

Frequently Asked Questions
UNAM's Institute for Philosophical Research - Academic Division
2025

The following are the most frequently asked questions by applicants to our research fellowships. Please feel free to get in touch with us via email (posdoc.iif@gmail.com) in case that you have any further questions.

- In what language can I present my application?
We accept applications in either English or Spanish. Applications in any other language will not be considered. Only candidates whose native tongue is other than Spanish may submit their applications in English. Native Spanish-speakers are requested to submit their applications in Spanish.
- How can I send my letters of recommendation?
We receive letters of recommendation in three possible ways. Letters of recommendation can be sent personally by their authors to the following email: posdoc.iif@gmail.com. They can also be submitted via Interfolio. Finally, they can also be provided by the staff of the applicant's university via email.
- May I send my application in any other way rather than email?
No, you may not. We only receive applications via email. Please do not send us complete applications via any platform other than personal email. By other platforms, we mean WeTransfer, Dropbox and the like. The only documents that we will accept through platforms other than email are letters of recommendation.
- How long does it take for the Institute to reach a decision?
It takes between six and eight weeks. Once the Institute has chosen the candidates that will be nominated to UNAM's Coordination of Humanities as potential recipients of the research fellowships, all applicants will receive an email informing whether they've been selected or not.
- Are the research fellowships given to some preferred areas of research in philosophy over others?
No, they are not. We accept applications from all areas of research in philosophy. The Institute assesses every semester which lines of research need to be strengthened, which means it is very variable. And it is not the only criterion used to choose amongst the received applications. The academic profile of the applicant, the potential contribution of the project, the impact and quality of the publications, the letters of recommendation, etc., are also carefully considered. The Institute encourages researchers to send their application dossiers regardless of their specific area of specialisation.
- Is there a preferred format to write the Cover Letter?
No, there is not. The Institute would like to know which are your research plans and why are you interested in a fellowship at the Institute. Feel free to include any information that might help in our decision-making.
- Do I need to send hard copies of the required documents?

No, you do not. All documents should be sent electronically.

- Is there a required format for the CV?
No, there is not. Do make sure to state your full name, home address, current job (if any), your areas of specialisation and interest, the name of your university, the university of your PHD supervisor, and the date in which you earned your PhD degree (or expected date), and the publications that you have.
- Do I need a letter of recommendation from someone from the Institute?
No, you don't need to. An ongoing collaboration with any of the researchers is not required either in order to be considered for a research fellowship.
- Is it a problem to have another source of income (from a scholarship or a job)?
Yes and no. It is a problem only once you have been accepted. You cannot have another source of income once your research fellowship starts. It is not a problem during your application process. You can be working or having a scholarship while you are applying for our research fellowships.
- I have not defended my PhD dissertation, but I expect to finish soon. Can I apply for the research fellowships?
Yes, you can. However, you need to earn your PhD degree before the start of the research fellowship at the Institute. In the meantime, you need to send an official document issued by your university or by your supervisor stating the day of the expected conclusion of your PhD.
- To whom should the letter of recommendation be addressed?
The letters of recommendation should be addressed to PhD Fernanda Samaniego Bañuelos, Head of Academic Affairs at the Institute for Philosophical Research at the National Autonomous University of Mexico.
- How should I send my application dossier to the Institute?
Your dossier contains the documents required in our call for applications. Please check our call for applications at the following link: www.filosoficas.unam.mx. All the required documents should be sent in one single email, in separate PDF files and each clearly identified. We suggest the following titles for each document:
 1. CV
 - 2.1 Article ([Title])
 - 2.2 Article [[Title]]
 3. Research Project ([Title])
 4. Workplan and timeline
 6. Cover Letter
 7. PhD Diploma
 8. PhD abstract and resulting publicationsIn the brackets, you should write the required titles. Note that there is no point 5 since the number stands for your letters of recommendation, which you do not send personally.
- How long does the research fellowship last?

The research fellowships last one year. Your timeline and research project should be devised accordingly. You may request to extend the fellowship for just one more year once the first one comes to an end. In that case, you must present a new timeline and research project (ideally, a follow-up of the one carried out during the first year).

- When does the research fellowship start?
When applying during the Autumn semester, the research fellowship starts on the 1st of September; when applying during the Spring semester, the research fellowship starts on the 1st of March.