



## THE INTERNATIONAL HUMAN FRONTIER SCIENCE PROGRAM ORGANIZATION

### Post award guidelines for HFSP Fellowships 2018

The following post award guidelines are intended for awardees of the **HFSP Long-Term and Cross-Disciplinary Fellowship Programs**. They describe the general conditions of the fellowship award, the financial support, and give specific details about administrative procedures.

The guidelines also contain information that is important for the institutional administrators responsible for the management of the award. Therefore fellows should forward a copy of this document to the responsible administrative officer at their host institution while keeping copies of these guidelines and of the completed forms for their personal record.

The guidelines are also available on the HFSP website:

<http://www.hfsp.org/funding/postdoctoral-fellowships/guidelines>

In case of any questions, fellowship awardees should contact the HFSP Fellowship Office ([fellow@hfsp.org](mailto:fellow@hfsp.org)).

#### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES, OPPORTUNITIES AND REPORTS

- How to activate the award (Section II.1)
- Awardees Annual Meeting (Section II.5.2)
- Annual scientific report (Annex V.1)
- Financial report on the use of the Research and Travel Allowance (Sections III.3 & I.6; Annex V.2)

***NOTE: receipts for all expenses must be retained, both for awards administered by the university and those paid directly to the fellow.***

- Reimbursement of unspent funds (Section I.4)
- Funding during the final fellowship year (Section II.4)
- Acknowledgment of HFSP support in publications (Section IV.5)

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## **I THE HFSP FELLOWSHIP**

### **I.1 THE ORGANIZATION**

The International Human Frontier Science Program Organization (HFSP) is an international not for profit organization based in Strasbourg, France. HFSP promotes global research collaboration in the life sciences and was established in 1989 by the Economic Summit Countries. The current Member States of the Organization include Australia, Canada, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Switzerland, the UK, the USA and the European Union. HFSP programs are highly competitive, supporting the top 5-10% of applicants. HFSP Fellowships are recognized internationally as prestigious awards and fellows have been highly successful in their subsequent research careers.

### **I.2 OBJECTIVES**

Fellowships are awarded to individuals, in recognition of research excellence, innovative research proposals and important scientific achievements during their Ph.D./postdoctoral work. The main goal of the Fellowship program is to support a global network of talented young scientists by enabling postdoctoral fellows to obtain training abroad, in a new research field, and in an outstanding host laboratory.

HFSP Long-Term and Cross-Disciplinary Fellowships are designed to facilitate the transition to independent researcher by enabling fellows to repatriate to their home country or move to another country in the final year. The first 24 months of the fellowship must be carried out in a foreign country; however fellows are able to use the final period (up to 12 months) to return to their country of origin or to transfer to another HFSP member country.

### **I.3 ADMINISTRATION OF FUNDS**

HFSP fellows receive an annual “living allowance” to help defray the costs of living during the period of research training abroad. In addition, an annual research and travel allowance is provided. Fellows with children may also be granted a child allowance.

Depending on host country or institution, postdoctoral researchers may have a different employment status (e.g. regular employee, postdoc, research associate, etc.). Fellows are encouraged to discuss the options and work conditions with their host institution before activating the award.

Regardless of the status, the research project carried out under HFSP support is considered non-compensatory, as the fellowship stipend is not a salary or wage paid for service. HFSP is not the employer of the fellow and therefore the fellowship award does not entail a work contract between the HFSP and the fellow.

An institutional management and accounting procedure to administer the funds - including the monthly disbursement of the living allowance - is the preferred way of administering the fellowship funds. Fellows may manage their funds through their private bank account under exceptional circumstances. Awardees in the USA should avoid selecting a bank working with an intermediary bank for international money transfers as this may increase the bank fees.

It is not possible to combine the HFSP Fellowship with another paid fellowship or salaried position. However the HFSP Fellowship can be supplemented from other sources (e.g. from a host supervisor’s grant). For instance, the living allowance can be supplemented to meet the host institution's minimum salary requirements. Supplementation of the research and travel allowance is allowed too. Awardees must devote their time entirely to the approved research project, as outlined in the original application, and may not engage in any other paid activity. Exceptions can only be granted by prior approval of the Fellowship Office.

## I.4 UNSPENT FELLOWSHIP FUNDS

**At the end of the second year, if...**

- *the fellow moves to another country within six months of the end of their second year, any remaining funds from the research and travel budget can be transferred directly from the host institution to the fellow or to his/her future host institution. Some institutions require reimbursement of the remaining funds to HFSP. In this case, the funds are transferred back to the fellow through the HFSP accounts. This should be avoided in order to reduce the administrative workload of the Fellowship Office, the loss of funds due to transaction fees and delays in providing the fellow access to the funds.*
- *the third year is deferred for more than six months, only small amounts (5% or less) of the research and travel allowance can be kept by the host institution or the fellow. Amounts exceeding 5% of the research and travel allowance must be refunded to HFSP and will be provided again to the fellow when the fellowship is reactivated.*

The amount of unspent funds reimbursed to the HFSP will be registered in the currency it was refunded. When the fellow reactivates their fellowship, this amount will be converted into the local currency (if necessary) and will be included in the next payment.

**At the end of the third year**, any unspent research and travel funds must be reimbursed to HFSP immediately, except if a no-cost extension has been requested.

**At the end of the no-cost extension**, any unspent research and travel funds must be reimbursed to HFSP immediately.

Remaining funds cannot be kept by the host supervisor or the host institution. It is not possible either to forward remaining funds from an HFSP Fellowship to a Career Development Award.

The HFSP may require reimbursement of all or part of the award if ineligible expenses or false accounting statements have been submitted, if receipts cannot be provided (when requested), or if scientific or financial reports have not been prepared.

## I.5 INTEREST EARNINGS ON FELLOWSHIP FUNDS

Any interest earned on HFSP payments should be administered according to the financial regulations of the host institution/country. HFSP does not become involved in how interest earnings are treated.

## I.6 ACCOUNTABILITY AND RECORDS OF FELLOWSHIP FUNDS

During the period of the fellowship, the fellow and/or their host institute must keep receipts of all expenditures related to research and travel. These will be required to complete a final financial report which is due at the end of the fellowship (and in some specific cases, an interim financial report). These receipts must be kept for two years after the end of the fellowship as they can be requested for financial audit. The Fellowship Office does not routinely request originals or copies of receipts however may request them for internal or financial audit purposes.

## **I.7 BENEFITS AND CHARGES**

The HFSP Fellowship does not provide specific funds to cover health insurance costs or other benefits; however these can be paid out of the fellow's living allowance.

The HFSP Fellowship living allowance may be subject to national and/or institutional deductions such as social security charges or health insurance premiums. If these deductions are taken from the gross salary, the host institution must ensure that the fellow's gross monthly salary is equivalent to at least 1/12<sup>th</sup> of the annual living allowance provided by HFSP.

The host institution is not allowed to deduct employer's charges from the fellowship. As a not for profit organization, HFSP is neither in the position to compensate host institutions for administering a fellowship nor is it permissible to take out institutional overheads or bench fees from any of the fellowship allowances (see Section III).

The final confirmation of a Long-Term or Cross-Disciplinary Fellowship award is contingent upon formal acceptance of the above conditions by the host supervisor of the fellow and an authorized administrative representative of the host institution who is responsible for the financial management of the award.

## **I.8 PENSION SCHEME**

There is no pension scheme associated with HFSP postdoctoral fellowships. It is not possible for HFSP fellows who already have a pension scheme to operate it through the HFSP fellowship. Fellows must manage their pension scheme independently from their HFSP award, and may use part of their living allowance to pay monthly pension contributions.

## **I.9 WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION ON TAXATION AND BENEFITS?**

Each host country has its own income tax regulations and may have agreements with the fellow's home country. In some host countries postdoctoral fellows are required to report postdoctoral stipend payments as gross income.

The taxability of stipends in no way alters the relationship between HFSP fellows and their host institutions. The interpretation and implementation of tax law is the domain of the revenue and tax authorities in the host country. HFSP takes no position on what the status may be for a particular taxpayer, and it does not have the authority to dispense tax advice. Fellows should consult a local tax office or the legal counsel of the host institution concerning the applicability of the tax law to their situation and for information on their tax obligations.

Many research institutions have established offices for researchers from abroad (e.g. International Office) that provide advice for new arrivals. Local or regional postdoctoral associations or scientific organizations can also be a valuable source of information. Below are a series of links that can be used to find advice.

**For fellows working in the USA:**

- The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) provides taxation information for foreign students and scholars: <http://www.irs.gov/individuals/international-taxpayers/foreign-students-and-scholars>
- The National Postdoctoral Association ([www.nationalpostdoc.org](http://www.nationalpostdoc.org)) has many resources to improve the postdoctoral experience for both national and foreign postdocs, including information on taxation and benefits.
- The UCSF postdoctoral office is a good place to look for information for international postdocs <http://postdocs.ucsf.edu/> .
- The International Office of The University of Texas at Austin has a “Frequently Asked Questions” section that is a good source of information for visitors with different kinds of visas from any country (not only working at Austin) <https://austin-utexas.custhelp.com/>.
- There are country specific websites such as the portal of French postdocs at the NIH (<http://frenchpostdoc.free.fr/>) or the German portal called “German Scholars Organization e.V.” (<http://www.gsonet.org/>). Fellows should check if their home country maintains a similar online service for researchers abroad.

**For fellows working in Europe or any other country:**

- The European Researchers Mobility Portal (<http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/>)
- Depending on the country, particular organizations are mandated to provide information for foreign researchers. In France you can contact the Fondation Kastler in Strasbourg at <http://www.fnak.fr/>. In Germany you should consult the websites of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).

## II AWARD PROVISIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR FELLOWS

### II.1 ACTIVATION OF THE FELLOWSHIP

Fellows may begin their fellowship **at the earliest on 1 April** of the award year and **not later than January 1** of the subsequent year. The following documents are required to activate the fellowship:

- the "General conditions for the acceptance of an HFSP Long-Term or Cross-Disciplinary Fellowship" form (including "Bioethics" and "Intellectual Property Rights" statements);
- the "Agreement" form (including a liability statement);
- the "Child allowance" and "Spouse/partner's situation" form;
- the "Relocation allowance" form;
- the "Banking instructions" form;
- an official bank document with account details;
- the "Address at the host institution" form;
- a copy of the Ph.D. certificate (or of statement/letter confirming that the Ph.D. has been conferred);
- a copy of the passport(s) or of official document(s) showing the fellow's nationality/nationalities (in case of dual nationality).

**Fellows** who are **accompanied by a spouse and/or dependents** in the host country should also provide a copy of their marriage certificate (or equivalent legal partnership document) and a copy of the birth certificate(s) or an official document showing the date(s) of birth of the child(ren), as appropriate.

A paper copy of all requested documents must be received at the Fellowship Office before the activation date of the fellowship, or upon arrival at the host institute. Fellows starting in April or May can exceptionally send faxed or scanned copies to avoid a delay in the first payment, however the originals must be mailed to the Fellowship Office afterwards.

**No payment can be initiated unless all of the requested documents have been received.**

Fellows whose funds are managed through the host institution should provide the administration with all the documents listed above to initiate an institutional account. In case a stipend sheet is revised (e.g. because of a change in family status), the fellow should forward an updated copy of the stipend sheet to the administration. **There are no further documents (e.g. terms and conditions, agreement, contract, etc.) to be filled in by the host institution.**

The HFSP does not cover shipment costs of the requested documents or associated fees.

### II.2 DURATION

The fellowship **award** is paid over **three years**. Fellowships cannot be renewed or extended beyond three years. The payment period can be extended under certain circumstances, such as the deferral of the fellowship after the second year (up to 2 extra years) and/or for time away from research (e.g. maternity/parental leave, extended sick leave, etc.).

### II.3 PAYMENT OF ALLOWANCES

Payments are made twice a year at the beginning of each six-month period.

The different allowances must be transferred to the same account, either belonging to the host institution or to a personal bank account.

It is not possible to predict the exact date on which the funds will arrive in the fellow's or the host institution's account. The bank transfer usually takes place in the first half of the month and it generally takes a few days for the funds to arrive in the account. However delays during the international wire transfer cannot be ruled out.

Whenever possible, the stipend will be paid in the currency of the host country. However, for some countries, the stipend has to be paid in a different currency and the fellow may receive a different amount than the one stated on the stipend sheet. Fellows who notice a significant loss due to variations in currency exchange rates should contact the Fellowship Office.

For each transfer, the bank may charge some fees. These are acceptable expenses and can be included in the final financial report. **We recommend that you enquire about transfer fees and other fees, as there may be significant differences between banks.**

## II.4 FUNDING DURING THE FINAL YEAR OF THE FELLOWSHIP

The HFSP Fellowship provides flexibility in the third year of the award to facilitate research career planning. Fellows are encouraged to consider the options of taking up the third year of the award in a different country and/or deferring the funding for the final fellowship year.

Third year funds must be used for postdoctoral research and cannot be used to supplement the fellow's salary in a new research position.

### II.4.1 Where to take up the third year

HFSP fellows may hold the third year (final period) of the fellowship in:

- the current host laboratory;
- an institute in their home country;
- an institute in their spouse's home country; or
- an institute in any HFSPO supporting country, regardless of the fellow's nationality.

*The current HFSPO member countries are: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus (EU part only), Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Republic of Ireland, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.*

HFSPO hopes that enabling fellows to transfer the last year of their award to another country will support the transition from postdoc to independent researcher by facilitating the move to the country where the fellow plans to eventually establish his/her research career.

**Note that the final year of funding cannot be used in another laboratory in the same host country.**

### II.4.2 Deferral

The third year of funding may be delayed **for up to two years**. During the deferral period fellows must remain in the same host laboratory with the same supervisor; they cannot use this period to carry out research in another laboratory. Host supervisors are encouraged to provide financial support during the deferral. At the end of the deferral period the fellowship may then be reactivated in 1) the same host laboratory; 2) the fellow's home country; 3) the fellow's spouse's home country; or 4) another HFSPO member country (see list above).

## II.4.3 Options for the third year

### *II.4.3.1 Option 1 - Remain in the original host laboratory*

Fellows who remain in the host laboratory for the third year (with or without a deferral) will continue being paid according to the stipend levels of their host country.

Depending on the visa category, fellows remaining in the USA may need to have their third year stipend paid through the host institute. The fellow should consult with the administration of the host institution for any necessary changes.

A scientific report is required within two months of the end of the second year. Fellows who defer will be asked in addition to complete an interim financial report listing the research/travel expenses incurred during the first two years of the fellowship.

### *II.4.3.2 Option 2 - Move to an institution in another country*

The fellowship can be transferred to the fellow's home country, the spouse's home country or to another HFSP member country. The home country is the country of which the fellow or his/her spouse is a national (holds citizenship). Fellows with dual nationalities can return to either country. For those moving to an institution that is classified as non-territorial (e.g., EMBL), the country is the one in which the laboratory is located.

Fellows who wish to take up their third year of funding at an institution in another country must:

- have completed at least two full years of HFSP Fellowship in the initial host laboratory;
- prepare a second year progress report and an interim financial report listing the research and travel expenses incurred during the first two years of the fellowship; and
- complete and return the relevant HFSP forms (which will be provided by the Fellowship Office) together with a one-page abstract of the research project that will be carried out during the final year.

Fellows receive their stipend in local currency and will also receive a relocation allowance, if this is not provided by another source.

There is no obligation to continue the work the fellow was doing in the original host country nor to change research direction.

## II.5 OPPORTUNITIES FOR AWARDEES

### II.5.1 Career Development Award (CDA)

HFSP fellows who have completed at least two years of their fellowship are eligible to apply for an HFSP **Career Development Award**, provided they return to their home country, their spouse's home country or move to another member country of the HFSP. The country where they will carry out their CDA must be different from the original host country of their fellowship. This program is open exclusively to HFSP fellows, and provides funds to establish an independent laboratory.

## II.5.2 Awardees Annual Meeting

HFSP awardees will be invited to participate in the HFSP Awardees Annual Meeting. The location of this meeting rotates among the supporting member countries and thus changes every year. The meeting is an excellent venue for the exchange of scientific ideas, to meet the HFSP staff, and to liaise with other awardees in an informal setting, as a “community of scholars”. Fellows are encouraged to attend at least one Awardees Annual Meeting during the tenure of their award, and will be invited for the first time in the year following their award year.

If a fellow wishes to attend the meeting during a deferral in order to present research carried out during the initial period of the fellowship, expenses related to this meeting may be included in the final financial report. In case the Awardees Annual Meeting takes place shortly after the end of a fellowship, the fellow may request a six-month no-cost extension of the fellowship.

Expenses for attending the meeting can be paid out of the fellowship research and travel allowance.

## II.6 CHANGE IN FAMILY SITUATION

Fellows should notify the Fellowship Office of any change in their family situation (e.g. marriage, divorce, birth of a child) as this can affect the calculation of the child allowance and the relocation allowance granted at the end of the fellowship (if applicable).

## II.7 CHANGE IN RESEARCH PROJECT OR HOST

Changes of the research plan are only granted under exceptional circumstances and must receive prior approval by HFSP. Equally, a change of host institute and/or host supervisor is only granted under exceptional circumstances. The fellowship is awarded based on the candidate's accomplishments, the quality of the proposed research project and the suitability of the host laboratory in providing the fellow with the training they will need to achieve the outlined career objectives. A request to change the host laboratory and/or project requires the re-evaluation of the application to ensure that the research project and host institution meet the quality standards and expectations of the program.

**A change in research project or host institution/host supervisor without prior approval of the Fellowship Office will automatically lead to the termination of the fellowship.**

If the fellow's host supervisor moves their laboratory to another location, fellows must inform the Fellowship Office of their plans prior to the move. An interim financial report must be submitted in cases where a change of host supervisor and/or a transfer to another institution occurs. Information concerning administrative procedures can be obtained from the Fellowship Office.

## II.8 TERMINATION OF THE FELLOWSHIP

If, for any reason, the fellowship is terminated earlier than scheduled, the Fellowship Office must be informed immediately. As HFSP payments cover 6-month periods, the fellow may have received funds for a period beyond the actual termination date of their fellowship. All excess funds, including unspent research and travel funds, must be returned to HFSP. The fellow must also provide a final financial and a final progress report within two months of the end of the fellowship.

If the fellowship is terminated as scheduled, the fellow will have to provide a final financial and a final progress report within two months of the end of the fellowship. Any unspent research and travel funds must be returned to HFSP.

### III HFSP FELLOWSHIP ALLOWANCES

The financial support for an HFSP Fellowship is made in the form of a stipend that consists of several allowances, calculated according to the host country. The possible allowances together with the payment schedule are listed on a “stipend sheet” that is prepared at the beginning of the fellowship. Fellows should forward a copy of the stipend sheet to the grants administrator in their department.

Fellows may receive the following allowances, as appropriate:

- living allowance
- child allowance
- research and travel allowance
- relocation allowance
- parental leave allowance

#### III.1 LIVING ALLOWANCE

The living allowance is a subsistence allowance meant to cover the cost of living expenses while conducting postdoctoral research at the host institution. It is paid according to the rate of the country where the fellowship is carried out. Should the fellow repatriate to the home country, or move to the spouse’s country or to another HFSP member country in the final year of the fellowship, the rate of the new host country will be applied.

HFSP fellows considered as regular employees of their host institution should expect that social charges (for example contributions to health & retirement plans, income taxes) are deducted from the living allowance. However host institutions are not allowed to deduct any employers’ charges from this allowance.

#### III.2 CHILD ALLOWANCE

HFSP fellows with children are entitled to receive a child allowance. The allowance is paid per child and corresponds to about 10% of the first year living allowance. Should the fellow or his/her spouse/partner receive a child allowance from another source, the HFSP allowance will be reduced by this amount and any positive balance will be paid.

#### III.3 RESEARCH AND TRAVEL ALLOWANCE

The research and travel allowance is a contribution towards the costs of carrying out the research project and to enable career development.

- **Research:** the allowance may be used to cover the expenses for materials and supplies which are directly related to the fellow’s research project. Any equipment purchased using fellowship funds remains the property of the host institution at the end of the fellowship, unless the host supervisor releases the equipment to the fellow.
- **Travel:** costs associated with participating in scientific/academic meetings; costs associated with meetings with collaborators in different institutions; and costs associated with disseminating research results (e.g. invited talks). Travel expenses should be reimbursed on accrued costs and not on per diem rates. Costs exclusively associated with job interviews or with visits to family members are not eligible.

The research and travel budget is to be managed by the fellow, in accordance with HFSP regulations. The host institution may administer the funds, however the use of the funds is at the discretion of the fellow, who is accountable regarding the use of this allowance. Any unspent funds from this allowance must be returned to HFSP.

Unused research and travel funds are automatically carried over from award years 1 and 2. A negative balance can also be carried over from award years 1 and 2, for example if the fellow overspent the amount granted in the previous year.

Only expenses incurred during the period of the fellowship can be paid out of the research and travel allowance, unless a no-cost extension has been granted.

Expenses incurred during a deferral period (possible after the second year) cannot be paid through the research and travel allowance. The only exception to this rule is if a fellow attends the HFSP Awardees Annual Meeting during the interruption period.

### III.3.1 Eligible research and travel costs

The list below is not exhaustive, however it gives examples of standard categories or items that can be purchased with the funds from the research and travel allowance. If you are uncertain about the eligibility of an expense, please contact the Fellowship Office in advance of the purchase.

- Bank fees due to the transfer of the stipend.
- Fees and other costs related to obtaining/renewing work permits, temporary residence permits or visa renewals during the period of the fellowship, including travel costs related to the visa renewal.
- Membership dues for scientific and professional organizations.
- Publication costs (e.g. page charges) for scientific articles or other costs associated with the dissemination of research results.
- Open access fees for publications arising from HFSP projects.
- Purchase of two computers (including laptops and tablets) during the period of the fellowship. Purchase of a third computer (laptop, tablet) only with approval by the Fellowship Office.
- Software.
- Subscriptions to scientific journals and purchase of scientific textbooks.
- Reagents, laboratory consumables and small equipment items specifically needed for the research.
- Office supplies (if not supplied by the host laboratory).
- Travel, food, accommodation, visa and registration fees for attending scientific meetings and research-related workshops and training courses.
- Visiting other laboratories or institutions in order to conduct work connected with the fellowship research project, to establish collaborations or to give invited lectures (these may be combined with job interviews).
- Public transportation costs for the daily commute to the laboratory (including bicycle rental fees).
- Language training materials (e.g. dictionaries, language training textbooks, electronic training materials, etc.) and language courses for the fellow (the “language” being an official language of the host country).
- Editing/improving of English language of a manuscript or a grant proposal through third party providers.

### III.3.2 Excluded expenditures

**The research and travel allowance cannot be used to cover a fellow's health insurance costs, employer's charges, to pay taxes or institutional overhead costs.**

The list below is not exhaustive, however it gives some examples of items that are not eligible to be paid through the research and travel allowance:

- Personal subscription to health insurance or payment of income taxes.
- For dependents: fees for visa or work permits, flight tickets for visa renewals.
- Fees associated with seeking permanent residency (e.g. Green Card in USA).
- Electronic equipment for entertainment purposes or private use (e.g. Digital Audio Players, Personal Digital Assistants, e-book readers).
- Office equipment (e.g. chairs, tables, filing cabinets, etc).
- Fees for private internet access.
- Costs related exclusively to job interviews and family visits.
- Travel of other laboratory members or invited guest speakers.
- Supplements to the fellow's living allowance.
- Purchase of non-scientific literature or information (e.g. novels, subscriptions for daily newspapers, cable/satellite TV).
- Attendance at cultural events.
- Purchase of bicycles or other means of transportation.
- Petrol costs for the daily commute to the laboratory.

### III.4 RELOCATION ALLOWANCE

The relocation allowance offsets some of the costs incurred by fellows and their family members associated with the move to and from the host country. These funds may be used for expenses such as travel, shipping of personal belongings, or as security deposit to rent an apartment.

The relocation allowance is paid in the following situations:

- At the start of the fellowship: fellows are entitled to receive the relocation allowance only if the move to the host country was no more than 3 months prior to the start of the fellowship.
- At the beginning or during the third fellowship year: fellows automatically qualify for the relocation allowance if they repatriate, move to their spouse's home country or to another HFSP member country for the third year, even after a deferral period.
- At the end of the fellowship: fellows remaining at the host institution beyond their third year may request the relocation allowance if their move takes place within six months of terminating the fellowship. The allowance has to be requested by the fellow when sending the final scientific and financial reports. The Fellowship Office will transfer the relocation allowance once both reports have been approved.

A relocation allowance is not paid in cases where the host laboratory moves during the fellowship.

Should the fellow receive funds from other source(s) for his/her move, HFSP will top up these funds to a maximum of the amount corresponding to the total HFSP relocation allowance. It is not acceptable that the HFSP relocation allowance be topped up by other sources. The fellow has to formally state that this condition is fulfilled before receiving the relocation allowance.

**The relocation allowance is a flat rate and is paid to the fellow in full**, without any deductions, as calculated on the stipend sheet. It is not contingent upon any further condition and does not have to be accounted for in a financial report (no receipts will be requested).

If the funds are managed by the host institution, fellows should verify that the host institution can pay the full amount of the relocation allowance (no deductions). If this cannot be done, HFSP can, exceptionally, transfer the relocation allowance to the fellow's private account.

### **III.5 PARENTAL LEAVE ALLOWANCE**

HFSP fellows may apply for up to 3 months of paid parental leave for each child born/adopted during the course of their fellowship (for twins, the parental leave will be 3 months in total). The parental leave must be taken within 6 months of the birth/adoption of the child, and may only be taken during the period of the fellowship. The fellowship will be extended for the period of the parental leave, during which the fellow will also be entitled to receive the living and the child allowance.

The HFSP parental leave allowance cannot be granted during the deferral period of the fellowship.

If both parents are HFSP fellows, each parent is entitled to receive up to 3 months paid parental leave for each child born/adopted during the course of the fellowship.

Additional time necessary for child care beyond the 3 months of paid leave will count as an interruption of the fellowship (without pay by the HFSP).

Fellows should inform the Fellowship Office and their host supervisors/host institutions of their intention of taking a parental leave prior to the interruption.

### **III.6 NO-COST EXTENSION**

Upon request, a six-month no-cost extension of the fellowship can be granted to fellows who remain at the host institution at the end of their fellowship. During the no-cost extension period, the fellow will be able to continue using the research and travel funds in the same way as during the fellowship. The research and travel funds can only be used for eligible expenses as outlined in section III.3.1 of these guidelines, and not to cover the costs of living.

The final financial report will be due within one month of the end of the no-cost extension. Any unspent funds left at the end of the no-cost extension must be refunded to HFSP.

**NOTE:** The final progress report is due within two months of the end of the fellowship (and not at the end of the no-cost extension).

## **IV RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT OF RESEARCH**

### **IV.1 LIABILITY**

HFSPo will not assume any liability for accidents, damages, or injuries occurring to the fellow in relation to the research conducted during the HFSP Fellowship. This condition must be accepted formally by the fellow by signing the liability statement appearing in the “Agreement” form before the start of the fellowship.

### **IV.2 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS**

HFSPo will not claim any intellectual or commercial property rights that may be generated through the research it sponsors, nor will it become involved in any dispute which may arise about the ownership of such rights. The following declaration must be signed by the fellow, the host supervisor and a host institution official prior to activating the fellowship:

*In accepting this award from HFSPo, we agree that the assignment of any intellectual or commercial property rights, or any income arising from them, will be determined by the procedures and regulations which apply in the laboratory/institution in which the research is conducted. Agreement on the ownership of such rights or on the distribution of income derived from them will be negotiated between the collaborating laboratories/institutions. The host institution retains all patent rights from sponsored research. Any inventions or patentable ideas conceived or reduced to practice in the course of this project belong to the host institution.*

### **IV.3 BIOETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS**

HFSPo requires that the awardees observe the highest ethical standards in conducting all research sponsored by the Organization. The following declaration must be signed by the fellow, the host supervisor and a host institution official prior to activating the fellowship:

*In accepting this award from HFSPo, we agree to conform strictly to the codes of practice, regulations and laws which govern the ethical conduct of scientific research in our own laboratories/institutions. We are solely responsible if any of these regulations are infringed. We also agree not to undertake any research jointly with scientists in other countries where experimental procedures which are forbidden in our own laboratories/institutions are permissible.*

## IV.4 PROCEDURE FOR DEALING WITH ALLEGATIONS OF SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT

### Definition

Scientific misconduct refers to data fabrication, falsification, plagiarism, or any other practice that seriously deviates from those commonly accepted within the scientific community, either in research proposals submitted to the HFSP, or in performing or reporting research funded by the HFSP. We expect that applicants will adhere to the most stringent international criteria of appropriate scientific conduct. More details on HFSP's policy on scientific misconduct is available at

<http://www.hfsp.org/funding/scientific-misconduct-policy>.

### Preliminary inquiry

When the HFSP Secretariat receives an allegation, the Secretary-General confirms whether the alleged misconduct falls within the definition of scientific misconduct and whether it occurred in the context of an HFSP activity. Only allegations in writing can be accepted.

### Measures taken by the HFSP

The Secretary-General will communicate that there is an allegation to the host institution. Should an investigation be carried out by the host institution, the HFSP will ask to be notified of the outcome of the investigation, including any disciplinary measures taken by the institution, within 30 days of completion of the investigation and determination of disciplinary action, if any. The Secretary-General will inform the Board of Trustees of the result of the host institution's investigation and of any disciplinary measures. The Board of Trustees may decide to suspend the review of the research proposal, or to suspend or terminate the award, bearing in mind the nature of the misconduct. The Board of Trustees may also impose further restrictions, such as declaring the ineligibility of the researcher in question for future awards.

### Contact information

Information on how and whom to contact can be found at

<http://www.hfsp.org/funding/scientific-misconduct-policy>

### Other dispositions

If the procedure defined above is considered insufficient to cope with the alleged misconduct, the Secretary-General will seek advice from the Board of Trustees. This procedure will be reviewed periodically by the Secretariat, for possible revision by the Board of Trustees.

## IV.5 PUBLICATIONS

Publications arising out of the work performed during the fellowship should acknowledge the support of the "Human Frontier Science Program". The entire title rather than the acronym "HFSP" should be used and the fellow's HFSP reference number (for example LT000XXX/2018-L or LT000XXX/2018-C) should be indicated. A copy of these publications should be emailed in PDF format to the Fellowship Office.

Awardees are free to choose to make the article open-access by 1) publishing in an open-access journal, 2) posting to an online repository, or 3) paying an open access fee to a hybrid journal. More details on HFSP's open access policy are available at <http://www.hfsp.org/funding/open-access-policy>

Selected publications arising from HFSP-supported work are posted on our web page (<http://www.hfsp.org/frontier-science/awardees-articles>). We are also interested to hear about any press release in preparation which is related to your project. Fellows are therefore encouraged to send a short note to [communications@hfsp.org](mailto:communications@hfsp.org) about upcoming publications or press releases.

## V REPORTS

### V.1 SCIENTIFIC REPORT

A detailed scientific progress report must be submitted **within two months of the end of each fellowship year**. The template as well as instructions will be emailed in due time.

### V.2 FINANCIAL REPORT

A **final financial report** must be submitted **within two months after termination of the fellowship** using the Excel template provided, which contains all relevant instructions and guidelines.

An **interim financial report** is requested **within two months of the end of the second year** in case the fellow defers the third year of support, returns to his/her home country or moves to another HFSP member country in the third year. See details and further instructions in the Excel template.

## VI ANNEXES

### VI.1 RELOCATION ALLOWANCE

The amounts are stated in USD.

FROM:	TO:							
	West USA/Canada	East USA/Canada	Europe	Middle-East	Asia	Oceania	Africa	Central & South America
West USA/Canada	1,500	1,500	3,000	3,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	1,500
East USA/Canada	1,500	1,500	2,000	2,000	2,500	2,500	1,500	1,500
Europe	3,000	2,000	1,000	1,000	4,000	4,000	1,000	3,000
Middle-East	3,000	2,000	1,000	●	3,800	3,800	1,600	3,000
Asia	2,000	2,500	4,000	3,800	1,500	2,200	3,000	2,500
Oceania	2,000	2,500	4,000	3,800	2,200	●	4,000	2,000
Africa	2,000	1,500	1,000	1,600	3,000	4,000	●	3,000
Central and South America	1,500	1,500	3,000	3,000	2,500	2,000	3,000	●

- Relocation allowances from/to other areas will be calculated on a case-by-case basis.

For a family, the following calculations will be used:

Spouse: same allowance  
 Child 2-12 years: 50% of allowance  
 Child under 2 years: 10% of allowance

## VI.2 LIVING, CHILD AND RESEARCH & TRAVEL ALLOWANCES

Country	Curr.	Gross Monthly Living Allowance Year 1*	Gross Monthly Living Allowance Year 2*	Gross Monthly Living Allowance Year 3*	Monthly Child Allowance* (per child)	Monthly Research & Travel Allowance
Argentina	ARS	29,500	31,000	32,250	2,950	4,500
Australia	AUD	5,400	5,650	5,900	540	625
Austria	EUR	3,475	3,635	3,795	345	375
Belgium	EUR	3,475	3,635	3,795	345	375
Brazil	BRL	7,500	7,850	8,200	750	1,180
Canada	CAD	4,150	4,360	4,560	485	500
Chile	CLP	1,250,000	1,312,500	1,375,000	211,000	217,800
China	CNY	18,350	18,750	19,150	1,835	3,800
Denmark	DKK	30,870	32,300	33,740	3,087	3,560
Finland	EUR	4,100	4,295	4,490	500	375
France	EUR	3,350	3,500	3,650	350	375
Germany	EUR	3,350	3,500	3,650	350	375
Greece	EUR	2,525	2,640	2,750	255	375
Hungary	HUF	504,000	527,000	550,100	50,400	56,700
India	INR	114,000	119,250	124,500	11,400	18,375
Ireland	EUR	3,530	3,695	3,860	353	375
Israel	ILS	12,860	13,450	14,040	1,285	2,060
Italy	EUR	3,000	3,130	3,260	300	375
Japan	JPY	535,960	561,075	586,180	52,000	53,500
Republic of Korea	KRW	2,750,000	2,875,000	3,000,000	275,000	465,000
Luxembourg	EUR	3,480	3,640	3,800	348	375
Mexico	MXN	24,150	25,250	26,350	2,415	4,500
The Netherlands	EUR	3,475	3,635	3,795	345	375
New Zealand	NZD	6,550	6,900	7,200	655	750
Norway	NOK	33,500	35,000	36,500	3,350	3,875
Poland	PLN	8,645	9,040	9,430	865	1,680
Portugal	EUR	2,450	2,560	2,670	245	375
Singapore	SGD	5,425	5,625	5,850	545	570
Spain	EUR	2,850	2,980	3,110	285	375
Sweden	SEK	38,100	39,900	41,680	3,810	4,375
Switzerland	CHF	6,400	6,700	7,000	640	562
UK	GBP	2,250	2,355	2,460	225	250
USA	USD	3,900	4,060	4,225	390	410

\* The child allowance and the living allowance for years 1, 2 and 3 should correspond to the gross monthly income on the fellow's payslip.

HFSP0 reserves the right to review the fellowship stipend levels.

Please contact the Fellowship Office for information concerning the allowances in other countries or in case of discrepancies.