The Young Doctors’ Academy was established in September 2011 with the aim of motivating students to be enthusiastic about family medicine early on in their studies.

The concept foresees that 15 students should be selected once a year. The aim of the long-term program is to support the participants over a period of three years. In April 2012, the first students were admitted to the program and since 2014, three annual groups of students have been receiving support simultaneously, making a total of 45 students.

The Young Doctors’ Academy enables participants to receive individual support by working intensively in small groups and developing their own personal career perspectives. Qualified and highly motivated teachers with a passion for family medicine are available as contact persons for the three-year period and beyond.

The open, respectful atmosphere and the small-group format permit the students to ask personal questions and to actively participate in the organization of the agenda. The experience of recent years has shown that participating students develop strong group cohesion and network with other students throughout the country, as well as with (young) doctors from previous years, and the mentors and teachers.

**Participants’ views:**

"The Young Doctors’ Academy strengthened my resolve to choose family medicine. It enabled me to get to know aspects of general practice, research and teaching beyond the scope of regular studies and made them more accessible to me. Thank you for a great time!"
Rebekka Preuß, Kohorte A

"The Young Doctors’ Academy is a good platform for students that are interested in family medicine from which they can deal with the subject in more detail and share experiences with other students and further participants active in the field of general practice."
Sabine Marquard, Kohorte C

"Three years, two Summer Schools, three closed weekend sessions, three Congresses – the Young Doctors’ Academy accompanied me throughout an important and formative phase and contributed towards enabling me to begin the period after my studies with clearer ideas and less uncertainty. I feel that I have found my niche in the field of medicine."
Dinah Josten, Kohorte D