

Contract/residence extensions and other related issues (in times of Corona)

With the current situation and switching of the entire research to an emergency operation, legal and practical questions also arise regarding the employment of doctoral students and postdocs at the University of Basel. Below you will find questions, advice and comments on the possibilities of extending contracts and the situation of residence and work permits for persons from EU/EFTA as well as third countries.

Can the employment contract of doctoral candidates or postdocs be extended?

Yes, the employment contract of doctoral candidates or postdocs can be extended if the doctoral candidate or postdoc has not yet completed his or her doctoral work and has been working at the University of Basel for less than four years. This holds true for project assistants as well, their employment contract can also be extended in consultation with the supervisors. The person responsible for the position must submit the application for extension of the contract to HR. The same applies to postdocs if he/she has been employed at the University of Basel for less than six years.

The guidelines for academic personnel also apply here: *"If it is absolutely necessary for academic training, and in particular in the case of family responsibilities, the position may be extended for a maximum of one year in justified cases"*, OWP §23.

Please contact your supervisor and the decentralized HR directly.

Can the residence permit of doctoral candidates or postdocs be extended?

Yes, the residence permit can be extended on presentation of a valid employment contract (see point Extension).

What happens to contracts that definitely expire and the employee comes from a third country?

If the employment contract definitely expires, the residence permit can be extended by six months at the Migration Office of the Canton of Basel-Stadt or the canton of residence. In addition, as a special arrangement in times of Corona, unemployment benefit can be applied for for persons from third countries.

Is it possible to apply for further support from the federal authorities?

No, this is not planned at present.

What happens to the health insurance after the end of the employment contract?

You must have a valid health insurance policy for the duration of your stay. If necessary, this also has to be extended by the insured person, please contact your insurance company directly.