



PostDoc Peer Mentoring Team 2025: Call for Participants & Time Schedule

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

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

The programme, now in its fourth 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 2025 until spring 2026. The working language is determined within the group.

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 2025/26 Team...

submit the online application until **April 17, 2025** to postdoc@uni-graz.at

<https://survey.uni-graz.at/index.php/514344?lang=de>

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, +43(0)316 380 1255, postdoc@uni-graz.at, <https://postdoc.uni-graz.at>

Time Schedule of the Programme

Note: the number of peer sessions will vary, it depends of size & needs of group. Dates in green are confirmed, sessions in yellow will be agreed upon once the cohort has formed.

May 2025

May 13 (Tue), 10am-2pm: Team-building session, facilitated by Johanna Stadlbauer & Yasmin Dolak-Struss (SR 67.01, Elisabethstraße 27)

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. Incl. snacks.

May 21 (Wed), 12-4pm: Training in peer-coaching methods, facilitated by Yasmin Dolak-Struss (SR 67.01, Elisabethstraße 27)

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

June 2025

June 4 (Wed), 10am-12 noon: Peer session 1 (PostDoc Office RCC, Leechgasse 42, EG, 8010 Graz)

Content: topics of choice.

Jun 30 (Mon), 10am-12:30pm: Expert session 1: HR Q&A with Daniela Stangl (PostDoc Office, RCC, Leechgasse 42, EG, 8010 Graz)

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

July 2025

Jul 2 (Wed), 10-12 noon: Peer Session 2 (PostDoc Office, RCC, Leechgasse 42, EG, 8010 Graz)

Content: topics of choice.

September 2025

Peer session 3, location tbd at kickoff, flexible date

Content: topics of choice.

Sep 26 (Fri), 9am-1pm: Strategic Career Planning: Workshop with Margarethe Hubrath (SZ 15.22, Universitätsstraße 15)

Content: half-day with expert in academic careers and tenure paths, topics of choice. This offering includes prior access to online learning environment and a 45-minute 1:1 coaching, to be arranged – if you want it – individually with the trainer by March 2026.

October 2025

Peer session 4, date & location tbd

Content: topics of choice.

November 2025

Nov 7, 9-11am: Expert session 2: Research Funding (PostDoc Office RCC, Leechgasse 42, 8010 Graz)

Content: Robert Fuchs from the Research Management and Service unit provides knowledge and answers individual questions, based on participants' CVs and goals.

Peer session 5 (date & location tbd) incl. satisfaction evaluation (30 min group activity, organized by PostDoc Office)

Content: topics of choice. 30 min: fill out paper survey to determine if Team works well together and if adjustments to the format are needed. Choose topics for future expert sessions.

December 2025

Check-in session, facilitated by Johanna Stadlbauer, date tbd, PostDoc Office, RCC, Leechgasse 42, EG, 8010 Graz

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.

Peer session 6 (date & location tbd)

Content: topics of choice.

January 2026

Peer session 7 (date & location tbd)

Content: topics of choice.

February 2026

Peer session 8 (date & location tbd)

Content: topics of choice.

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

Content: expert on one of the topics above (or another topic) provides knowledge and answers individual questions.

March 2026

Peer session 9 (date & location tbd)

Content: topics of choice.

Summary session, facilitated by Johanna Stadlbauer (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 2026

Certification ceremony (during RCC PostDoc Office Annual Event, tbc by mid-2025)

Content: certificates are awarded by members of the Rectorate.