmed)

Content: Daniela Stangl from the Human Resource department provides knowledge and answers individual questions (topics of choice).

September 2024

Peer session 4, incl. satisfaction evaluation (30 min group activity, organized by PostDoc Office)

Content: topics of choice for peer session, and 30 min: determine if Team works well together and if adjustments to the format are needed. Determine topics for expert sessions.

October 2024

Check-in session, facilitated by Johanna Stadlbauer (flexible date, organized by PostDoc Office)

Content: possible adjustments to format, process and content are discussed, with reference to the results of the satisfaction evaluation session. Confirm topics & dates for expert sessions.

Oct 25, 9-11am: Expert session 2: Research Funding (organized by PostDoc Office, location: tbc)

Content: Robert Fuchs from the Research Management and Service unit of the university provides knowledge and answers individual questions.

November 2024

Peer session 5 (flexible date, organized by Team)

Content: topics of choice.

December 2024

Peer session 6 (flexible date, organized by Team)

Content: topics of choice.

January 2025

Peer session 7 (flexible date, organized by Team)

Content: topics of choice.

February 2025

Peer session 8 (flexible date, organized by Team)

Content: topics of choice.

Expert session 3: Writing; Leadership; Non-University Careers; Science Communication

Content: expert on one of the topics above provides knowledge and answers individual questions.

March 2025

Peer session 9 (flexible date, organized by Team)

Content: topics of choice.

Summary session, facilitated by Johanna Stadlbauer (flexible date, organized by PostDoc Office)

Content: overview of results of work of the group, agreement on further collaboration and ways to keep in contact (or not).

April 2025

Certification ceremony (during PostDoc Office Annual Event, tbc by mid-2024)

Content: certificates are awarded.

Application form

PostDoc Peer Mentoring Team 2024/25

Please fill out & sign and send to postdoc@uni-graz.at along with a short CV.

Contact details: Name, Job Title, Department, Main Field of Research/Discipline, Email, Telephone

I have received my doctoral degree in (Month/Year):

My current employment contract with the University of Graz started in and ends in (Month/Year):

Language/s I would feel comfortable to communicate in within the Team (please name one or more):

I have academic working experience/networks in countries other than Austria: Yes/No

If yes, please name the countries with which you have the most experience:

I have professional experience outside academia: Yes/No

If yes, please name your industry/area of engagement:

I have had previous experiences with peer support: Yes/No

If yes, please briefly describe:

These are some of my goals and areas of development which I would like to work on with the Team:

I want to contribute the following to the Team:

I intend to commit to working with the Team for one year. I can fit the majority of the dates in the programme into my schedule for 2024/25.

Date & Signature