



HFSP CROSS-DISCIPLINARY FELLOWSHIPS

For applicants with a PhD from a non-biological discipline

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Award Year 2025

The Cross-Disciplinary Fellowships are unique to the Human Frontier Science Program. They support non-biologists to bring their skills and methodologies to research that elucidates the sophisticated and complex mechanisms of life.

Recent changes:

The HFSP has recently adopted a new [Shared Values Statement](#). While scientific excellence and the potential for research breakthrough remain the foremost criteria, the HFSP aims to reach higher levels of equity and inclusion in frontier life science research funding, making frontier research more accessible and diverse.

Deadlines:

The HFSP application portal in ProposalCentral will open on March 14, 2024 for Letters of Intent and you will need to create an account using the link below before you submit your application.

Submission of Letters of Intent by 1 pm (ET) by **May 14, 2024** via <https://proposalcentral.com>

Instructions on how to create an account and submit a Letter of Intent can be found [here](#).

Submission of Full Proposals for invited applicants by 1 pm (ET) by **September 26, 2024** via ProposalCentral.

Nota bene: at the Full Proposal stage, host supervisor(s) and referees must have submitted their sections before the applicant can submit their application.

Applicants should read the guidelines carefully, in particular the scientific objectives of the program and the eligibility criteria. If in doubt about your eligibility or the appropriateness of the proposed research project, you should consult the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) (FAQ) or contact the [Fellowship Office](#) (fellow@hfsp.org).

Applicants with a PhD on a biological topic should apply for a HFSP Long-Term Fellowship (LTF).

Contents

OVERVIEW.....	3
Mission and objectives of the HFSP fellowship program	3
Distinguishing features of HFSP Cross-Disciplinary Fellowships (CDF)	3
Scientific scope of the HFSP postdoctoral fellowship program	4
The proposed research	4
APPLICATION RULES, INCLUDING ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.....	5
General	5
Nationality	5
Host country	5
Host institution	6
Host supervisor	6
Doctoral degree	6
Research proposal	7
Publications	7
APPLICATION PROCESS	9
Letter of Intent (to be submitted by May 14, 2024)	9
Full Proposal (to be submitted by September 26, 2024)	9
Summary of important dates and deadlines	10
REVIEW PROCESS	10
Eligibility assessments	10
Scientific review.....	10
Review of Letters of Intent	10
Review of Full Proposals	10
Notification of outcome	11
SUMMARY OF HFSP AWARD CONDITIONS AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT.....	12
Administrative	12
Intellectual property.....	13
Research misconduct and the responsible conduct of research	13
Protection of personal data.....	13
APPENDIX. HFSP TABLES OF ALLOWANCES	14

OVERVIEW

Mission and objectives of the HFSP fellowship program

The Human Frontier Science Program (HFSP) strives to strengthen open scientific inquiry by initiating international collaborative, interdisciplinary and cutting-edge basic research in the life sciences.

Young scientists, driven by adventurous new ideas that may give our view on the world new perspectives, are selected by an expert committee on the basis of the excellence of their research proposal, so that they can test their hypotheses and experiment with new methods and approaches. HFSP is committed to supporting original, frontier-type research that advances current knowledge and opens new pathways for innovation.

HFSP encourages talented young scientists to think broadly; to stretch their work beyond the scope of expertise gained through their PhD and to encounter a new research environment by moving to a new country and working in a different discipline or research area. HFSP enables this transition for carefully chosen highly talented postdocs with the most original and inspiring new research projects by allowing them to move to the best research institutions and laboratories in the world.

The expectations on our postdoctoral fellows are high: to incorporate novel investigative approaches at the frontiers of the life sciences and disrupt existing paradigms and established ways of thinking. HFSP fellowship awardees stand out through their utmost dedication, engagement and commitment to innovative science.

The HFSP postdoctoral fellowship program provides a unique opportunity for the most talented young researchers to embark on a new journey that will shape their career trajectory and allows them to pursue their dream of being recognized for research excellence.

HFSP offers two types of postdoctoral fellowships, for 3 years.

- **Cross-Disciplinary Fellowships** (these Application Guidelines), and
- **Long-Term Fellowships** (for applicants with a PhD on a biological topic - there are separate Application Guidelines for these [here](#)).

Cross-Disciplinary Fellowships are for applicants who hold a doctoral degree from a non-biological discipline (e.g. physics, chemistry, mathematics, engineering or computer sciences) and who have not worked in the life sciences before. **Long-Term Fellowships** are for applicants with a PhD on a biological topic who want to embark on a novel and frontier project focussing on the life sciences.

Distinguishing features of HFSP Cross-Disciplinary Fellowships (CDF)

HFSP Cross-Disciplinary Fellowships offer the unique opportunity for scientists with no prior training or experience in the life sciences to enter this exciting research area and get exposed to biological questions, problems and techniques. At the same time, CDF applicants are expected to bring a unique skill set and approach based on their non-biological background to a frontier and challenging problem in the life sciences. A successful CDF proposal will combine the best of life sciences and non-life sciences to solve an outstanding and interdisciplinary research question in biology.

In summary, HFSP Cross-Disciplinary Fellowships are unique and offer

- an opportunity for immersion in the life sciences, the fastest growing innovation sector, by using your expertise in a non-biological discipline to advance biology.
- a two-step application procedure with a fast review result for the initial Letter of Intent stage.
- funding for exploratory research at the frontiers of the life sciences without the need to present preliminary data.
- opportunities for establishing and expanding your professional network by connecting with experts from neighbouring disciplines to enable important discoveries in biology.
- exciting professional experiences by moving to a new country and working in a different research environment.
- free choice of the host institution that corresponds to your research interests and project requirements.
- advanced opportunities for career planning by having the possibility to use the final year of the HFSP

support in a flexible manner to plan your next career step either by moving back to your home country or by moving to another country.

Scientific scope of the HFSP postdoctoral fellowship program

HFSP attaches highest importance to novelty, scientific merit, internationality, and interdisciplinarity. The postdoctoral fellowship program supports potentially transformative, cutting edge research to investigate important problems at the frontiers of the life sciences. Projects should challenge existing paradigms by using novel approaches and techniques. Fellowship proposals for high-risk/high-reward projects are encouraged and preliminary results are not required.

HFSP postdoctoral fellowships aim to expose awardees to new theories and methods which complement or build on their previous experience and expertise.

Research projects may range from biological functions at the molecular and cellular level up to the level of biological systems, including cognitive functions. All levels of analysis are supported: for example, studies on genes and individual molecules, intracellular networks, intercellular associations in tissues and organs, and networks underlying the complex functions of entire organisms, populations, or ecosystems.

The proposed research

HFSP funds only basic research. The International Human Frontier Science Program Organization (HFSP)'s mission is to *“fund basic research focused on the elucidation of the sophisticated and complex mechanisms of living organisms for the benefit of all humankind, through international cooperation”*.

Applicants for a Cross-Disciplinary Fellowship have the unique opportunity to apply their special training, skills and methodologies to address an important new problem or a barrier to progress in a life science field. The opportunities are wide, and just by way of examples, engineers can use biomechanics approaches and develop robotic tools to understand movement or to develop biosensors and innovative biomaterials for use in the biomedical sciences. Mathematicians can apply their knowledge to predict behavioural patterns of species or to disease development. Chemists can use synthetic biomolecules as novel agents, while physicists can apply their training to understand biofilm development or phase transition in cells or to study coloration in animals or bioluminescent phenomena.

Prospective CDF applicants are encouraged to visit the HFSP website at <https://www.hfsp.org/awardees/awards> to see which kind of cross-disciplinary projects have been funded in the past. They can also contact the Fellowship Office directly to get feedback on the alignment of their proposed project with the objectives and scope of HFSP-funded research.

The quality of the proposed research is judged against specific criteria and applicants should study these assessment criteria that can be found [here](#), as they develop their applications.

Successful Cross-Disciplinary Fellowship proposals

- incorporate novel investigative approaches at the frontiers of the life sciences with the potential to disrupt existing paradigms and current ways of thinking. The results of the research are expected to have an impact beyond the immediate field.
- demonstrate the change of field of the applicant and demonstrate the ability to formulate a research project with a frontier-extending, risky nature and describe how the applicant's unique training and special skill set will allow them to address biological problems in a novel and distinct way.

The applicant may consult with the host supervisor in the development and writing of the proposal, but the project should be primarily the idea of the applicant.

- provide a prospect for novel directions in the host laboratory, made possible through the non-biological expertise of the applicant.
- clearly show how the proposed project is different from the applicant's research to date (PhD or previous postdoctoral positions) and how it will help the applicant to learn new research approaches and methodologies.

HFSP does not fund

1. Projects of a purely applied nature. For example:
 - projects of a primarily clinical and pharmaceutical nature; those projects are only considered if they allow new insights into fundamental biological mechanisms of a disease.
 - projects aimed at developing methods of diagnosis or treatment, including the search for potential drug targets or advanced trials of drugs under development.
 - applied research in engineering, biotechnology, or nanotechnology, that does not address a fundamental biological problem.
 - projects directly concerned with agricultural problems such as crop yield or breeding and environmental problems such as pollution, or forestry.
2. Research aimed at developing novel methods or the study of analogs or models of biological activity unless these methods allow new biological questions to be answered in the context of the aim of the HFSP to fund fundamental research.
3. Observational projects or systematic screening approaches.
4. Large-scale data collection studies or large-scale studies on populations or ecosystems. However, studies of the mechanisms of species-species interactions or their co-evolution are eligible.
5. Research in for-profit environments (but collaborations are allowed).

Proposals representing standard or incremental approaches, obvious next steps in the field or for the host laboratory (routine projects) or proposals that do not represent a significant change in research direction from previous work of the applicant (i.e. PhD thesis or previous postdoctoral work) are less likely to receive funding.

APPLICATION RULES, INCLUDING ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

General

HFSP encourages inclusion, diversity, equity and accessibility (see [Shared Values Statement](#)), and welcomes applicants independent of gender, origin, cultural background, and age.

The CDF applicant's doctoral degree must be in a non-biological discipline and the CDF applicant must not have worked on a biological topic before.

There is one competition per year for HFSP postdoctoral fellowships.

Only one HFSP postdoctoral fellowship Letter of Intent application is allowed in each competition year. However, unsuccessful candidates can apply in subsequent years, provided they still meet all eligibility criteria.

An HFSP postdoctoral fellowship may only be held once.

All applicants must propose a change in country and in research topic.

The earliest possible activation date of the fellowship is April 1, 2025. Fellows must begin their fellowship between April 1, 2025 and January 1, 2026.

Nationality

Applicants may be from any country and of any nationality.

- A candidate who is a national of one of the HFSP member countries (see list below) can apply to work in a research institution in any country.
- A candidate who is not a national of one of the HFSP member countries (see list below) can apply to work only in a research institution in one of the member countries.
- Candidates cannot apply for a fellowship to work in the country of which they are a national.
- Candidates with dual nationalities may apply to work in a research institution in one of the countries for which they have a dual nationality provided they have never studied in this country and they fulfil one of the first two criteria about nationality listed above. In such cases applicants need to contact the Fellowship

Office and claim an exemption.

HFSP 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, Israel, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America

Host country

Candidates must propose to work in a country¹ different to the one in which they did their PhD research or previous post-doctoral research, even if they are not a national of that country. They are not eligible to propose to move from one laboratory to another in the same country.

Candidates must not have worked (consecutively or not) in the proposed host country for more than 12 months at the activation date of the fellowship. The earliest possible activation date of the fellowship is April 1, 2025.

The combined duration of all research-related stays in the host country (e.g. research positions, collaborations, internships, Master/PhD work, time spent either as a visiting scientist or as a technician, etc.) is taken into account.

Host institution

Applicants who started to work in the proposed host institution prior to 1 April 2024 are not eligible. Fellows must begin their fellowship by activating it between April 1, 2025 and January 1, 2026. Candidates may have spent up to 12 months in their proposed host institution at the activation date of the fellowship. As stated above, the total time spent in the host country (including previous research-related stays) may not exceed 12 months by the time the fellowship is activated.

For-profit research environments are not eligible host institutions.

Host supervisor

Applicants must indicate a primary host supervisor and may choose a secondary host supervisor if they wish. All rules that apply to the primary host supervisor and primary host institution also apply to the secondary host supervisor/institution.

Applicants cannot propose to work with:

- former scientific collaborators,
- former research supervisors,
- any other scientist with whom they have worked or published.

Applications will be ineligible if,

- the candidate has spent more than 12 months (consecutively or not) with the proposed host supervisor at the time of the activation of the fellowship. This is regardless of any institution changes by the host supervisor.

Applicants should note that host supervisors can endorse only one application for a HFSP Fellowship (CDF or LTF) per competition at the Letter of Intent stage. The proposed host supervisor may, however, concurrently mentor HFSP fellows from previous award years, and/or be part of an HFSP Research Grant team.

Doctoral degree

A research doctorate (PhD) or a doctoral-level degree comparable to a PhD with equivalent experience in basic research (e.g. a research based MD or medical PhD) must be conferred by the start of the fellowship and by December 31, 2025 at the latest, but is not required at the time of application.

¹ For those institutions that are not classified as national, i.e. international or extraterritorial institutions such as EMBL, ICPT or ICGB, the country in which the laboratory is located will be considered the host country.

If already conferred, the doctoral degree must have been conferred within 3 years prior to the submission deadline of the Full Proposal, i.e. between September 26, 2021 and September 26, 2024.

The “conferral date” of the official doctorate documentation will be taken as the date of conferral.

Exceptions are possible in some circumstances for post-PhD career interruptions such as illness, parental leave, providing full time care for an immediate family member, military or civil service. Unemployment and work outside science are not considered eligible interruption periods. Eligible interruption periods will not be counted; the remaining duration between the PhD conferral date and the submission of an application in September 2024 must be less than 3 years.

Research proposal

Applicants must propose a research topic different to that of their PhD and previous postdoctoral work.

The proposal must align with the mission and objectives of HFSP and the scientific scope of the HFSP Fellowship program (see above).

The proposal must be for a basic research project. Your application will be removed from consideration if, in the opinion of HFSP, it is not for basic research (see above for a list of research that HFSP does not fund).

- The **Letter of Intent** should succinctly summarize the scientific content of the planned project.

The proposed research plan (section 6 in Proposal Central) should briefly outline

- the background of the proposed research project
- the aims of the proposed research project
- the central hypotheses
- the experimental system
- conclusions

Please structure the text in section 6 according to the above listed type of information.

The proposed research plan is limited to 3.000 characters (including spaces).

- The **Full Proposal** should introduce the problem in more detail. It should also describe the innovative and novel components of the project, the expected impact on the field and the expected outcomes of the research. Applicants are asked to provide details on the experimental design and study system so that the reviewers can assess its originality, feasibility and how it will diversify and contribute to their training in research. Applicants should also describe how the proposed project differs from their previous work, which novel techniques and methods they will learn and explain their reasons for choosing the proposed host laboratory.

Publications

By the submission deadline of the Letter of Intent, applicants must have at least one lead author publication. Review articles or patents are not taken into account. Lead author means that the applicant is either the single author, the first author or a joint first author (in case there are several first authors). This lead author publication can be a manuscript

- (1) published in a recognized OA preprint repository,
- (2) accepted for publication in a peer reviewed journal,
- (3) in press in a peer reviewed journal,
- (4) already published in a peer reviewed journal.

Submission of a fellowship proposal at the Full Proposal stage however is only possible with the lead author research article fulfilling points (2) to (4) above. HFSP only accepts full-length original research publications in English that were peer reviewed and for which the applicant must either be the single author, first author or joint first author. In a joint first author paper the applicant does not need to be listed in the first position, but the equal contribution of the authors must be clearly stated in all cases.

If the standard publication practice in your laboratory or your research field makes first authorship impossible (e.g. alphabetical listing of authors), these circumstances must be explained in the “Additional Comments” section of the application. HFSPo also recognizes that publication practices differ across scientific fields (e.g. in physical sciences) and those cases should also be explained in the “Additional Comments” section. As stated above, review articles and patents are not taken into account. In cases in which a research article cannot be uploaded in Proposal Central, for example if it does not have a DOI, please also explain this in the “Additional Comments” section.

Listings of preprint repositories are available through the online resources of ASAPbio (<https://asapbio.org/>) or the Open Access Directory (http://oad.simmons.edu/oadwiki/Main_Page).

If you have queries about any of these eligibility criteria, please contact the Fellowship Office at fellow@hfsp.org

APPLICATION PROCESS

Note: Please keep your intended host supervisor and institution aware of your application and check the institution's policies for postdoctoral fellows and visa requirements for the proposed host country. You should also make sure that the host institution is willing to accept a postdoctoral fellow under the HFSP rules, e.g. with regard to receiving external funding for its postdoctoral researchers.

The application process involves two peer-reviewed steps: an initial Letter of Intent statement and a Full Proposal.

Letter of Intent (to be submitted by May 14, 2024)

Applicants submit a 'Letter of Intent' (LOI) which must contain the following information:

- title of proposal
- keywords of proposed research plan
- proposed research plan: summary of the scientific content of the proposed project, including a short description of the background, aims, hypotheses, experimental approach and conclusions (see above: research proposal/LOI)
- personal information
- CV
- field and title of PhD
- information on the proposed host supervisor and host institution
- disclosure on previous collaborations and publications with the host supervisor (if any)
- confirmation that the host supervisor is aware of and supports the application
- publication list

No other documents are required. Neither the host supervisor(s) nor the host institution have to provide any further information at this stage or need to sign the LOI and they do not have access to it.

The online application platform for submitting your fellowship proposal is available at <https://proposalcentral.com> and will be open from March 14, 2024 onwards.

Instructions on how to create an account and submit a Letter of Intent can be found [here](#).

The Letters of Intent will be assessed for eligibility and undergo review (see the following section).

After the review of the Letters of Intent, all applicants will be contacted by HFSP and will be informed if they are invited to submit a Full Proposal or not (between mid-August and end of August 2024).

Full Proposal (to be submitted by September 26, 2024)

Note that you will be contacted by HFSP if you are invited to progress to this second stage.

Full Proposals must contain the following:

- a summary of previous work (the same as the short summary of the LOI)
- a summary of the proposed research project (the same as the short summary of the LOI)
- a detailed research plan of the proposed project
- information on why and how the proposed project is a significant change from previous work
- information on why and how the proposed project is of a frontier nature
- information on why the chosen host lab is a good fit
- information on how the applicant will benefit from being in the host lab (e.g. unique infrastructure, mentoring, exposure to new techniques etc.)
- an updated publication list
- recommendation letters from two referees
- a recommendation letter from the host supervisor, explaining how the proposed research plan is a

new direction for the host lab and a significant change from the applicant's prior work (either during PhD or postdoctoral training); the host supervisor should also explain how and why their lab is particularly suited to supporting the aims and missions of HFSP to enable the most talented young researchers to embark on a frontier research project that will shape their career trajectory; the host supervisor should also outline a mentorship plan for the applicant. Host supervisors also need to register their research experience and a list of their publications. If a candidate has two host supervisors, they should both provide letters of recommendation.

No other documents are required.

The full proposal will need to be signed by the host supervisor(s) and institution official.

Summary of important dates and deadlines

All applications (LOIs and Full Proposals) must be submitted via <https://proposalcentral.com>.

- **March 14, 2024:** the HFSP application portal will open for Letter of Intent applications.
- **May 14, 2024** at 1 pm (ET): Deadline for submitting LOI applications.
- **September 26, 2024** at 1 pm (ET): Deadline for submitting invited Full Proposals.

REVIEW PROCESS

Eligibility assessments

All Letters of Intent are checked for compliance with formal eligibility criteria by HFSP in accord with the criteria above. In addition, LOIs are screened by the three scientific directors of HFSP and members of the Fellowship Review Committee for alignment with the objectives of HFSP and its Fellowship schemes (e.g. basic, interdisciplinary research).

Ineligible LOIs or those with research proposals that do not align with the scientific scope of HFSP will not be sent for review and the applicants will be informed.

Eligible LOIs will be peer-reviewed by the HFSP Fellowship Review Committee (see below).

Please contact the Fellowship Office prior to submitting your application with any questions regarding eligibility or on the alignment of the proposed research with the scientific scope of the HFSP Fellowship program (fellow@hfsp.org). You may also consult the [FAQ section](#).

Scientific review

Review of Letters of Intent

Eligible LOIs will initially be assessed by two Fellowship Review Committee members who will use a letter score from A to D to provide a component score for the proposal and the applicant. In cases in which the two reviewers' scores are significantly different, applications will be sent to a third reviewer.

Letter score aggregates will be used to establish a first ranking that will result in a first cut-off. HFSP then invites the top LOIs to submit a Full Proposal. Approximately the top 15-20% of eligible LOIs will be invited.

Review of Full Proposals

The Full Proposals will be confirmed for eligibility and forwarded to the Fellowship Review Committee for evaluation.

The applications will be sent to the same two (or three) Review Committee members who reviewed the Letter of Intent, plus to 2-4 external mail reviewers with suitable expertise. The Review Committee members will rate each of the applications assigned to them again, now also taking into account the reviews from the mail reviewers.

For the Full Proposals, Review Committee members assign numerical scores from 1-10 based on the following criteria:

- Excellence of the proposed research plan: based on the scientific originality and novel character of the proposal; potential impact of the project beyond the immediate field; whether the proposal challenges existing paradigms and whether it is going to disrupt the current way of thinking; whether it addresses an important new problem or a barrier to progress in an established field; level of intellectual contribution of the applicant to the proposed research project; a clear departure from the previous research
- Excellence of the applicant: based on the readiness of the applicant to embrace the risk of a frontier-extending project and to step beyond the scope of expertise gained through previous work; potential of the applicant to succeed in their new field and project; matching of the background and experience of the applicant to the need of the proposal
- Suitability of the host lab and environment: is the chosen host lab a good fit for the proposed project and does it provide the best opportunities for the applicant to achieve their scientific goals? Does the letter of support show clear commitment and willingness of mentorship from the host supervisor?

The Fellowship Review Committee then meets in late January or early February 2025. At the meeting, each Full Proposal will be discussed, and each of the original reviewers defends or revises their rating. The numerical scores of the original reviewers are used as a basis for suggesting a final numerical score for each proposal. Based on the discussions during the committee meeting, each review committee member provides a numerical score from which an average score for each proposal is calculated, to generate a ranked list of proposals recommended for funding.

For details on the review process and the assessment criteria and scoring guidelines please refer to the document called 'HFSP Postdoctoral Fellowships: Information on review process and assessment criteria', which can be found [here](#).

Notification of outcome

Applicants will be notified between mid-August and end of August as to whether their Letter of Intent was selected or not for submitting a Full Proposal.

Applicants who were invited to submit a Full Proposal are notified of the outcome of their applications once internal HFSP formalities are complete (usually towards the end of March).

The application and selection processes are confidential. Fellowship Review Committee members are also bound by confidentiality.

SUMMARY OF HFSP AWARD CONDITIONS AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT

If you are offered a postdoctoral fellowship by HFSP, you will be sent the detailed Conditions of Award, which you, your host supervisor and an official administrator at the host institution will be required to sign before the activation of the award.

The following is a summary only.

Administrative

The HFSP Cross-Disciplinary Fellowship is awarded for three years. It cannot be renewed.

Fellows must begin their fellowship between April 1, 2025 and January 1, 2026.

HFSP administers all fellowship allowances through the host institution.

The fellowship award consists of a living allowance and a research and travel allowance.

The host institution agrees to pay the fellow the full living allowance. However, legally compulsory deductions may be made (e.g., for taxation, social security charges, health insurance or pension contributions), if required under legislation in the jurisdiction.

No other deductions are allowed. The host institution is not permitted to deduct any additional charges from the fellowship such as institutional overheads or bench fees from any of the fellowship allowances.

The living allowance takes into account the difference in cost of living between countries. Applicants may gain an understanding of the living allowances in the Appendix. The offer of a fellowship will specify the relevant amounts.

The research and travel allowance part of the fellowship award is intended as a small grant to the fellow to spend in accord with HFSP regulations.

HFSP fellows with children are entitled to receive a child allowance and this is set at 10% of the applicable living allowance of year 1.

HFSP fellows are eligible to apply for up to 3 months paid parental leave for children born/adopted during the award period.

A relocation allowance may be provided as a fixed amount to assist with moving costs.

HFSP fellows cannot concurrently hold an HFSP Fellowship and another paid employment position (i.e., a position supported by a salary) or another paid fellowship from another organization. However, the HFSP fellowship can be supplemented from other sources (e.g., from a host supervisor's grant or from institutional funds), for instance to reach the salary requirements of the host institution.

HFSP fellows may apply for and hold additional research grants themselves, provided those funds will not be used as a salary for the fellows and are to assist their conduct of the fellowship research project as presented in the fellow's successful HFSP application.

HFSP fellows must devote themselves entirely to their research project in the host institution and may not engage in any other paid activity without prior agreement of HFSP.

Fellows may interrupt ('defer') HFSP support for up to one year. Such deferral time can be taken after having completed at least one year of the HFSP fellowship in the proposed host laboratory. During a deferral period, fellows may spend up to one year in a different laboratory at the same or another university/institution or up to six months in another research-driven, innovation environment, in both cases working on the HFSP-funded project. The deferral period may be spent in the same or another country, but any change in host laboratory and/or host supervisor needs prior approval by HFSP.

In the third year of the fellowship, fellows may choose to continue to work in the host laboratory, to return to their or their spouse's/partner's home country, or to move to another HFSP member country. Fellows may

continue their original research project or modify it, for example to integrate new components or questions, but changes need prior approval by HFSP.

Generally, it is not possible to change the host supervisor and/or the host laboratory (except during a deferral or if the third year of the fellowship is carried out in another host country) or the research project (except during the third year of the fellowship).

Please note that:

- HFSP does not provide additional funds to cover health insurance costs, pension contributions or other benefits,
- fellows should investigate their tax liabilities and such other costs as visa application,
- the host institution may deduct from the living allowance any and all legally compulsory fees that the university is required to deduct under a national law,
- HFSP's Open Access policy is available at <https://www.hfsp.org/Open-Access-Statement>,
- publications arising from an HFSP fellowship must acknowledge HFSP support.

Intellectual property

HFSP will not assert any claim to intellectual and industrial property rights.

Research misconduct and the responsible conduct of research

HFSP expects high standards in the conduct of research by its awardees. The HFSP Policy on Research Misconduct and the Responsible Conduct of Research can be found here (<https://www.hfsp.org/funding/hfsp-policies/hfsp-policy-research-misconduct-and-responsible-conduct-research>).

Protection of personal data

HFSP is committed to safeguarding your personal information in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR) on data protection and privacy in the European Union (EU) and the European Economic Area (EEA) and transfers of personal data outside the EU and EEA areas. The HFSP Privacy Policy explains how, and on what legal basis, we collect, store, and use personal information about you as an applicant for the HFSP Fellowship program or as any other person that interacts with our Organization.

This Policy also explains how we collect, store and use personal information in connection with you if you are a successful candidate.

APPENDIX. HFSP0 TABLES OF ALLOWANCES

Note that these allowances are interim and may be subject to change through the sole discretion of the Board of Trustees before a final offer of a HFSP Postdoctoral Fellowship is made to successful applicants.

Country	Currency	Gross yearly living allowance Year 1	Gross yearly living allowance Year 2	Gross yearly living allowance Year 3	Yearly child allowance (per child)	Yearly R/T allowance
Argentina	ARS	2,277,576	2,315,532	2,353,500	227,758	416,628
Australia	AUD	90,132	91,644	93,144	9,013	10,356
Austria	EUR	57,192	58,140	59,088	5,719	6,432
Belgium	EUR	53,592	54,492	55,380	5,359	6,432
Brazil	BRL	231,576	235,440	239,292	23,158	28,380
Bulgaria	BGN	64,992	66,072	67,152	6,499	12,576
Canada	CAD	69,900	71,064	72,228	6,990	9,552
Chile	CLP	26,206,176	26,642,940	27,079,704	2,620,618	5,339,124
China	CNY	380,184	386,520	392,856	38,018	49,752
Colombia	COP	158,541,816	161,184,180	163,826,544	15,854,182	24,422,364
Croatia	HRK	333,564	339,132	344,688	33,356	47,712
Czech Republic	CZK	1,125,168	1,143,924	1,162,668	112,517	165,096
Denmark	DKK	540,204	549,216	558,216	54,020	48,024
Finland	EUR	64,740	65,820	66,900	6,474	6,432
France	EUR	62,016	63,048	64,080	6,202	6,432
Germany	EUR	51,984	52,860	53,724	5,198	6,432
Greece	EUR	47,544	48,336	49,128	4,754	6,432
Hong Kong	HKD	472,008	479,868	487,740	47,201	56,412
Hungary	HUF	13,494,528	13,719,432	13,944,336	1,349,453	2,092,176
Iceland	ISK	8,483,568	8,624,952	8,766,348	848,357	882,936
India	INR	2,678,868	2,723,520	2,768,160	267,887	507,036
Ireland	EUR	61,956	62,988	64,020	6,196	6,432
Israel	ILS	227,208	230,988	234,780	22,721	25,692
Italy	EUR	55,956	56,892	57,816	5,596	6,432
Japan	JPY	6,898,740	7,013,712	7,128,696	689,874	784,692
Korea	KRW	68,281,452	69,419,484	70,557,504	6,828,145	8,395,260
Luxembourg	EUR	53,592	54,492	55,380	5,359	6,432
Mexico	MXN	775,248	788,160	801,084	77,525	138,648
Netherlands	EUR	57,828	58,800	59,760	5,783	6,432
New Zealand	NZD	90,564	92,064	93,576	9,056	10,932
Norway	NOK	689,544	701,040	712,536	68,954	63,360
Poland	PLN	173,904	176,808	179,700	17,390	27,636
Portugal	EUR	45,132	45,876	46,632	4,513	6,432

Country	Currency	Gross yearly living allowance Year 1	Gross yearly living allowance Year 2	Gross yearly living allowance Year 3	Yearly child allowance (per child)	Yearly R/T allowance
Singapore	SGD	92,496	94,044	95,580	9,250	9,828
South Africa	ZAR	440,412	447,756	455,100	44,041	104,040
Spain	EUR	51,132	51,984	52,836	5,113	6,432
Sweden	SEK	691,260	702,780	714,300	69,126	68,100
Switzerland	CHF	76,800	80,400	84,000	7,680	6,744
Thailand	THB	1,333,800	1,356,036	1,378,260	133,380	223,548
UK	GBP	65,772	66,864	67,956	6,577	5,640
USA	USD	59,460	60,456	61,440	5,946	7,200

2025 Relocation allowance (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	1,500	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	1500	4,000	2,000
Africa	2,000	1,500	1,000	1,600	3,000	4,000	1,500	3,000
Central and South America	1,500	1,500	3,000	3,000	2,500	2,000	3,000	1,500

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

Fellows, their spouses/partners and their children are all eligible to receive the relocation allowance according to the following calculation:

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