

Frequently Asked Questions

UNAM's Institute for Philosophical Research – Academic Division 2026

The following are the most frequently asked questions by applicants to our research fellowships. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact us at posdoc.iif@gmail.com.

- What language can I submit my application in?

We accept applications in either English or Spanish. Applications in any other language will not be considered. Only candidates whose native language is not Spanish may submit their applications in English. Native Spanish speakers are required to submit their applications in Spanish. If you are not a native Spanish speaker, you must submit a 1000-word summary in Spanish.

- How can I send my letters of recommendation?

Letters of recommendation may be submitted in three ways:

1. Directly by their authors to the following email: posdoc.iif@gmail.com
2. Via Interfolio
3. By the applicant's university staff via email

- Can I submit my application by means other than email?

No. We only accept applications sent by email. Please do not submit your application via any other platforms such as WeTransfer, Dropbox, or similar services. The only documents we accept through such platforms are letters of recommendation.

- How long does it take the Institute to reach a decision?

It typically takes between six and eight weeks. Once the Institute selects the candidates who will be nominated to UNAM's Coordination of Humanities as potential recipients of

the fellowships, all applicants will receive an email informing them of whether or not they have been selected.

- Are certain areas of philosophy favored over others for the fellowships?

We welcome applications from all areas of philosophical research, with a particular interest in the 14 areas covered by the Institute. Each semester, the Institute evaluates which research lines need strengthening, so this varies. However, this is just one of several criteria. The academic profile of the applicant, the potential contribution of the project, the quality and impact of publications, and the letters of recommendation are also carefully evaluated. Since we work in all the major areas of philosophy and many others, we encourage all researchers to apply, regardless of their specialization.

- Is there a preferred format for the Cover Letter?

No. However, the Institute would like to know about your research plans and why you are interested in a fellowship with us. Feel free to include any information that might support your application.

- Do I need to send hard copies of the required documents?

No. All documents must be submitted electronically.

- Is there a required format for the CV?

No, but please ensure it includes the following information:

- Full name
- Home address
- Current employment (if any)
- Areas of specialization and interest
- Name of your university
- Name of your PhD supervisor's university

- Date your PhD was awarded (or expected date)
- Your publications
- Your talks
- Your teaching work
- Other services to the profession

- Do I need a letter of recommendation from someone at the Institute?

No. You are not required to have an ongoing collaboration with any of the Institute's researchers to apply for a fellowship, but knowledge of the work done at the Institute is a plus.

- Is it a problem to have another source of income (from a job or a scholarship)?

It is not a problem during the application process. However, once the fellowship begins, you may not have any other source of income.

- I have not yet defended my PhD dissertation but expect to finish soon. Can I still apply?

Yes, you can. However, you must have obtained your PhD before the fellowship begins. Meanwhile, you must submit an official document from your university or supervisor stating the expected date of completion.

- To whom should the letters of recommendation be addressed?

Letters of recommendation should be addressed to:

Dr. Fernanda Samaniego Bañuelos

Head of Academic Affairs

Institute for Philosophical Research

National Autonomous University of Mexico

- How should I send my application dossier to the Institute?

Your dossier should include all the documents listed in our call for applications. You can find this information at www.filosoficas.unam.mx. All documents must be sent in a single email as separate PDF files, each clearly labeled. We strongly recommend the following file names to better process them:

- 1.[Your Last Name, your First Name] CV
- 2.1 [Your Last Name, your First Name] Article ([Title])
- 2.2 [Your Last Name, your First Name] Article ([Title])
3. [Your Last Name, your First Name] Research Project ([Title])
4. [Your Last Name, your First Name] Workplan and Timeline
5. [Your Last Name, your First Name] Cover Letter
6. [Your Last Name, your First Name] PhD Diploma
7. [Your Last Name, your First Name] PhD Abstract and Related Publications

Note: There is no item 5, as it corresponds to letters of recommendation, which should not be submitted by the applicant.

- How long does the fellowship last?

Fellowships last for one year. Your research project and timeline should reflect this. You may request a one-year extension by submitting a new proposal and timeline, ideally as a continuation of your first-year project.

- When does the fellowship start?
 - If applying during the autumn semester, the fellowship starts on September 1st.
 - If applying during the spring semester, it begins on March 1st.