



Leibniz Institute for Resilience Research

The Leibniz Institute for Resilience Research (LIR) gGmbH is a non-university research institute with the aim of researching the phenomenon of resilience, i.e. the maintenance or rapid recovery of mental health during or after acute or chronic stressful life circumstances. It investigates the mechanisms that mediate resilience, develops interventions that promote resilience and implements effective interventions in healthcare in companies, schools and universities.

On October 1, 2025, a new research group was established at the LIR under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Julia Linke. The group's research integrates clinical and developmental psychology with cognitive neuroscience and follows a translational approach in the spirit of "from bench to bedside to curbside." In the basic research domain (bench), the group investigates the neurobiological mechanisms of healthy development and resilience as well as neurobiological signatures of stress-related symptoms. The research focuses on critical transition periods such as adolescence, starting college or a first job, and becoming a parent, as well as on high-risk populations including individuals with minority identities, teachers, and healthcare professionals. The overarching goal is to gain a deeper understanding of natural developmental trajectories and to develop effective short-term interventions, which are evaluated in collaboration with the clinical research unit at JGU (bedside). In addition, the group aims to develop and evaluate scalable interventions to promote resilience in the general population (curbside). As part of the newly established Linke Lab, we are looking to fill the position of a:

PhD student (m/f/d)

(65% position, currently 25 hours/week, limited to four years)

Your tasks include:

- Participation in research projects in line with the thematic focus of the research group
- Conducting experimental studies, including participant recruitment, data collection, and data analysis
- Presentation of research findings at scientific conferences
- Publication of results in international, peer-reviewed journals
- Co-supervision of student assistants and student research/ theses projects

Your profile:

- Excellent university degree (Master's) in Psychology, Neuroscience, or a related field
- Very good methodological and statistical skills
- Very good command of English (written and spoken) and willingness to acquire proficiency in German within the first year
- Interest in an academic career and in topics related to resilience and resilience promotion, as well as in the analysis of neuroimaging data and/or the computational modeling of psychological processes
- Knowledge of one or more research methods used in the group (fMRI, EEG, peripheral physiology, ambulatory assessment) and programming skills in R, Python, or MATLAB are an advantage but not required
- Strong communication and teamwork skills, flexibility, resilience, and a precise, well-organized, and proactive working style

We offer:

- Be part of a vibrant scientific community and a dynamic, research-driven environment that values flat hierarchies, personal responsibility, and creative freedom
- Benefit from excellent infrastructure, including access to MRI, EEG, peripheral physiology, and ambulatory assessment facilities, as well as dedicated technical support
- Enjoy flexible working hours

- Receive mentoring and take advantage of diverse opportunities for professional growth and advanced training
- Access an employer-funded pension scheme for employees in the public sector (VBL)

Payment is based on EG 13 TV-UM (collective agreement of the University Medical Center Mainz).

For research related questions, please contact Prof. Dr. Julia Linke (Head of the research group) by email or in person: julia.linke@lir-mainz.de.

Please send us your detailed application (including cover letter, CV without photo, publication list, a 1–2 page research statement outlining your research experience and interests, certificates, diplomas, transcripts, and the contact details of two references) by e-mail only and in one coherent PDF file, stating your earliest possible start date, **by 15 November 2025** to: recruiting@lir-mainz.de. Please include the reference code **LIR_122** in the subject line.

Women shall be given preferential consideration in recruitment in the case of equivalent suitability, qualification and professional performance, insofar as and as long as there is an under-representation. This does not apply if there are such serious reasons in the person of an applicant that they outweigh women, even taking into account the requirement for equality. Severely disabled applicants with the same qualifications will be given preference (proof required).

www.lir-mainz.de

Notes on data protection

Your personal data contained in the application documents or, if applicable, obtained in the interview will be processed exclusively for the purpose of the selection procedure for this advertised position.

The legal basis for data processing in the application process and as part of the personnel file is Section 26 (1) sentence 1 BDSG and Art. 6 (1) (b) GDPR and, if you have given your consent, for example by sending information that is not necessary for the application process, Art. 6 (1) (a) GDPR. The legal basis for data processing after a rejection is Art. 6 (1) (f) GDPR. The legal basis for storage under budgetary and tax law is Art. 6 para. 1 lit. c GDPR in conjunction with § SECTION 147 AO. Legitimate interest in processing on the basis of Art. 6 para. 1 lit. (f) GDPR is the defense against legal claims.

As a rule, we do not require any special categories of personal data within the meaning of Art. 9 GDPR for the application process. We ask you not to send us any such information from the outset. If such information is exceptionally relevant to the application process, we will process it together with your other applicant data. This may, for example, concern information about a severe disability, which you can provide to us voluntarily and which we then have to process in order to fulfill our special obligations with regard to severely disabled persons. In these cases, the processing serves the exercise of rights or the fulfillment of legal obligations arising from labor law, social security law and social protection. The legal basis for data processing is then Art. 9 para. 2 lit. b GDPR, §§ 26 para. 3 BDSG, 164 SGB IX. In exceptional cases, it may be necessary to obtain information about your health or a disability or information from the Federal Central Criminal Register, i.e. about previous convictions, in order to assess your suitability for the intended job. The legal basis for this is § 26 BDSG.

The person responsible for the application procedure is the addressee of the application specified below in this call for applications.

As part of the application process within the Leibniz Institute for Resilience Research (LIR), your personal data will be passed on to Members of the selection committee, the personnel administration, the equal opportunities officer, the representative for severely disabled persons and, if applicable, the works council within the scope of their organizational or legal responsibilities.

Your personal data will be deleted no later than six months after completion of the selection process. According to the GDPR, you have the following rights vis-à-vis the addressee of the application if the relevant legal requirements are met: right of access (Art. 15 GDPR), right to rectification of inaccurate personal data (Art. 16 GDPR); data erasure (Art. 17 GDPR), restriction of processing (Art. 18 GDPR) and objection to processing (Art. 21 GDPR).

If you have any questions, you can contact the LIR data protection officer (datenschutzbeauftragte@lir-mainz.de). You also have the right to lodge a complaint with the Rhineland-Palatinate Data Protection Officer.

Link to the privacy policy of LIR gGmbH: <https://lir-mainz.de/datenschutz>