



**DAVID ROCKEFELLER CENTER
FOR LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES**
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

APPLY TO BE A VISITING SCHOLAR OR FELLOW AT DRCLAS

Deadline: September 23rd, 2024

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OVERVIEW

Each year, DRCLAS selects a cohort of distinguished academics (Visiting Scholars) and practitioners (Fellows) who wish to spend one or two semesters at Harvard working on their own research projects. Visiting Scholars and Fellows are expected to be in residence during their fellowship period. Selected applicants receive a taxable stipend of \$35,000 and up to \$4,000 for relocation expenses.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- The **Visiting Scholars** program is open to academics from Latin America and the Caribbean, and Latin Americanists from the United States and other parts of the world conducting research on Latin America and the Caribbean. To be considered, scholars require a Ph.D. and must have an appointment at a university or research institute at the time of the application.
- The **Visiting Fellows** program accepts applications from practitioners with a strong scholarly bent who wish to work on a research-oriented project while at Harvard. A Ph.D. is not required to apply as a Fellow.
- Proficiency in English is expected of both Visiting Scholars and Fellows. All applications materials must be submitted in English.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Fill out your application following the steps in the [Application portal](#).
- Submit a Proposal.
- Submit a CV.
- Request and have submitted two letters of recommendation on your behalf.

QUESTIONS? Email drc_vsf@fas.harvard.edu.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Who should I contact if I have questions about my application before and after submitting it?

A: You can direct any questions or concerns to the email drc_vsf@fas.harvard.edu.

ELIGIBILITY

Q: Do you accept academics from the sciences?

A: We do! We accept applications from any field of study. You can review the list of our past Scholars and Fellows for an overview of the varied disciplinary fields they cover.

Q: Does my country of citizenship matter? Do you accept individuals only from Latin America or the Caribbean or could I be from the United States or Spain, for example?

A: We accept applicants with any citizenship(s), but you must work on topics related to Latin America and the Caribbean to be eligible.

Q: Is this a postdoctoral program?

A: This is not a postdoc. Current Ph.D. students and recent Ph.D. graduates are not appropriate candidates for the Visiting Scholars and Fellows Program at DRCLAS.

Q: What academic/professional degree do I need to be a competitive candidate? Can I apply if I only have a master's degree, a law degree, or a medical degree?

A: To apply as a Visiting Scholar, you must have a Ph.D. in your field. To apply as a Visiting Fellow, you do not require a Ph.D., but you must have a proven academic and professional record to indicate your expertise in your field.

Q: To be a Visiting Scholar, what type of professional affiliation do I need to have?

A: To apply as a Visiting Scholar, you need to be affiliated with a university or a research institution.

Q: Do I have to be on campus full time?

A: Yes, this is a residential fellowship. You are expected to be on campus for the duration of your fellowship (one academic term or one academic year).

Q: If I am accepted into the program, can I defer to the following year?

A: You cannot defer, but you are welcome to apply again the following year.

Q: I have already been a visiting scholar at DRCLAS. Can I apply again?

A: No, but we would love to stay connected to you and your work! You can write to the email drc_vsf@fas.harvard.edu with any updates or questions you have as an alumni.

Q: I am a current visiting scholar at another unit in Harvard. Can I apply?

A: Yes. Please indicate your current Harvard affiliation in your application.

Q: I read fluently in English, but I find conversation to be challenging. How much English do I need to have?

A: Fluency in communicating with an English-speaking audience and peers is required. Speaking English is equally a requirement to obtain a J1 visa.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Q: Do I need a recommendation letter from Harvard faculty, or can I provide one from other collaborations I have?

A: You do not need a recommendation letter from anyone associated with Harvard University.

Q: Do I have to include which resources and individuals I plan to leverage and connect with while being on campus?

A: Yes, we recommend being specific about how your project will benefit from your stay at Harvard.

Q: Do I have to decide which category I am, either Visiting Scholar or Fellow, at the time of the application?

A: Yes, the application asks you whether you want to be considered a Scholar or Fellow. Please review the eligibility requirements for both categories on the website.

Q: When will I find out if I've been accepted?


A: Application decisions will be announced around mid to late January 2025.

BENEFITS

Q: Will you sponsor a visa to foreign selected applicants?

A: Yes, DRCLAS will sponsor a J1 visa for the selected applicants who require one.

Q: Do you offer assistance securing living arrangements for selected applicants, such as finding housing and schooling for family members?



A: Although we provide informational materials to our Visiting Scholars and Fellows about living in and around Cambridge, each selected applicant is responsible for their living arrangements.

Q: Is health insurance provided?

A: We offer accident and urgent care coverage for our Visiting Scholars and Fellows.

Q: Are dependents covered under the travel reimbursement stipend?

A: Both selected applicants and the dependents traveling with them are covered under the travel reimbursement stipend for a maximum of \$4,000.

Q: How often is the stipend payment received?

A: Visiting Fellows and Scholars receive paychecks once a month on the last day of the month.