FIAS FRENCH INSTITUTES FOR ADVANCED STUDY

# Guide for applicants

# Contact person

FIAS Programme Officer programme-officer@fias-fp.eu

### PRESENTATION

The French Institutes for Advanced Study (FIAS) Fellowship Programme strengthens scholarship and mobility by enlarging and upgrading the offer of scientific residencies in France to international experienced researchers. The FIAS Fellowhip Programme is open to all disciplines in the Social Sciences and the Humanities (SSH) and to all other research fields interfacing with the SSH.

FIAS gives scholars worldwide the possibility to spend one academic year (10-month fellowship) in one of the seven Institutes of Advanced Studies:

- Iméra IAS Aix Marseille Université
- CYAS Cergy
- Le Studium Loire Valley (Orléans-Tours)
- Collegium de Lyon
- Mak'it Montpellier
- IAS Nantes
- IAS Paris



FIAS supports individual research: fellows, released from teaching and academic commitments, will benefit from unsegmented time to conduct bottom-up research with the greatest freedom, with the IAS strong scientific and extra-academic support.

FIAS is designed to provide fellows with the material and intellectual conditions that will generate a significant boost to their professional careers as they can produce in a short time what would have taken years to do in the fragmented time at their home institutions, because of administration and teaching commitments.

FIAS fosters intellectual exchanges: fellows get exposed to the collective benevolent intelligence of international and multidisciplinary cohorts of fellows, which brings their work to a higher, and often transdisciplinary level.

## **ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS**

#### Degree & experience

At the time of the application deadline, researchers will have to be in possession of a doctoral degree plus 2 years of full-time research experience after the degree (PhD training period will not be considered in the calculation of experience).

#### Mobility

Researchers from all countries and nationalities are eligible to the programme.

Applicants must fulfil the transnational MSCA mobility rule: incoming researchers must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in France for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the call deadline.

#### Disciplines

The FIAS Fellowhip Programme is open to all disciplines in the Social Sciences and the Humanities (SSH) and to all other research fields interfacing with the SSH.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to check the IAS' websites to learn more about the scientific orientation of the Institutes and their potential opening to disciplines outside the humanities and social sciences. Applications from artists matching the eligibility requirements are welcome.

#### Administrative requirements

- Applicants must submit complete application forms and all requested documents via the online application platform. Incomplete applications will not be considered eligible.
- Applications exceeding the maximum length criteria will not be considered.
- Applications written (even partially) in a language other than English will not be considered.
- Late submissions will not be accepted the online platform prevents submission after the deadline.

#### Other

The FIAS Fellowship Programme is committed to ensuring equal opportunities and working towards greater diversity within its academic community. It will not discriminate against researchers in any way (gender, age, ethnic, national or social origin, religion or belief, sexual orientation, language, disability, political opinion, social or economic condition).

# **HOW TO APPLY**



In order to start the application process, you need to create an account via the user space. The FIAS application and evaluation processes are done exclusively online.

Once logged in, you will be able to access the application form. You can then proceed with the process.



# Applicants are required to submit the following documents (in English exclusively):

- The completed FIAS online application form
- A detailed curriculum vitae, including a list of publications and the contact details of three scholars familiar with your academic work
- Copy of the PhD diploma in a pdf format<sup>1</sup>
- A detailed research proposal (maximum 5 pages and a bibliography 1 additional page)<sup>2</sup>
- A selection of three to five publications (articles or book chapters) <sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> If the writing system used in the **PhD diploma** is not based on the Latin alphabet (e.g., Cyrillic, Chinese, Arabic), a university-issued certificate or an official translation in Latin script must also be provided-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The **research proposal** must detail the scientific goals of the project, its relation to the current state of the art, the proposed methodology, the expected scientific outcomes, and a justification for the fellowship duration in light of its anticipated impact on both the research project and the applicant's career development. An additional page may be included for the bibliography. The names of up to three scholars to be excluded from the peer-review process may be listed at the end of the document.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> All **submitted publications** must comply with the following indications. Publications not complying with any of these indications will not be considered: (i) mention clear bibliographical reference for each document, (ii) the maximum length of an attached publication is 60 pages, (iii) an English-written abstract must be included at the beginning of the publication in case publications are in another language than English.

• Up to two letters of recommendation (optional)<sup>4</sup>

# ATTENTION

The candidates apply exclusively through the online application system. Paper applications are not accepted. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Late applications will not be considered. Letters of recommendation are optional

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The **recommendation letters** are to be submitted via the application form. Candidates are offered two solutions: (i) applicants upload the letters themselves in a pdf format via the dedicated field of the application form, (ii) or they may enter the referees' email addresses via the online application form, in which case the referees will instantly receive an email containing a link that will allow them to directly upload the letter to the FIAS interface in full confidentiality. Applicants will not be able to access these documents.

# **EVALUATION AND SELECTION**

The scientific selection will be competitive, merit-based and conducted through international independent peer review.

The candidates considered eligible, will be evaluated by independent international experts and by the FIAS Scientific Committee according to **two criteria**:

- 1. the scientific excellence of the applicant (40% of the mark)
- 2. the quality of the research proposal (60% of the mark)

The final decision will be carried out at the level of each IAS with its Scientific Advisory Board.

Applying the same two evaluation criteria the selection will be based on the marks, evaluations and ranking of the applicants as well as on:

- the adequacy with the Institute's research priorities (as published at the time of application)
- the potential contribution to and interaction with the IAS scholarly community
- the collaborative opportunities with local academic and intersectoral partners
- the ability to nurture long-term scientific and non-academic collaborations
- the expected impact on the applicant's career

#### Calendar of implementation:

- Application deadline: July 16, 2025, 6:00 pm (Paris, France time)
- July 2025: eligibility check (i)
- August November 2025: double peer review
- December 2025: preselection by the FIAS Selection Committee (ii)
- January March 2026: selection of fellows by IAS Scientific Advisory Boards and communication of results (iii)
- September/October 2026: arrival of fellows

Applicants are **notified electronically via their FIAS userspace** of the assessment of their project after (i) the eligibility check, (ii) the preselection by FIAS Scientific Committee, and (iii) the final selection by the IAS.

# **WORKING CONDITIONS**

FIAS fellowships offer the following conditions:

- A <u>net living allowance</u> (equivalent to take-home pay) of min. €2,200 per month: Arrangements will be based on the fellow's individual situation and interest, depending on the option chosen (see below);
- Two <u>flexible contractual options</u>, considering individual situations: work contracts or paid leave
  - <u>Option 1</u> Work contracts will be offered to the fellows when they do not already have a full-time work contract. Employment contracts will provide FIAS fellows with French national insurance schemes (unemployment, pension, health and accident insurance).
  - o <u>Option 2</u> Paid Leave. Many high-profile experienced researchers come under paid leave. They already benefit from work contracts with their home institution covering the whole duration of the fellowship. Considering this ongoing work contract, FIAS offers a direct contract with a net living allowance. The IAS can also reimburse the salary to the home institution upon request (if the salary is lower than the FIAS allowance, the complement is transferred to the fellow). Private insurance contracts are paid for to guarantee full healthcare protection when needed with a monthly top-up of €200.
- <u>Accommodation or support for relocation</u>: The successful applicants will benefit from the support of the IAS administrative staff during the negotiation period, necessary for arrangements relating to work contracts and other administrative, professional, social and logistical issues (e.g. negotiating academic leave, finding accommodation, language courses, etc.).
- An individual <u>research and training budget</u> equivalent to €2,500 per year will cover the organisation and participation in scientific events and specific skills acquisition. The budget will be held by the host IAS and spent upon fellow's request.
- <u>Travel expenses</u>: one round trip from the fellows' home country.
- Same <u>working conditions as the IAS' other fellows</u>, including office space, IT services, meeting rooms, conference rooms, access to research libraries.
- <u>Skills training</u> opportunities.

# CONTACT

For additional information, please refer to:

Information of the participating Institutes www.fias-fp.eu/about-us

> The FIAS Fellowship FAQ www.fias-fp.eu/fellowships/faq

or send an email to the FIAS Programme Officer programme-officer@fias-fp.eu

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